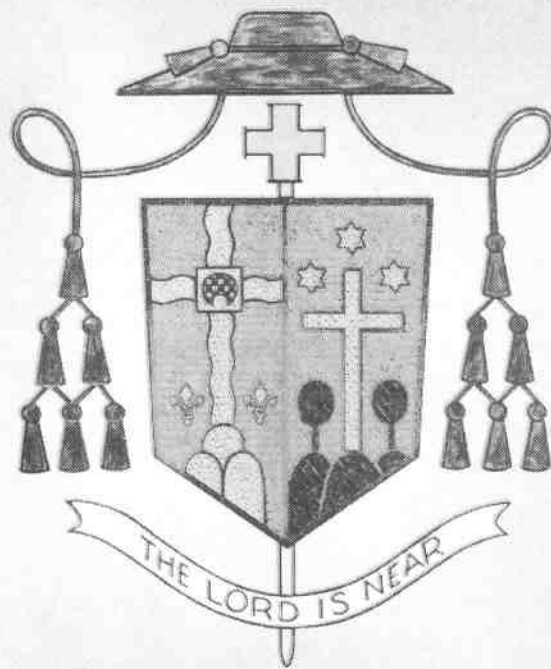


Diocese of Joliet, Illinois
50th Anniversary
1999

*Celebrating Church
Creating Community*



Diocese of Joliet, Illinois

1999

This book is dedicated to the people of the Diocese of Joliet, Illinois

Acknowledgments



Our appreciation to the parishes, ministries and institutions of the diocese for providing photographs for inclusion in this book.

Our thanks to Father Richard Walsh for preparing the history of the diocese.

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Pope John Paul II



APOSTOLIC NUNCIATURE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

OCTOBER 22, 1998

Dear Bishop Imesch,

On the happy occasion of the 50th anniversary of the Diocese of Joliet, it is my distinct privilege to convey to the entire community the heartfelt congratulations and prayerful good wishes of His Holiness Pope John Paul II.

As you gather to celebrate, it is the hope of the Holy Father that all those who participate will continue to make their best efforts to prepare for the celebration of the Great Jubilee of the Year 2000, according to the precious indications of His Holiness in his Apostolic Letter, "Tertio Millennio Adveniente," (As the Third Millennium of the New Era Draws Near.)

There the Holy Father invites us to reflect on Christian joy as well as repentance and reconciliation, to acknowledge the centrality of Jesus Christ, "the same yesterday, today and forever," in human life and history; to adore the presence and action of the Blessed Trinity, the Son, the Holy Spirit and the Father; and also to lovingly contemplate Blessed Mary our Mother throughout all these years at the threshold of the Third Millennium.

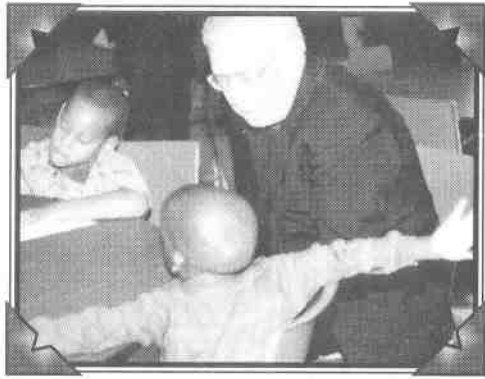
His Holiness desires to unite with the entire diocese in thanking God for the blessings of the past 50 years, while entrusting the future into the loving hands of Mary, Mother of the Church.

As a sign of his spiritual esteem and solidarity, Pope John Paul II imparts to all his Apostolic Blessing, granted through the intercession of Mary Immaculate. May I be allowed to join with the sentiments of the Holy Father and add my own good wishes.

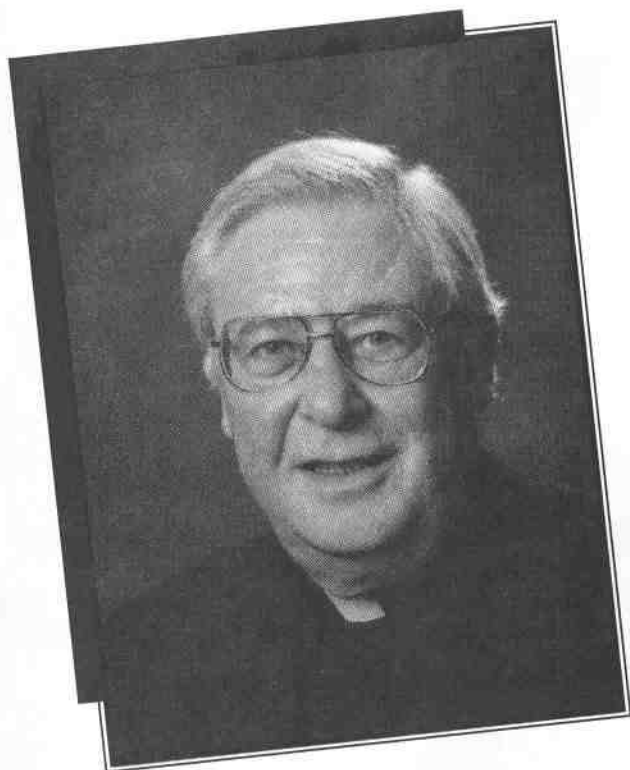
Sincerely in Christ,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "A. Cacciavillan".

Archbishop Agostino Cacciavillan
Apostolic Pro-Nuncio



Bishop Joseph L. Imesch

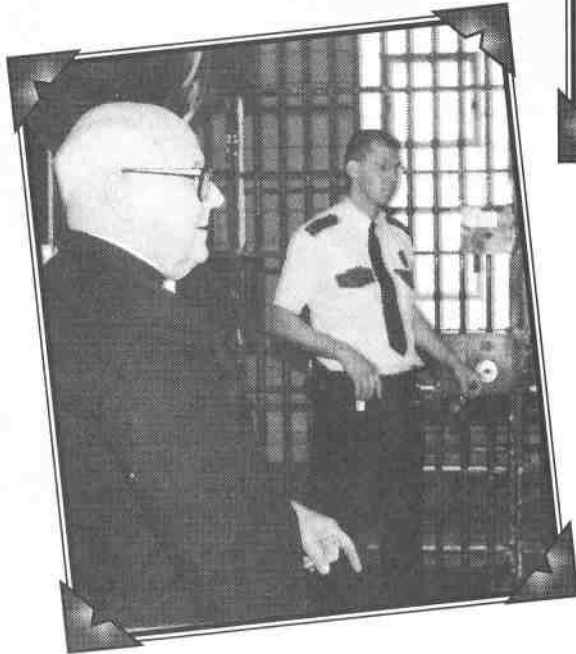


Bishop Joseph L. Imesch was born on June 21, 1931, in Grosse Pointe Farms, Michigan, to Dionys and Margaret (Margelisch) Imesch. He went to elementary school at St. Ambrose and St. Paul schools in Grosse Pointe, Mich. He attended Sacred Heart Seminary High School and College in Detroit where he received his bachelor's degree. He attended the North American College in Rome where he received a licentiate in sacred theology from the Gregorian University. He was ordained Dec. 16, 1956, in Rome.

