



# Our Mother of Good Counsel

*Catholic Church*

## MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday 4:00 pm English

Sunday 7:30 am English

9:00 am Polish

10:30 am English

12:00 pm Polish

4:00 pm English

Tues- Fri 8:00 am English

## FIRST FRIDAY

8:00 am English

7:30 pm Polish

## CONFESSION

Saturday 3:00-3:45 pm English

1st Friday 6:00-6:45 pm Bilingual

## PARISH OFFICE



16043 South Bell Road

Homer Glen, IL 60491

708-301-6246

[office@omgccc.org](mailto:office@omgccc.org)

[www.omgccc.org](http://www.omgccc.org)

Tues, Wed, Fri 9:00 am-3:00 pm

Thurs by appointment





## MASS INTENTIONS

**TUESDAY DECEMBER 2 8:00AM**  
Michael V. Broderick†

**WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 3 8:00AM**  
Edward & Gertrude Bialecki†

**THURSDAY DECEMBER 4 8:00AM**  
Delphine Kasuk†

**FRIDAY DECEMBER 5 8:00AM**  
Zenon Sungail†

**SATURDAY DECEMBER 6 4:00PM**  
Stanley Bielanski†

**SUNDAY DECEMBER 7 7:30AM**  
All Expecting Mothers

**SUNDAY DECEMBER 7 9:00AM**  
Mateusz, Jan, Alex  
Arek, Robert, Slawek  
Tadeusz Tylka†  
Maria Ratulowski†  
Elzbieta Siuta†  
Damian Krystian Krzysiak†  
Maria Wladyslaw Mrozek†  
Franciszek & Kunegunda Mietust†  
Jacenty & Stefania Biela†

**SUNDAY DECEMBER 7 10:30AM**  
Elsie Wagnert†

**SUNDAY DECEMBER 7 12:00PM**  
Za parafian  
Karol Szaflarski†  
Wladyslaw Hyrczyk†

**SUNDAY DECEMBER 7 4:00PM**  
Our Clergy

**SAINTS AND OBSERVANCES**  
Sun: 1st Sunday of Advent  
Saint Andrew  
Mon: Saint Elizabeth of Hungary  
Wed: Saint Francis Xavier  
Thurs: Saint John Damascene  
Fri: First Friday  
Sat: Saint Nicholas

**Sanctuary Lamp Intentions**  
Nov 30th - Dec 6th

Andrzej Rychtarczyk †



## AROUND THE PARISH

**Nov 29/30** Coat Drive. Santa's Breakfast tickets on sale.

**Dec 2** OCIA - 6:30 PM

**Dec 3** R.E. Class 6:00 PM

**Dec 6/7** Giving Tree Collection (see bulletin insert)

**Dec 13/14** Giving Tree Collection & Blood Drive 7:00am - 11:00am

**Dec 17** R.E. Reconciliation Grades 3-8



## ADVENT & CHRISTMAS EVENTS



### SANTA'S BREAKFAST

**Sunday, December 7**  
9:00 AM - 12:00 PM



### ŚNIADANIE Z MIKOŁAJEM

**\*\*NIEDZIELA, 7 GRUDNIA\*\***  
Godzina: 9:00 - 12:00



### THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

**Monday, December 8**  
Mass 8:00 AM English  
7:00 PM Bilingual



### UROCZYSTOŚĆ NIEPOKALANEGO POCZĘCIA NAJSWIĘTSZEJ MARYI PANNY

**\*\*PONIEDZIAŁEK, 8 GRUDNIA\*\***  
Msza 8:00 - w języku angielskim  
19:00 - dwujęzyczna



### CHRISTMAS CONCERT

**Sunday, December 14**  
5:00 PM



### KONCERT ŚWIĄTECZNY

**\*\*NIEDZIELA, 14 GRUDNIA\*\***  
Godzina: 17:00



### ADVENT RECONCILIATION

**Friday, December 19**  
7:00 PM



### ADWENTOWA SPOWIEDŹ

**\*\*PIĄTEK, 19 GRUDNIA\*\***  
Godzina: 19:00



## CHRISTMAS FLOWER MEMORIAL



Memorialize a loved one while contributing to the Parish's Christmas decor. This envelope can be found in your envelope mailer and in the Narthex. When including the name(s) of those you would like honor, please print very clearly. For each deceased loved one or couple, we suggest an offering of \$5 or more. Return the envelope in the collection basket or the office. Names will be listed in the bulletin after Christmas.

Zapraszamy do upamiętnienia bliskich osób poprzez wsparcie dekoracji naszego kościoła na Boże Narodzenie. W kopercie, którą znajdziesz w zestawie kopert oraz w korytarzu kościoła, możesz wpisać imię i nazwiska osób, które pragniesz uhonorować. Prosimy o wyraźne wpisywanie nazwisk. Sugerowana ofiara wynosi 5 dolarów lub więcej za każdą zmarłą osobę lub parę. Prosimy o złożenie koperty do koszyka na ofiary lub dostarczenie jej do biura parafialnego. Imiona zmarłych będą publikowane w biuletynie po Bożym Narodzeniu. Dziękujemy za Twoją hojność i wsparcie!



## PIERWSZE PIĄTKI MIESIĄCA

Spowiedź Święta w jęz polskim Od godz. 6:00pm

Msza Święta:

8:00am w jęz angielskim

7:30pm w jęz polskim

## FIRST FRIDAY OF THE MONTH

Confession: (Polish/English) 6:00pm

Mass:

8:00am English,

7:30pm Polish



## SANTA'S BREAKFAST

Date: Sunday, December 7, 2025,

Time: 9:00 AM- Noon (Basket Raffle will be held at NOON)

Location Homer Junior High School:

15711 Bell Road Homer Glen, IL 60491

### TICKETS

Adults \$10 (\$12 at door)

Seniors 65+ \$8 (\$10 at door)

Children 4-12 \$8 (\$10 at door)

Children 3 and under are free

Breakfast Buffet includes: Pancakes, Scrambled Eggs, Sausage, Fruit, Juice, Milk, Coffee, Hot Chocolate



Raffle Tickets \$2 each or 3 for \$5

SANTA WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR PHOTOS!  
BRING YOUR CAMERA

## Śniadanie z Mikołajem

Data: Niedziela, 7 Grudnia, 2025

Czas: 9:00 -12:00 (W południe zostaną wybrani zwycięzcy loterii)

Miejsce: W Szkole Homer Jr. High

15711 Bell Road, Homer Glen, IL 60491

### BILETY:

Dorośli \$10 (\$12 przy wejściu)

Seniorzy 65 lat + \$8 (\$10 przy wejściu)

Dzieci w wieku 4-12 lat \$8 (\$10 przy wejściu)

Dzieci do 3 lat bezpłatnie

Śniadanie w formie bufetu obejmuje naleśniki, jajecznice, kielbasę, owoce, soki, mleko, kawę, i gorącą czekoladę

Losy na loterię

\$2 za sztukę lub 3 bilety za \$5

Mikołaj będzie dostępny do zdjęć!

Przynieść ze sobą aparat!



## FAITH FORMATION

For further information on any of the items below, or on the Religious Education program, please contact Janet Litterio in the Faith Formation Office at 708-301-0214 or [faithformation@omgccc.org](mailto:faithformation@omgccc.org)

Visit our parish website [omgccc.org](http://omgccc.org) for the RE schedule and other Faith Formation information throughout the year. Simply click on the Religious Education link once you enter the site.

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM SCHEDULE

DECEMBER 3 - CLASS

DECEMBER 10 - CLASS

December 17-Confessions in church Grades 3-8

Students in grades 3-8 will meet in church for Advent Reconciliation. Students will sit with their class and attendance will be taken. Parents must accompany their children in church.

Grades 1 and 2 are off on Dec. 17th.

### Meaning of the Advent Wreath

Traditionally, Advent wreaths are constructed of a circle of evergreen branches into which four candles are inserted, representing the four weeks of Advent. Ideally, three candles are purple and one is rose, but white candles can also be used.