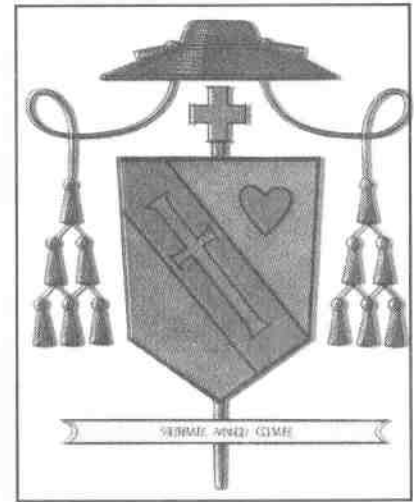
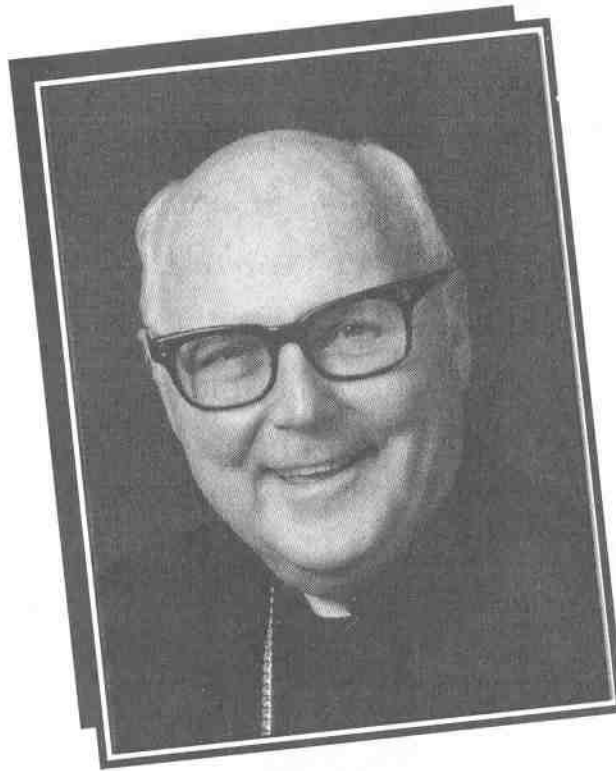
Upon returning to Michigan, he was appointed assistant pastor at St. Charles Parish in Detroit, from 1957-1959 and was secretary to John Cardinal Dearden, Archbishop of Detroit, from 1959-1971. He was appointed pastor of Our Lady of Sorrows Parish in Farmington, where he served from 1971-1977.

He was ordained Auxiliary Bishop of Detroit on April 3, 1973. In 1977 he was assigned as regional bishop of the Northwest Region. On Aug. 28, 1979, he was installed as the third bishop of the Joliet Diocese.

Bishop Imesch currently serves on the board for Catholic Relief Services. He is also a member of the Committee for Stewardship; is a member of the National Council of Catholic Bishops' Committee for Pastoral Practices; is a member of the board of trustees of Archdiocese of Chicago Seminaries and is a member of the retired religious grant review board. He has also served as chairman of the NCCB Committee for Pastoral Practices; served as a member of the Ad Hoc Committee for Hispanic Affairs; served as a member of the board of directors at Sacred Heart School of Theology, Hales Corners, Wisc.; served as chairman of the NCCB Committee on Women in Society and the Church; as chairman of NCCB Committee Writing the Pastoral on the Concerns of Women; was a member of the Marriage and Family Life Committee and served on the Ad Hoc Committee for Catholic Telecommunication Network of America.



Auxiliary Bishop Roger L. Kaffer



A Joliet native who attended the Cathedral of St. Raymond Grade School, Auxiliary Bishop Roger L. Kaffer was ordained a priest May 1, 1954, at the Cathedral of St. Raymond by Bishop Martin D. McNamara. In 1985, he was ordained a bishop by Bishop Joseph L. Imesch.

He studied for the priesthood at Quigley Preparatory Seminary in Chicago and continued his studies at St. Mary of the Lake Seminary in Mundelein, where he received bachelor's and master's degrees and a licentiate and bachelor of sacred theology. He studied at the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome where he received a licentiate of canon law. He received a master's degree in education from DePaul University and a doctorate of ministry from St. Mary of the Lake.

Among his positions in the diocese, he was assistant chancellor at the Joliet Chancery, founding rector of St. Charles Borromeo Seminary, principal of Providence High School in New Lenox and rector of the Cathedral of St. Raymond. He also served at St. Paul the Apostle, St. Raymond, St. Anthony, St. Bernard and St. Joseph parishes in Joliet as a priest and lived with the brothers at Montini High School, Lombard, and at St. Joseph Parish, Downers Grove, and Notre Dame Parish in Clarendon Hills as a bishop. Bishop Kaffer is presently the Vicar General of the Diocese.

Diocese of Joliet

Mission Statement

We, the Roman Catholic Church of Joliet, a people of diverse races and cultures within seven counties, strive to be the Body of Christ by living the Faith, preaching the Word, building community, serving others, especially the poor, and celebrating our unity through the sacraments.



Diocesan Prayer for the Jubilee

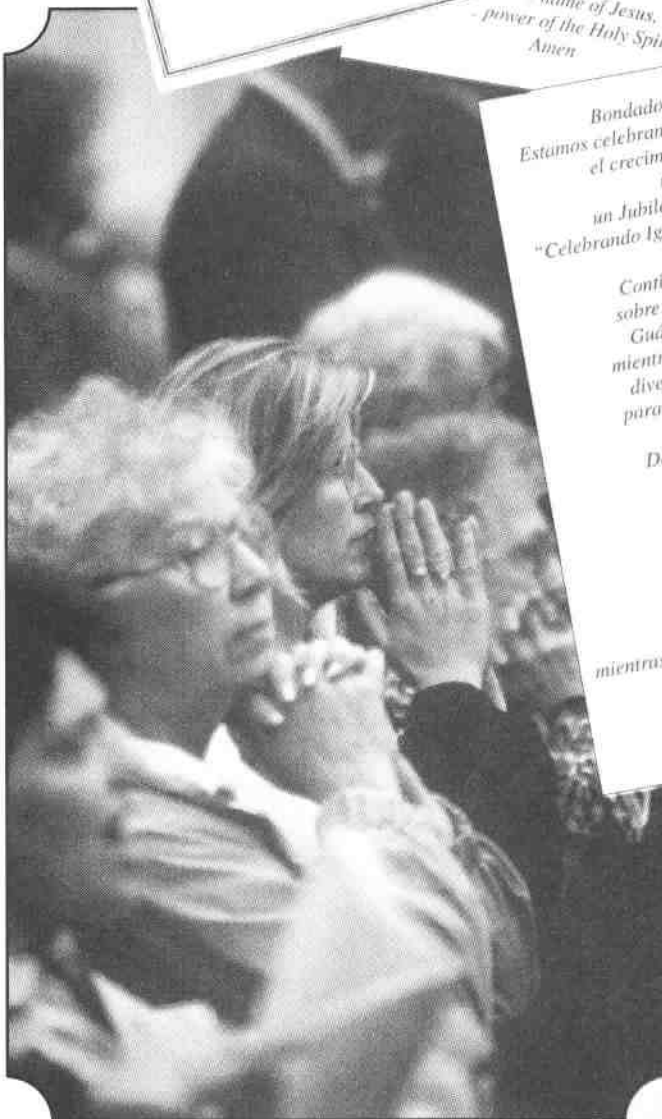


Kind and gracious God,
We are celebrating a wondrous event;
the growth of Your faithful,
new life,
a Jubilee of fifty years
"Celebrating Church, Creating Community."

Continue Your blessings
on this faith community,
Hold us in Your care,
as we offer our diverse and unique gifts
to make present Your Kingdom.

Give us hearts full of
Your love,
willing hands for
good works,
and wisdom to act,
inspired by Your Word.

Unite us in prayer
give thanks for the
rich of Joliet,
in the name of Jesus, Your Son
- power of the Holy Spirit,
Amen



Bondadoso y tierno Dios,
Estamos celebrando un evento maravilloso
el crecimiento de Tus fieles,
nueva vida,
un Jubileo de cincuenta años
"Celebrando Iglesia, Creando Comunidad."

Continúa Tus bendiciones
sobre esta comunidad de fe.
Guárdanos en tu cuidado
mientras te ofrecemos nuestros
diversos y singulares dones
para hacer presente Tu Reino.

Danos corazones llenos
de Tu amor,
manos dispuestas
a las buenas obras,
y sabiduría para actuar,
inspirados por Tu Palabra.

Unenos
mientras damos gracias
Te bendicimos
en el nombre de Jesús,
por el poder del Espíritu Santo.

Laskawy i miłosierny boże,
obchodzimy wspaniałą Uroczystość,
ogrom Twój i miłości,
jubileusz pięćdziesięciolecia,
tworzenia Twojej wspólnoty.

Błogosław nadal
wiemy tej wspólnoty,
Zachowaj nas w Swojej opiece,
przyjmij nasze prośby,
aby nastąpiło wśród nas Twoje Królestwo.

Daj nam serce
pełne Twojej miłości,
rece gotowe,
by czynić dobro,
mądrość w działaniu,
natchniona Twoim Słowem.

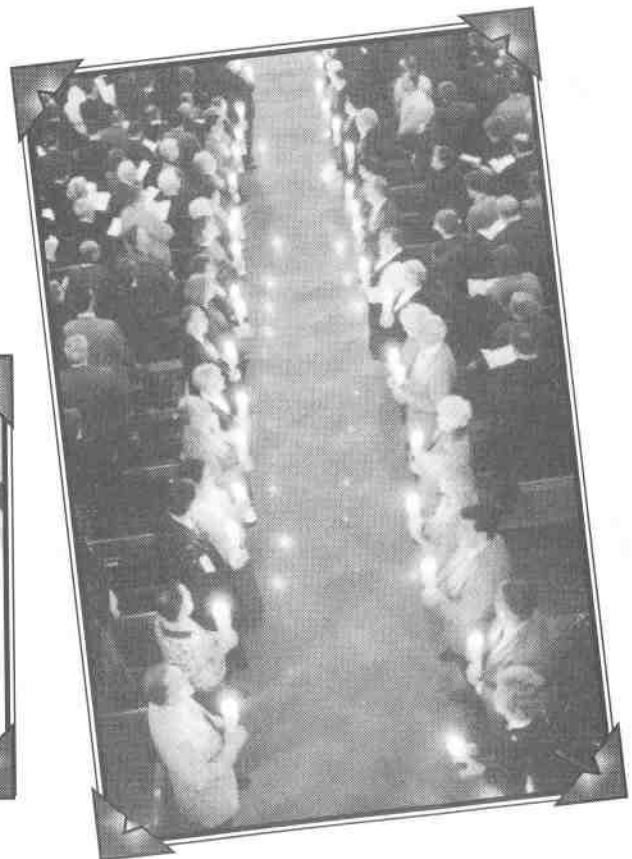
Złącz nas
w dziękczynnej modlitwie,
za Kościół diecezji Joliet.
Prosimy o to w imię Jezusa,
Twojego Syna,
mocą Twojego Ducha Świętego.
Amen.

50 Years of Families and Faith

Nearly 900 parishioners and members of diocesan and religious institutions filled the Cathedral of St. Raymond Nonnatus on Dec. 11, 1998, for the Golden Jubilee Mass which launched a year of activities celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Diocese of Joliet.

Principal celebrant of the Mass was Bishop Joseph L. Imesch, who was joined by Auxiliary Bishop Roger L. Kaffer, former auxiliary bishops of the diocese: retired Archbishop Daniel Kucera, OSB, of Dubuque and Bishop Daniel Ryan of Springfield, and 159 priests and 60 deacons.

The Mass was followed by a reception at the University of St. Francis, Joliet.



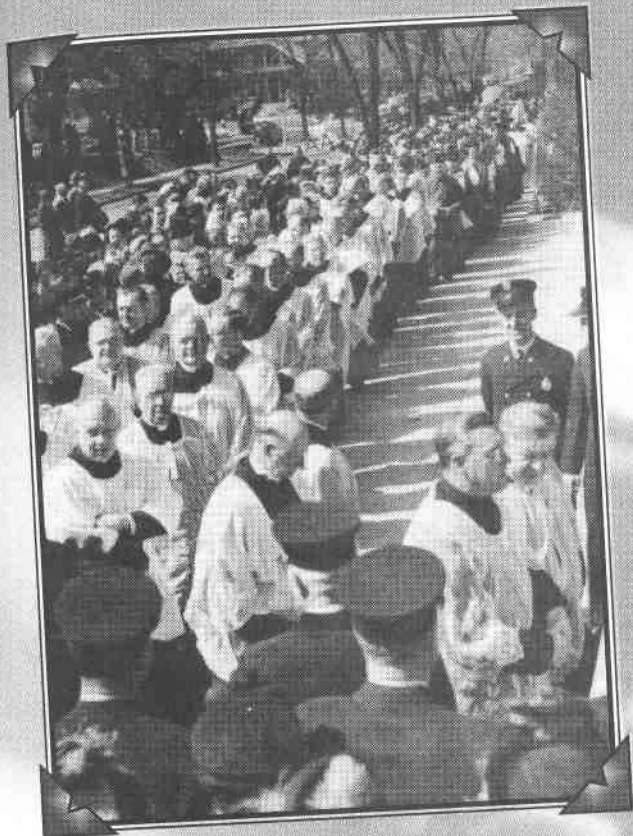


The Diocese of Joliet Erected

On Dec. 11, 1948, by the Apostolic Letters entitled "*Ecclesiarum Circumscriptiones*," His Holiness Pope Pius XII erected the Diocese of Joliet in Illinois.



On March 24, 1949, at the Cathedral of St. Raymond, Joliet, Chicago Archdiocesan Cardinal Samuel Stritch presided at the ceremony in which Bishop Martin D. McNamara was formally installed as the first bishop of the new diocese.



Bishops Who Have Served the Joliet Diocese



Bishop Martin McNamara

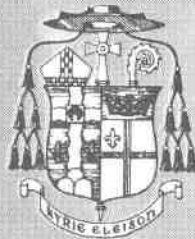
The seventh of eight children, Bishop Martin D. McNamara was born May 12, 1898, in Chicago. After five years of study at the Cathedral college (now known as Quigley Preparatory Seminary North) in Chicago, he attended St. Mary's Seminary in Baltimore and later the Catholic University of America in Washington D.C.

On Dec. 23, 1922, at Holy Name Cathedral in Chicago, he was ordained to the priesthood by Cardinal George Mundelein. After a brief stay as assistant pastor at Queen of Angels Parish in Chicago, the bishop spent 12 years teaching American history at Quigley. In March 1946, Pope Pius XII named him a domestic prelate with the title Rt. Rev. Monsignor.

On Dec. 11, 1948, the Diocese of Joliet was created. Soon after, on Dec. 17, 1948, the Diocese of Joliet was created. Soon after, on Dec. 17, 1948, then Vatican Secretary of State Cardinal Amleto Cicognani named Bishop McNamara as the first bishop of the newly created diocese.

On March 7, 1949, Bishop McNamara was ordained bishop of the Diocese of Joliet.