The purple candles in particular symbolize the prayer, penance, and preparatory sacrifices and goods works undertaken at this time. The rose candle is lit on the third Sunday, Gaudete Sunday, when the priest may wear rose vestments at Mass; Gaudete Sunday is the Sunday of rejoicing, because the faithful have arrived at the midpoint of Advent, when their preparation is now half over and they are close to Christmas.

The progressive lighting of the candles symbolizes the expectation and hope surrounding our Lord's first coming into the world and the anticipation of his second coming to judge the living and the dead.



### FAMILY PRAYER

#### FIRST WEEK OF ADVENT (HOPE)

"Loving God, as we light the first Advent candle of hope, we ask for your presence to fill our hearts and homes. May the hope of Christ's coming bring light to our darkness and renew our spirits.

In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen."



## ADVENT RESOURCES 2025

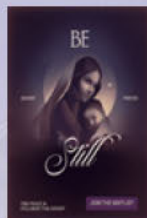
### Prepare The Way

Journey through Advent with the timeless wisdom of the saints. These daily devotions are centered on themes of hope, humility, mercy, and love and will help us walk more closely with Jesus this Advent. Books available in our narthex.



### Hallow Pray 25-Be Still

Join Jonathan Roumie, Bear Grylls, Kevin James, and other inspiring Catholics and pray every day on the Hallow app. You can listen for free with their 90 day trial.



### Come Be With Us!

This booklet has a collection of prayers from saints who have responded to Christ's presence in their lives. Each prayer includes a reference to a Bible verse related to the prayer's theme. Available in the Narthex



### Best Advent Ever

This free email program that will help you slow down and focus on what matters most during this busy season. Experience Advent in a whole new way! Enroll today at: **BestAdventEver.com**



### Advent Brings Joy

As children journey through the season, they'll build their own Nativity scene and discover how to live out Gospel joy in everyday ways. This helps children explore the true meaning of JOY—loving Jesus, Others, and Yourself. In our narthex.



### Advent Calendar

Children can count down the days of Advent with this fun and interactive calendar. This year, make your day-by-day Advent journey one of curiosity and joy! Available in our narthex.



## OUR MOTHER OF GOOD COUNSEL 2024 – 2025 FINANCIAL REPORT

In this week's bulletin I am grateful for the opportunity to share with you this year's annual report for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025. It represents the strength of our Faith and the generosity of our Parish community. We are committed to being good stewards and fully transparent within our parish community.

Our Parish continues to grow and prosper, this year we ended with an operating surplus of \$21,488, that is an amazing accomplishment for a growing parish. Over the past seven years the total Sunday collections have grown by 48%, recovering from the deficit of covid, and this year increasing by 6.6% compared to last year. The Parish subsidy to Religious Education decreased from last year, while maintaining the integrity of our Catholic mission and the spiritual purpose of the program. Our Religious Education Director exercises wise stewardship over the program's finances with thoughtful planning and accountability. This past year we registered eighty-six new families which resulted in 321 new parishioners. Welcome to all our new parishioners!

We continue to do our best to be good stewards of the funds that are received throughout the year. Meaning that we spend within our means. That is evident by our parish having a surplus at the end of the year. We completed many projects across the parish, both easily noticed and those quietly carried out behind the scenes, affirming our commitment to being good stewards of the resources entrusted to us. The sound system, projectors, and screens were updated in the Church. The door security system was updated along with cameras. Unfortunately, in today's times this is extremely important, especially for the staff that may be working into the evening hours. The carpets were cleaned, walls have been painted, offices have been rearranged. A vesting room was made for the Priests and Deacons, prior to this room all the vestments were hanging in a hall closet, and vesting had to be done in the hall. That was unacceptable, especially when we have visiting Bishops and Priests. This new room is a welcome addition.

Our online donations through OSV continue to grow each year. We encourage everyone to explore this offering program. You can access the OSV online giving platform on our website at <http://www.omgccc.org>.

Again, thank you for your Time, Talent, and Treasure to Our Mother of Good Counsel. If you have any questions or concerns regarding the financial report, please contact Paula Bucciferro at [accountant@omgccc.org](mailto:accountant@omgccc.org)

# Our Mother of Good Counsel

## Financial Report

July 2024 - June 2025

	Actual			Budget	Variance
	Church	Rel Educ	Total		
<b>Revenue:</b>					
Sunday Offertory	\$ 611,348		\$611,348	\$ 510,000	\$ 101,348
Other Collections	\$ 86,877		\$86,877	\$ 76,700	\$ 10,177
Unrestricted Donations	\$ 31,677		\$31,677	\$ 22,300	\$ 9,377
Restricted Donations	\$ 41,841		\$41,841	\$ 28,500	\$ 13,341
Interest Income	\$ 7,300		\$7,300	\$ 3,000	\$ 4,300
Fundraisers	\$ 30,474		\$30,474		\$ 30,474
CMAA - Rebate	\$ 2,407		\$2,407	\$ 3,000	\$ (593)
Other Unrestricted Revenue	\$ 17,894		\$17,894		\$ 17,894
Tuition & Fees		\$ 32,045	\$32,045	\$ 42,000	\$ (9,955)
Total Income	\$829,817	\$32,045	\$861,862	\$685,500	\$176,362
<b>Expenses:</b>					
Salaries & Benefits	\$ 247,005	\$64,966	\$311,970	\$ 285,033	\$ (26,937)
Repairs & Maintenance	\$ 27,061		\$27,061	\$ 15,300	\$ (11,761)
Services	\$ 192,099	\$ 3,008	\$195,107	\$ 172,150	\$ (22,957)
Materials & Supplies	\$ 108,683	\$ 1,070	\$109,753	\$ 82,500	\$ (27,253)
Insurance	\$ 15,973		\$15,973	\$ 14,053	\$ (1,920)
Rental Expense	\$ 4,839	\$ 2,750	\$7,589	\$ 7,340	\$ (249)
Curriculum		\$ 3,907	\$3,907	\$ 5,800	\$ 1,893
Utilities	\$ 43,359	\$ 2,276	\$45,635	\$ 40,860	\$ (4,775)
Diocesan Assessment	\$ 38,736		\$38,736	\$ 38,736	\$ -
Ministry and Outreach	\$ 5,820	\$370	\$6,190	\$ 1,000	\$ (5,190)
Other Operating Expenses	\$ 16,809		\$16,809		\$ (16,809)
Restricted Expenses	\$ 5,099		\$5,099	\$ 7,000	\$ 1,901
Capital Expenditures	\$ 56,543		\$56,543		\$ (56,543)
Total Expenses	\$762,027	\$78,347	\$840,374	\$669,772	\$ (170,602)
<b>Net Income:</b>	\$67,790	\$(46,302)	\$21,488	\$15,728	\$5,760
Parish Subsidy to RE	\$ 46,302	\$(46,302)		\$ 0	
<b>Surplus/(Deficit):</b>	\$ 21,488	\$ (0)	\$ 21,488	\$ 15,728	\$ 5,760

### Cash in Bank Accounts as of June 30, 2025

Old Plank Trail Bank - Operating	\$ 31,406.21
Old Plank Trail Bank - Savings	\$ 22,634.93
Us Bank - Checking	\$ 18,039.61
US Bank - Savings	\$ 77,152.36
Diocesan Savings Account	\$ 112,598.54
Diocesan Building Account	\$ 127,618.70





## St. Joseph's Corner

Advent begins, not with activity, but with a hush. Long before the angels sang over Bethlehem or the shepherds hurried to the manger, God prepared the world for His Son through a man who would not have a single word recorded in Scripture: St. Joseph. Yet his silent readiness helped make way for a world soon forever changed.

In a world where noise is the default setting of our lives—marked by competing notifications, urgent messages, and unsolicited opinions—St. Joseph stands as a quiet giant. His silence is not emptiness, but a capacity carved out by God so that His Son could transform a broken world.