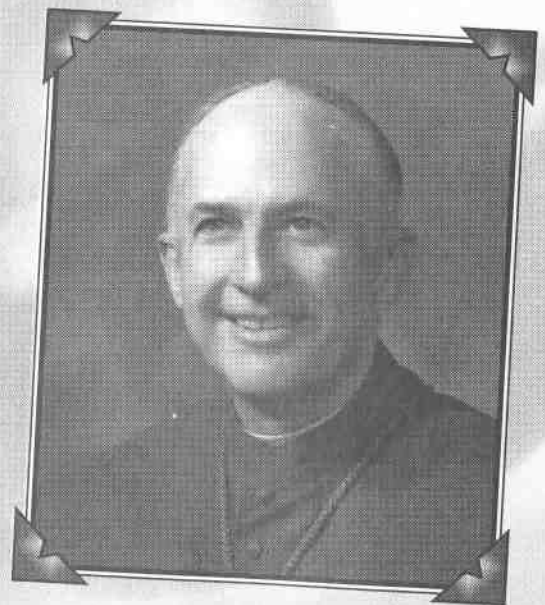
Bishop Romeo Blanchette

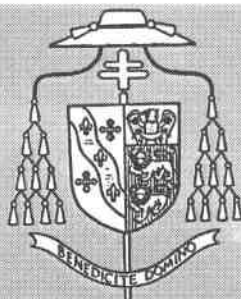
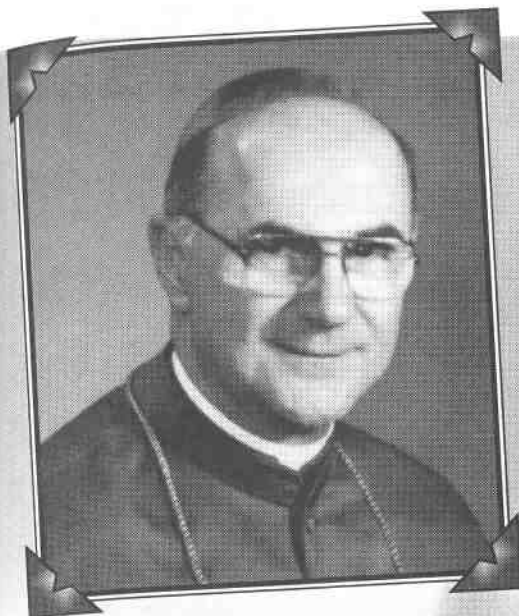


A native of Kankakee County, Bishop Romeo R. Blanchette was born Jan. 6, 1913, on a farm in St. George. He attended St. Mary of the Lake George Mundelein, the Archbishop of Chicago, on April 3, 1937.

Bishop Blanchette earned a master's degree in theology, a bachelor's degree in sacred theology and a licentiate and bachelor's degree in canon law. On Aug. 1, 1950, the bishop was invested as domestic prelate with the title Rt. Rev. Monsignor, and on Jan. 6, 1950, he was appointed vicar general of the Joliet Diocese.

On April 3, 1965, Bishop Blanchette was consecrated auxiliary bishop of Joliet and on Aug. 31, 1966, he was installed as the second bishop of the Diocese of Joliet.





Bishop Daniel Kucera

Retired Archbishop Daniel W. Kucera, OSB, of Dubuque, is a Chicago native who joined the Benedictine order in 1944. He attended St. Procopius College in Lisle (now known as Benedictine University) where he received his bachelor's degree. After attending St. Procopius Seminary in Lisle, he was ordained a priest May 26, 1949. He received master's and doctorate degrees from Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C. He was elected abbot of St. Procopius Abbey in Lisle in 1964. He was ordained auxiliary bishop of Joliet July 21, 1977. On May 7, 1980, he was ordained bishop of Salina, Kan., and on Feb. 23, 1984, he was installed as archbishop of Dubuque, Iowa. He retired as archbishop of Dubuque in 1995.

Bishop Raymond Vonesh

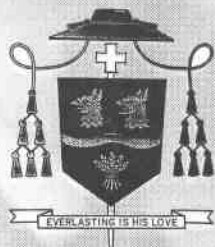
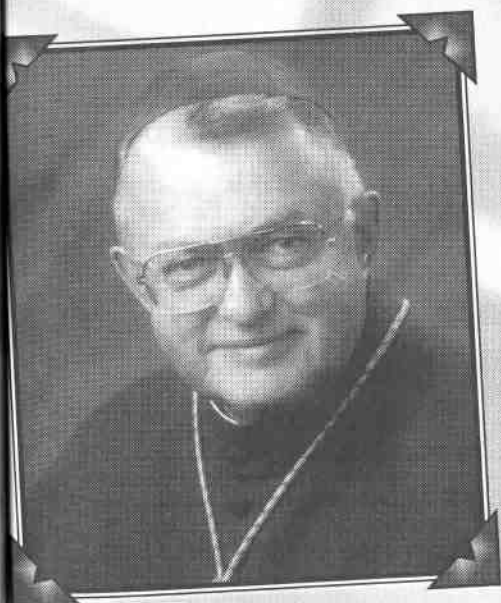
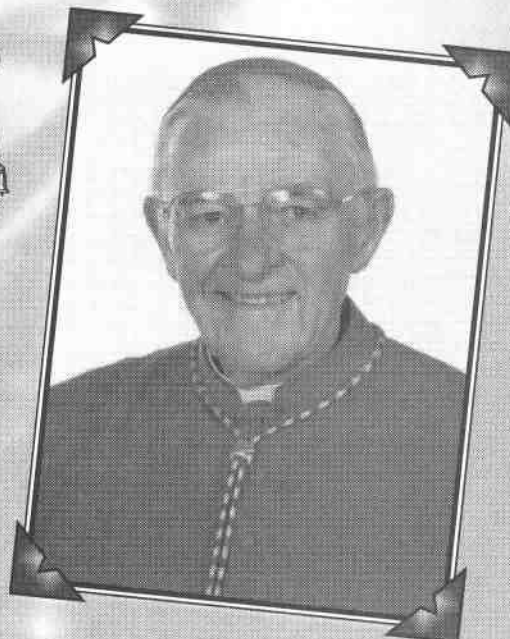


Born Jan. 25, 1916, in Cicero, Ill., Bishop Raymond J. Vonesh entered Quigley Preparatory Seminary in Chicago as a high school sophomore. In his studies he earned a master's degree and licentiate in sacred theology from St. Mary of the Lake Seminary in Mundelein, Ill.

Bishop Vonesh was ordained a priest for the Archdiocese of Chicago on May 3, 1941, by then-Archbishop Samuel Stritch.

After having served as assistant pastor at Sacred Heart Church in Chicago and later at Holy Name Cathedral, he was sent to Gregorian University in Rome in 1947 and earned a licentiate in canon law.

From 1956 until 1967, the bishop served as procurator at St. Mary of the Lake Seminary in Mundelein, Ill. On April 3, 1968, exactly one year to the day after his arrival at the Joliet chancery, Bishop Vonesh was ordained auxiliary bishop of the Diocese of Joliet.



Bishop Daniel Ryan

Auxiliary Bishop Daniel L. Ryan was born Sept. 28, 1930, in Mankato, Minn. He attended high school in Springfield, Ill. He earned a bachelor's degree in classical languages from Illinois Benedictine College (now known as Benedictine University) in Lisle and in postgraduate work, he earned a licentiate of canon law from Pontifical Lateran University in Rome.

Bishop Ryan attended St. Procopius Seminary in Lisle and on May 3, 1956, was ordained a priest at the Cathedral of St. Raymond, Joliet, by Bishop Martin D. McNamara. In addition to serving as pastor for more than 20 years at five different parishes, he served as chancellor of the Joliet Diocese from 1965 through 1978.

On Sept. 23, 1981, Bishop Ryan was ordained auxiliary bishop of the Diocese of Joliet and was consecrated Sept. 30, 1981. He was installed as bishop of the Springfield Diocese Jan. 18, 1984.