### Making Room Before Making Progress

We often enter Advent with plans—devotionals, sacrifices, acts of charity, carefully scheduled holy hours. All good. Yet St. Joseph shows us a better path. Before he planned, he listened. Before he acted, he received. He made room—in his life, in his heart, in his soul—the room necessary for God's will to take hold, transforming both him and the world.

St. Joseph's greatness was not revealed in his words, his strength, or his determination, but through the interior landscape of a man who made space for God to act within him. His silence is not passive resignation; it is an active posture of receptivity, an intentional surrender of the noise of self-will, and an unwavering trust in God's providence.

In St. Joseph, silence becomes strength. Silence becomes discernment. Silence becomes fatherhood.

### The Courage to Be Interruptible

Beginning with the Annunciation to St. Joseph, his life becomes marked by a series of holy interruptions—uprooting his own plans through dreams, angels, and mysteries he could neither predict nor fully understand. Each interruption required a surrender of something real: his expectations, his reputation, his comfort, and even his understanding of what God was doing.

And yet Joseph responded with a quiet courage that is easy to overlook. He allowed God to reroute his life without resistance. He allowed mystery to govern what had once been certainty. He allowed his story to unfold according to a will not his own—each time responding with a willingness that is startling in its immediacy.

This raises a question for us: Have we left any margin in our lives for God to interrupt us?

The noise we live with—a noise we often seek, choose, or prefer—doesn't merely distract us; it slowly forms us into a rigidity that cannot be redirected, surprised, or guided. Advent invites us to break down this scaffolding and allow God to form us into the masterpiece for which He created us (Eph 2:10).

### The Interior Work of Advent

We often see the progression of our spiritual life as a series of efforts: doing more, giving more, adding more. But God does not need us to carve our own path of righteousness; He wants us to trust the path He has carved for us—a path that begins with surrender, not work.

Our instinct is progress. God's preference is presence. And presence requires room. St. Joseph's hidden strength was not in producing or planning but in making interior room for a God who works in quiet, slow, unnoticed ways—like growth in the womb, God's grace unfolds in the human heart (Jn 14:23).

Dear Brothers, take this first week of Advent as an invitation to clear out room for God in your life—not merely through outward expressions of good works, but by opening space within your heart for God to interrupt your plans, your expectations, and your pace of life.

Let God form you into the instrument of His will. Only then can you truly live out your vocation as husbands and fathers, preparing your family for the miracle to come.

—Sebastian Abbinanti (Parish Pastoral Council Member)

## And the Word Was Made Flesh



Daily Reflections  
1st Sunday of  
Advent thru  
Epiphany Sunday



Join for free at:



### Incarnation Stories for Advent & Christmas

[htoh.us/advent](http://htoh.us/advent)

Presented by Heart to Heart Catholic Media Ministry

# HOLIDAY HOPE

GIVE THE  
GIFT OF  
**HOPE** THIS  
SEASON

## DONATE BLOOD

Sunday  
December  
**14**

7:00AM – 11:00AM

Helpful tip:  
Make sure to eat a  
healthy meal and drink  
plenty of water before  
donating.

1-800-770-GIVE

### Our Mother of Good Counsel Blood Drive

Location: Our Mother of Good Counsel

16043 S. Bell Road  
Homer Glen, IL 60491

Appointments appreciated; Walk-ins welcome!  
To schedule, go to [www.versiti.org/IL](http://www.versiti.org/IL), load the  
Versiti Donor app, call (800) 770-GIVE,  
or scan the QR code