Three Centuries of Faith-Building Before the Diocese of Joliet Was Formed

- 
- 1659 Diocese of Quebec is formed
- 1672-73 Jesuit Father Jacques Marquette and Louis Joliet explore region known as Country of the Illinois
- 1743 Three Fires Confederacy: Potawatomi, Ottawa, Chippewa
- 1763 Treaty of Paris and the era of English control
- 1776 Independence declared by the Thirteen Colonies
- 1778 Illinois Country claimed from British by the Commonwealth of Virginia
- 1783 By the Peace Treaty of 1783, Virginia cedes Illinois Country to the U.S. government
- 1789 Diocese of Baltimore is formed and Illinois is included within its jurisdiction
- 1808 Illinois is included in the Diocese of Bardstown (Louisville)
- 1809 Illinois becomes a Territory
- 1818 Illinois becomes 21st state of the Union
- 1827 Illinois is included within the Diocese of St. Louis
- 1834 Eastern Illinois is included within the Diocese of Vincennes (Indianapolis)
- 1835 Official beginning of railroad colonization in Illinois
- 1836 Work begins on the Illinois and Michigan Canal
Will County is created with Joliet as the county seat
- 1837 Removal of the Potawatomi, Ottawa and Chippewa by the U.S. government
- 1838 Founding of St. Patrick Parish - Joliet's oldest parish
First priest takes residence to serve St. Patrick Parish, Joliet
- 1844 Diocese of Chicago is formed to serve all of Illinois
- 1848 Opening of the Illinois and Michigan Canal
- 1865 Plenary Council of Baltimore
Opening of the consolidated Union Stock Yards in Chicago
- 1869 St. Francis Academy is founded in Joliet
- 1875 Diocese of Peoria (Ford and Iroquois counties) is formed
- 1882 St. Joseph Medical Center is founded
- 1908 Diocese of Rockford (Kendall County) is formed
- 1918 World War I ends
- 1945 World War II ends
- 1948 Diocese of Joliet is formed

From the Beginning:



*History of the
Diocese of Joliet*



Exploration

The story of our faith in relationship to this place now known as the Joliet Diocese reaches back to 1672, when the French missionary-explorers Father Jacques Marquette and Louis Joliet (from the French spelled "*Jolliet* ") began their journey through what is now Wisconsin to the Mississippi River. They then traveled back up through the Illinois and DesPlaines rivers to Lake Michigan in their return to Quebec.

Because we share a common name, we have a special interest in Louis Joliet who was born in 1645 at Quebec. At 17 he entered the Society of Jesus but after three years decided to seek the life of a prosperous trader and "*voyageur*." At age 27, together with Marquette and five other companions, he made this journey of discovery. Joliet brought not only a fur trader's stamina and skill with Native American language, but also a missionary spirit.

We know of Joliet's journey only through recollection. Hurrying toward Montreal on his return in 1673, Joliet's canoe capsized and the story is told that all his journals and maps were lost. We can be grateful that Father Marquette was, in the Jesuit missionary tradition, a great keeper of the journal.

Joliet gave his name to a mound along the DesPlaines River which would be quarried away even as the city of Joliet grew.

Evangelization


Father Marquette and Joliet brought with them a strong desire to share the Gospel, and a great respect for the people they encountered. In a time when missionary efforts were often associated with the abuses of colonialism, the first stories of evangelization in the Diocese of Joliet offer another perspective.

While many different Native American cultures were encountered in this area, the tribe known as Illinois was the dominant group. The explorers found the Illinois to be handsome, lively, intelligent; Father Marquette compared their dances with the beauty of the ballet in Paris. Most important, Father Marquette and Joliet found the Illinois to be open to the one gift of real value that they had to offer—the proclamation of the Gospel.

In 1673, this place, long the home of many Native American cultures, was claimed for France. Cartographers showed this area to be among the farthest outposts of the Diocese of Quebec.

Joliet and Father Marquette were followed by Jesuit Father Hennepin and other priests of the Society of Jesus who developed missions in this area, as well as missionaries from other religious communities and soldiers. Among those of note were French explorer LaSalle and his lieutenant, Henri de Tonti. Then trappers and settlers came in great numbers, as forts were established by the military.

While there were no resident pastors, the faith was celebrated in chapels and homes. Visiting missionaries nourished the sacramental life of the people. The Illinois became allies of the French, and many embraced the Catholic faith. The Illinois were a peace-loving people, and no match for the aggressive Iroquois. In spite of heavy losses during the French and Indian war, the Illinois remained faithful to their French allies.



In 1717, as fur trade diminished in this region and French growth in the New World caused a redefinition of spheres of influence, this region came under the jurisdiction of New Orleans. This situation would continue until the Treaty of Paris in 1763, when this area came under English control.

Native American migration again brought great change to this region in the Three Fires Confederacy of 1743. Potawatomi, Ottawa and Chippewa tribes fought a successful war for these rich hunting, trapping and gathering lands, pushing the Illinois both west and south.

Following the Three Fires Confederacy, the Potawatomi remained the most visible group of Native Americans until their final removal by the United States government in 1837. This forced removal would have widespread impact on the region.

Emigration

Following the 1776 Declaration of Independence, some families on the eastern seaboard began to consider westward expansion.

In 1778, the Illinois Country (sometimes referred to as "Illinois County")—which included what we know today as Illinois, Indiana and Ohio—was claimed from the British by the Commonwealth of Virginia. In 1783, Virginia ceded this wide area to the United States. As a territory of the United States, our region was included in the Diocese of Baltimore when it was formed in 1789. In 1808 our region was entrusted to the Diocese of Bardstown, now the Archdiocese of Louisville.

In 1800, there were 2,000 white settlers in what was to become the state of Illinois; over half of them were of French Canadian background. By 1830 that number had grown to 160,000 settlers. The rush for statehood and availability of quality land offered impetus for growth. For a decade, from 1824 to 1834, Illinois was entrusted to the Diocese of St. Louis.

The massive migration of the early nineteenth century moved through Tennessee and Kentucky, traveling the Vincennes "trace," (also known as Hubbard's Trail), which led north through Iroquois County. In the midst of this expansion, in 1834, our region became part of the new Diocese of Vincennes, now the Archdiocese of Indianapolis.

Bishop Simon Brute of Vincennes was the first bishop having responsibility for the pastoral care of what is today the Joliet Diocese. He sent Father John Plunkett to be our first resident pastor at St. Patrick Parish, Joliet, in 1838. By 1845, St. Patrick's served missions in Will, Kankakee, Grundy and DuPage counties.

What had been a small French Canadian missionary church was becoming a booming, multicultural region of the church. By 1850, over 3.1 million Americans would identify themselves as Catholic—members of the largest segment of Christians in the nation.

Industrialization

Rivers and trails of this region led to the building of railroads and the development of commerce. And families of all faiths, including Catholics, came to supply the labor. Specifically, in 1836, work began on the Illinois and Michigan Canal, a massive project offering rapid water transit. When it opened in 1848, commerce and industry between Chicago and LaSalle became a reality. Along its route, Catholic churches were built and priests came to minister to the faithful.

The life in these mission parishes, without a resident pastor and a congregation with a common foundation, was difficult. Emigration continued from the eastern United States, and by the mid-nineteenth century, there was an explosion of immigration from Europe.

Most of the priests came to this region from missionary societies in Europe. Parishes struggled with the dynamic of traveling pastors, pastors being relocated frequently and bishops working to build a united, cooperative, local church. Parishes were stretched linguistically, with sometimes dozens of language groups requesting pastoral ministry in their native languages.



Propagation

In the midst of the struggle, strength was emerging. Beginning in 1865, the American bishops gathered for the Baltimore Council and identified the importance of strong bishops, common teaching and Catholic schools in every parish.

The effort to develop Catholic schools, especially when resources were quite limited, both challenged and sustained communities. Religious communities of sisters, brothers and priests were finding their place in the life of this church by building new models for creative ministry.

New initiatives were begun in Catholic higher education and social services. As the American seminary system was beginning to produce diocesan priests, often from this emerging culture, local leadership became more stable.

The earliest decades of the twentieth century would deeply impact our local and national experience of Catholicism in America. Priests, especially those formed for ministry in America, became more plentiful and resident pastors became the norm.

An abundance of sisters brought leadership to an excellent and expansive elementary school system, health-care system, and a substantial residential educational system.

Strong bishops called for quality in pastoral care, and linked dioceses with discipline. As the process of immigration unfolded, Catholics in America continued a pattern of respecting "national" ethnicity, developing national—or ethnic—parishes, educational and protective ministries. World War I would call this pastoral direction into question and change the focus of our development as a church.

Throughout our seven counties we were blessed with a large number of German, Alsatian and Austrian lay people, sisters and priests. During World War I, anti-German sentiments were very high, and the days of German language sermons, confessions, Catholic schools, religion classes and conversation in convents and rectories came to an end. This greatly accelerated the Americanization of our Catholic life.

The 1920's saw an outpouring of nativist feeling which produced fairly wide Ku Klux Klan activity in our region. Reports of the period note that KKK activity subsided as quickly as it developed; bias had, however, made its mark.

The peace and prosperity that followed World War I was short lived. In 1929, the shadow of the Great Depression began to settle over the United States. The vast majority of Catholics were living in cities, laboring and already struggling financially.

The Depression deepened the well of poverty but also provided an equalizing effect. Catholics, long so different, were not quite as different anymore. As well, Catholic outreach through the developing network of hospitals and protective institutions became legendary.

Modernization

During World War II, Catholic life in the United States entered a new period of transition. So that when the diocese was formed in 1948, vast changes continued to unfold, many of which continue to shape the character of this local church. No individual or community could have been prepared for the good God would do among us.

Following World War II, through the system of benefits offered to veterans, new homes were now available, many in the suburbs of DuPage and Will counties. Higher education was now available through loans and grants, and veterans enrolled in record numbers at colleges and universities, including what we know today as Lewis University, Benedictine University and the University of St. Francis.

Catholics now freely enrolled in state-sponsored and private colleges and universities. Through the building of new roads and commuter rail services, transportation was now available, efficiently linking the Chicago metropolitan area and all of northern Illinois.

At the same time, farm land was becoming housing subdivisions in the north, and in the south of this new diocese, small farms were in decline. Economic and technical challenges, joined with governmental policy, forced more and more families off the farms and into larger towns. Consolidation of services—particularly schools and health care—brought further isolation to once thriving smaller towns.

The Diocese of Joliet's three bishops—Bishop Martin McNamara, Bishop Romeo Blanchette and Bishop Joseph Imesch—have each offered leadership for growth. It would be difficult to find three bishops who were more involved with the challenges of growth during their ministries while navigating the process of rapid change.

With each of our bishops, and our auxiliary bishops—Bishop Vonesch, Bishop Kucera, Bishop Ryan and Bishop Kaffer—we have been greatly blessed.

Revitalization

Possibly the most important event in the life of our young diocese was the gracious surprise of the Second Vatican Council and the call of that council to be a force for renewal in our world. This renewal is an ongoing personal and communal process.

Evidence of the continuation of this spirit of renewal is present in our diocesan experience of RENEW (1983-1986) and RENEW 2000 (1998-2001), our Diocesan Synod (1989), the formation of a representative Diocesan Pastoral Council, as well as new initiatives for evangelization, formation for ministry and planning for the future.

Discovery, change, adventure, surprises, growth and grace have been at the heart of the Gospel in this Diocese of Joliet since the Word was first brought to this area in the seventeenth century.

As we celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the Diocese of Joliet, we are grateful for the heritage we share in faith; we pray for the same confidence that guided our forefathers as we anticipate the future of our church.

Father Richard Walsh

Revitalization

Possibly the most important event in the life of our young diocese was the gracious surprise of the Second Vatican Council and the call of that council to be a force for renewal in our world. This renewal is an ongoing personal and communal process.

Evidence of the continuation of this spirit of renewal is present in our diocesan experience of RENEW (1983-1986) and RENEW 2000 (1998-2001), our Diocesan Synod (1989), the formation of a representative Diocesan Pastoral Council, as well as new initiatives for evangelization, formation for ministry and planning for the future.

Discovery, change, adventure, surprises, growth and grace have been at the heart of the Gospel in this Diocese of Joliet since the Word was first brought to this area in the seventeenth century.

As we celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the Diocese of Joliet, we are grateful for the heritage we share in faith; we pray for the same confidence that guided our forefathers as we anticipate the future of our church.

Father Richard Walsh



A Letter from Bishop Joseph L. Imesch



Diocese of Joliet

Chancery

My Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Celebrating Church, Creating Community has been the theme of our yearlong celebration of 50 years as the Diocese of Joliet. On Dec. 11, 1948, the decree erecting the Diocese of Joliet was proclaimed and the new See became a reality on March 24, 1949. The diocese was formed from DuPage, Will, Grundy and Kankakee counties from the Archdiocese of Chicago; Kendall County from the Diocese of Rockford; and Ford and Iroquois counties from the Diocese of Peoria. At the time there were approximately 90,000 Catholics living in the seven counties. Today that number exceeds 550,000 Catholics.

The tremendous growth in Catholic population has been matched by the growth in energy and vitality of the Catholic community. Enlivened by the Second Vatican Council, the Catholic community responded to the renewed emphasis on the call to holiness of each individual and the commitment to mission received in baptism. The multiple ministries that are carried on by the laity today were hardly even dreamed of in 1949.

While 50 years makes us a relatively young diocesan church, our roots were developed long ago. Some of the parishes in the Diocese of Joliet are more than 150 years old, testifying to the faith and perseverance of the pioneers of this area. We need to give special thanks to the priests and religious who labored in this local church long before the diocese was even formed, as well as all of those who have ministered here since 1949. We need to remember with gratitude the many lay people who contributed their time, talent and treasure to the building up of their parish communities.

We know and appreciate that faith is not something that is developed overnight but is the product of a believing and worshiping community. We are witnesses to the truth, "Unless the Lord builds the house..." Today as we look back on our first 50 years we give thanks to the Lord for the many blessings He has provided this church through all of those priests, men and women religious and lay people who have served their communities so well. Looking ahead to the new millennium we are filled with the energy of the Holy Spirit and ask that we continue to be open to the voice of that Spirit.

This book is a picture of our diocese as it is today. None of us can predict what the next 50 years will bring. While we cannot foresee the future, we can certainly pledge that our efforts will be to strengthen and deepen our faith. In gratitude to Almighty God for His blessings and in prayer for His grace and protection in the years ahead we offer our continued service to our brothers and sisters. May the Lord continue to bless this Church of Joliet.

With every best wish,
Sincerely in Christ,

Most Rev. Joseph L. Imesch
Bishop of Joliet

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A Letter from Auxiliary Bishop Roger L. Kaffer



Diocese of Joliet

Chancery

Dear fellow pilgrims of the Diocese of Joliet,

Like so many of you who are over 50, I was in the Archdiocese of Chicago and was actually a seminarian studying to be a Chicago priest on Dec. 11, 1948, when Pope Pius XII signed the decree erecting the new Diocese of Joliet from the surrounding dioceses of Chicago, Peoria and Rockford. Automatically I was a seminarian for Joliet, and I am happy to say for the past 45 years I have been a priest of the Diocese of Joliet, and for the last 14 years, auxiliary bishop. It has been and continues to be an exciting time to be a Catholic, to be a priest, to be a bishop.