Photo ID Required



**versiti**  
Blood Center of Illinois

Dec 6th  
Saint Nicholas day



DEC 6/7	Sat 4:00pm	Sun 7:30am	Sun 9:00am	Sun 10:30am	Sun 12:00pm	Sun 4:00pm
Eucharistic Minsters	Dennis Foley Lisa Lorek Ken Marcin	Mary Ann Mesich Theresa Pettinato Mike Gatto Debbie Hoekstra	Jasia Para Jozef Staszczka	Dawn Nolan Julie Sochacki Yayi Cazares	Ewelina Szafran Agata Świętosławska	Mary Keene Janet Litterio
Lector	Lisa Stanly	Sue Targosz Darcy Trudelle	Zofia Kracik	Jane Finlon	Marian Gal	Janet Litterio
Sacristan	Donna Swiniarski	Patti Mulligan	Bożena Bisaga	Sue Strella	Artur Leja	Janet Litterio
Ushers	Cody Cwik Ken Marcin	Mike Targoz Jim Mulligan Tony Angelo	Ślawomir Budz Witek Szaflarski Stanisław Smalec Czesław Bisaga		Andrzej Kas Artur Leja Wiesław Mos Eugeniusz Blachut	Mary Keene

## PARISH STAFF

**Very Rev. Grzegorz P. Podwysocki**  
JCL, JV, KHS • Chancellor • Judicial Vicar  
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**Rev. Michael Flynn**  
**Rev. Maciej Stelmach**  
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**Naomi O'Malley**  
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**Janet Litterio**  
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**Małgorzata Siuta (Po Polsku)**  
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PolishMinistry@omgccc.org

**Anna Siwiec-Sitkowska**  
Music Ministry

**Victoria Petecki**  
Digital Media

**Paula Bucciferro**  
Accountant  
accountant@omgccc.org

## STEWARDSHIP

**Nov 22/23**  
Mass Collections *unavailable due to the*  
Utilities *Thanksgiving*  
Building Fund *publishing*  
Online Giving *deadline*



## CMAA PLEDGE REPORT

Thank you for the continued donations! 70% of the amount over our goal will come back to our Parish.  
Donor count: 154  
PARISH GOAL: \_\_\_\_\_ \$42,600  
AMOUNT PLEDGED: \_\_\_\_\_ \$48,620  
AMOUNT PAID: \_\_\_\_\_ \$46,929  
REMAINING BALANCE: \$1,691  
2025 REBATE: \_\_\_\_\_ \$3,030

## SACRAMENTAL INFORMATION



**Baptism:** Baptisms are scheduled on the second Sunday of each month. Polish Baptisms are at 1:00 p.m., and English Baptisms are at 1:30 p.m. Please contact the Faith Formation Office before booking your venue for the celebration. Parents must be registered with our parish. Both sponsors must be over 16 years old, with at least one being a practicing Catholic.



**Marriage:** The bride and groom should be active members of our parish. The couple should contact the Faith Formation Office at least six months in advance to schedule their marriage, allowing for adequate preparation. Schedule the church date for your marriage before securing your venue.



**Funerals:** The family of the deceased will coordinate with the chosen funeral home to make the arrangements. The funeral home will then contact the Faith Formation Office at Our Mother of Good Counsel (OMGC) to notify us about the upcoming funeral Mass. We (OMGC) will get in touch with the family and work together to organize the funeral liturgy.



**Eucharist for the Homebound and Hospitalized:** If you are unable to attend Mass please contact the Parish Office for the Sacraments of the Eucharist. Our Homebound ministry would be happy to assist you.



**Anointing of the Sick & Hospital Visits:** Please contact the Parish Office if your loved one requires an anointing. Please do not wait until death is imminent to request anointing, as it may take some time to find a priest for the sacrament.



**Religious Education:** We offer religious education classes for grades 1-8. Call the Faith Formation Office for more information. Classes meet Wednesday, 6:00-7:30PM September through March.



**Newcomers:** Welcome to our Parish! Please stop in the Parish Office or visit our website for a Parishioner registration form. We are so happy to have you.



**Prayer Request Line:** Submit your intention to omgcpayers@gmail.com, and our prayer warriors will discreetly pray for you intention. If you would like to join the prayer warriors, send omgcpayers@gmail.com an email asking to be added.



**Religious Life:** Considering Religious Life? For more information about vocations, please contact: vocations@dioceseofjoliet.org



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