Our Holy Father, Pope John Paul II, speaks of that "new springtime of Christian life, which will be revealed by the great Jubilee, if Christians are docile to the action of the Holy Spirit." I think that new springtime has already begun in this local Church of Joliet and in the worldwide church. The Church of Joliet is alive and well, "Celebrating Church, Creating Community" as our 50th Jubilee logo proclaims. It is a thrill to be part of it.

To those of you who were not here at the beginning, we who were gladly hand the torch to you, to race into the new millennium and toward the centenary of this local Church of Joliet, setting the world on fire with the love of Jesus Christ, who is the same, yesterday, today and forever!

With cordial personal regards and with a plea and a promise of continued mutual prayers always, I remain

Sincerely yours in the Sacred Heart,

Most Reverend Roger L. Kaffer
Auxiliary Bishop of Joliet



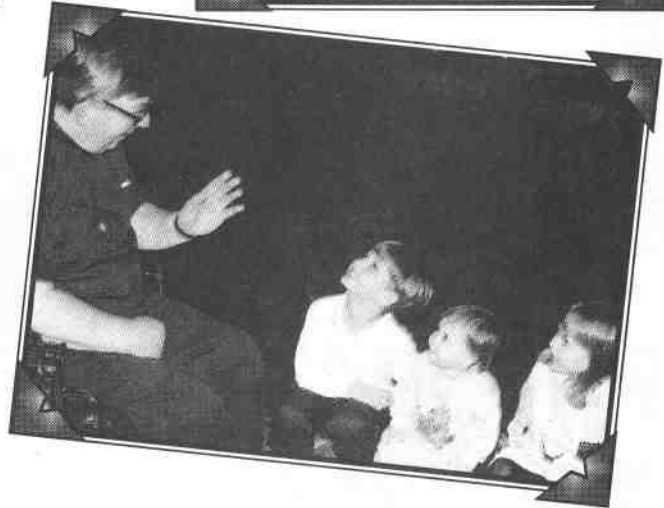
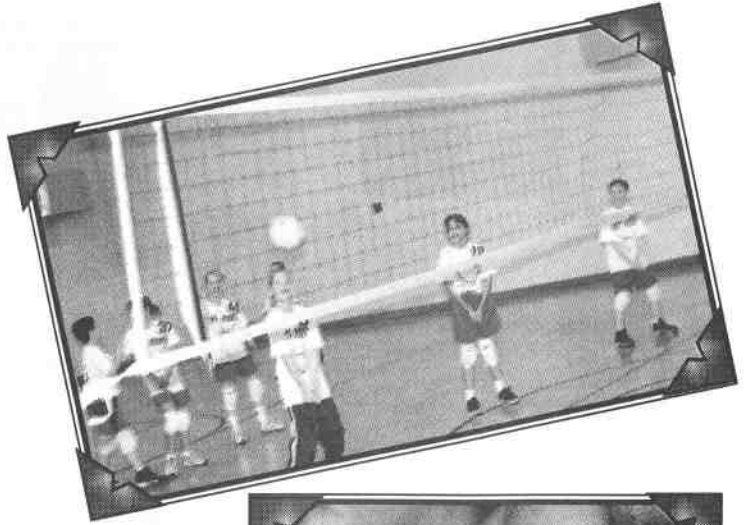
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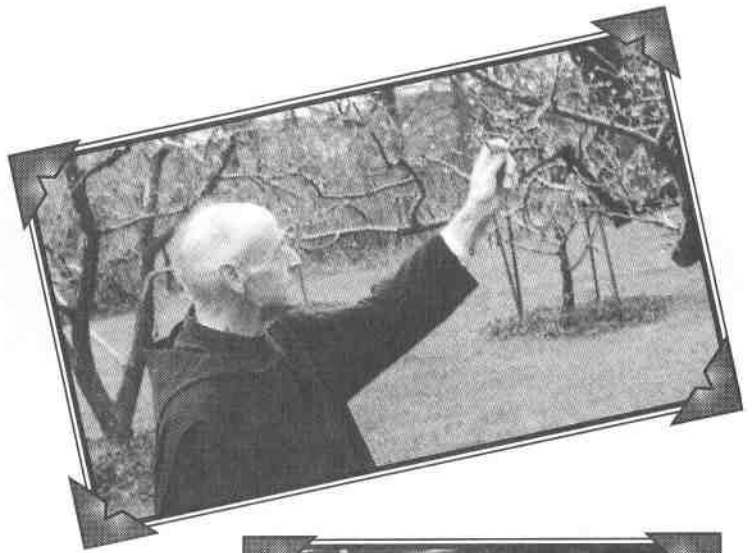
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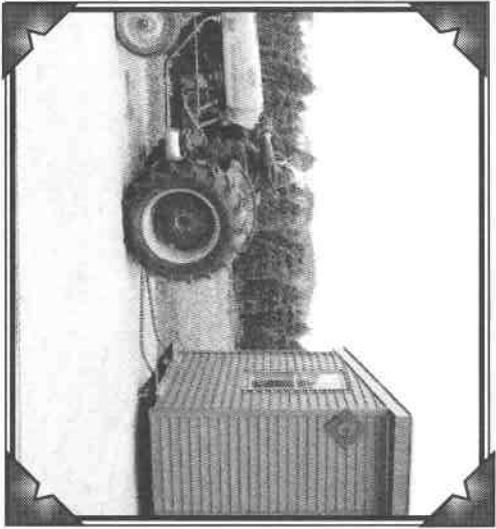
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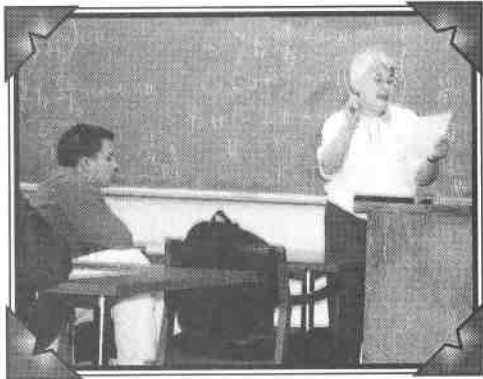
Jubilee Album



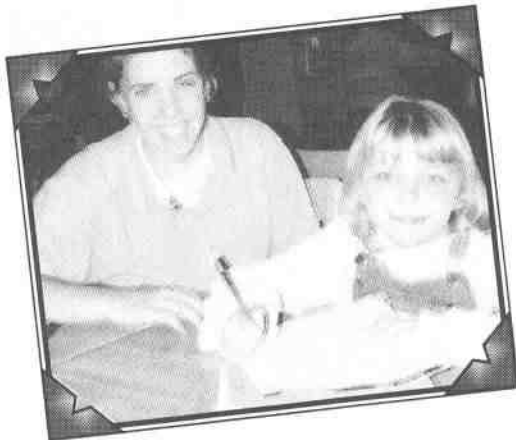
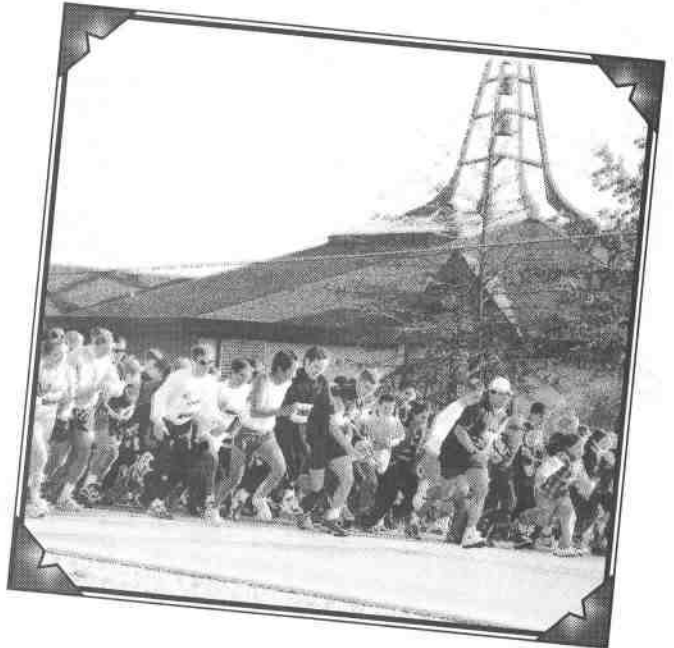


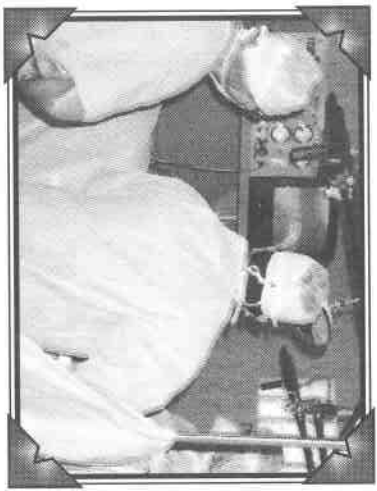
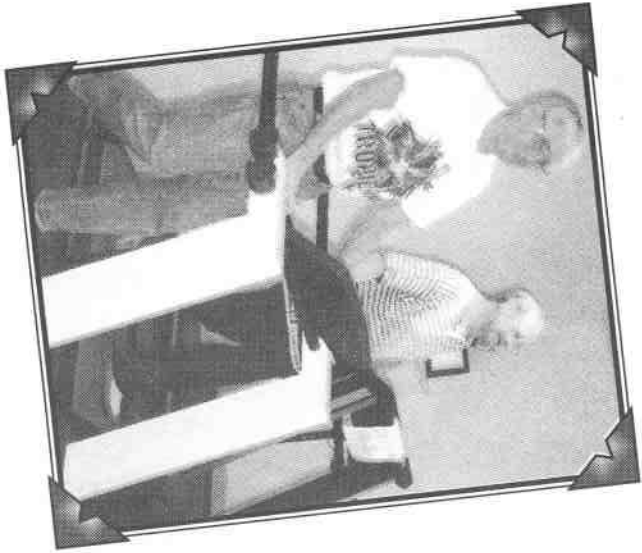
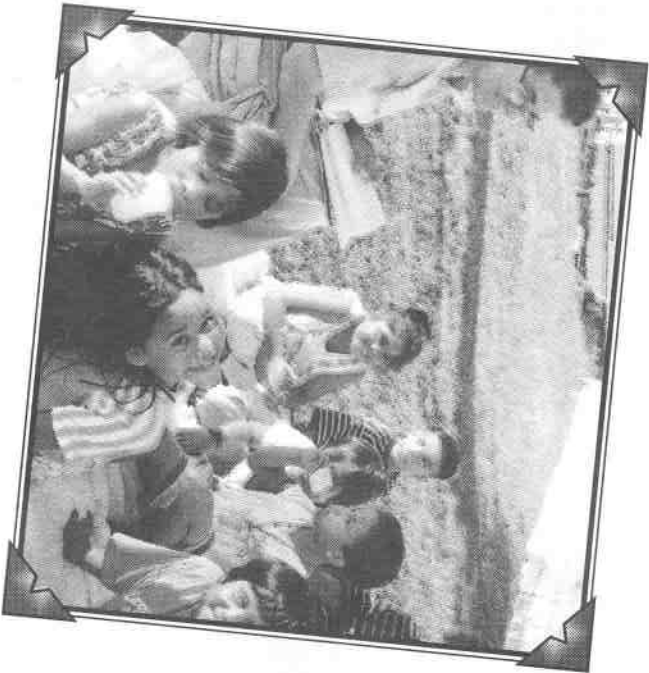
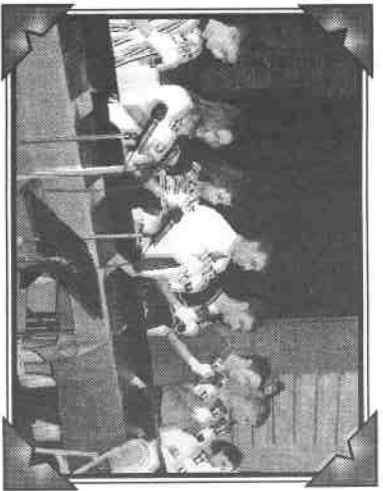




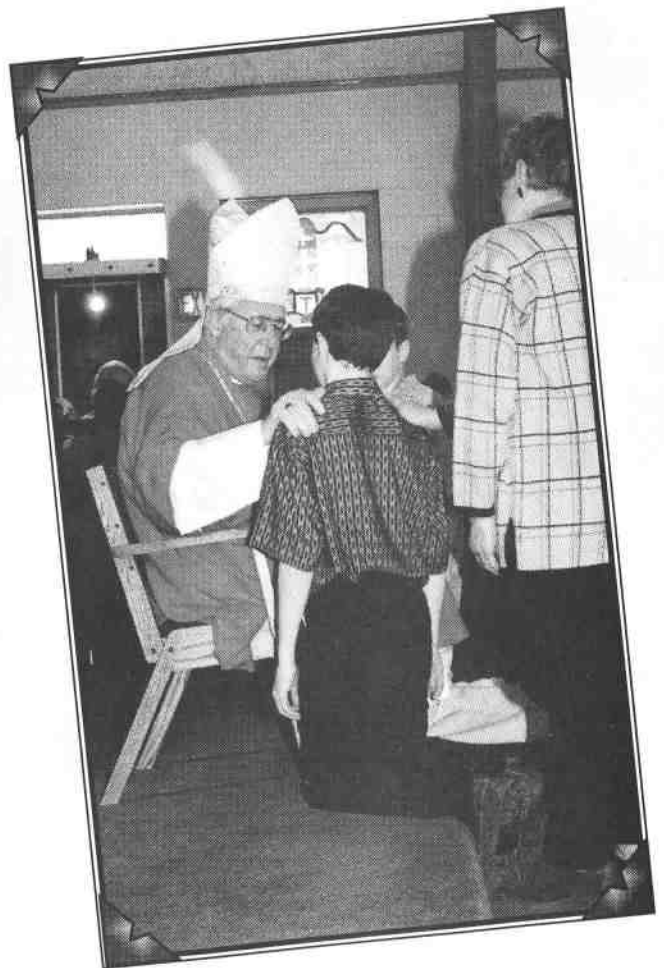


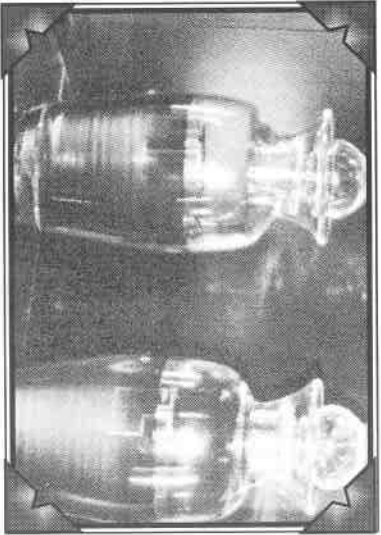






Sacramental Life of the Diocese





Diocesan Churches Span 150 Years

St. Patrick Parish in Joliet, established in 1838, is the oldest in the Joliet Diocese and the second oldest in the Chicago metropolitan area.

Originally it was located at Broadway and Exchange (later Jefferson) streets. The current brick church and school opened at Marion and Willow streets in 1919.

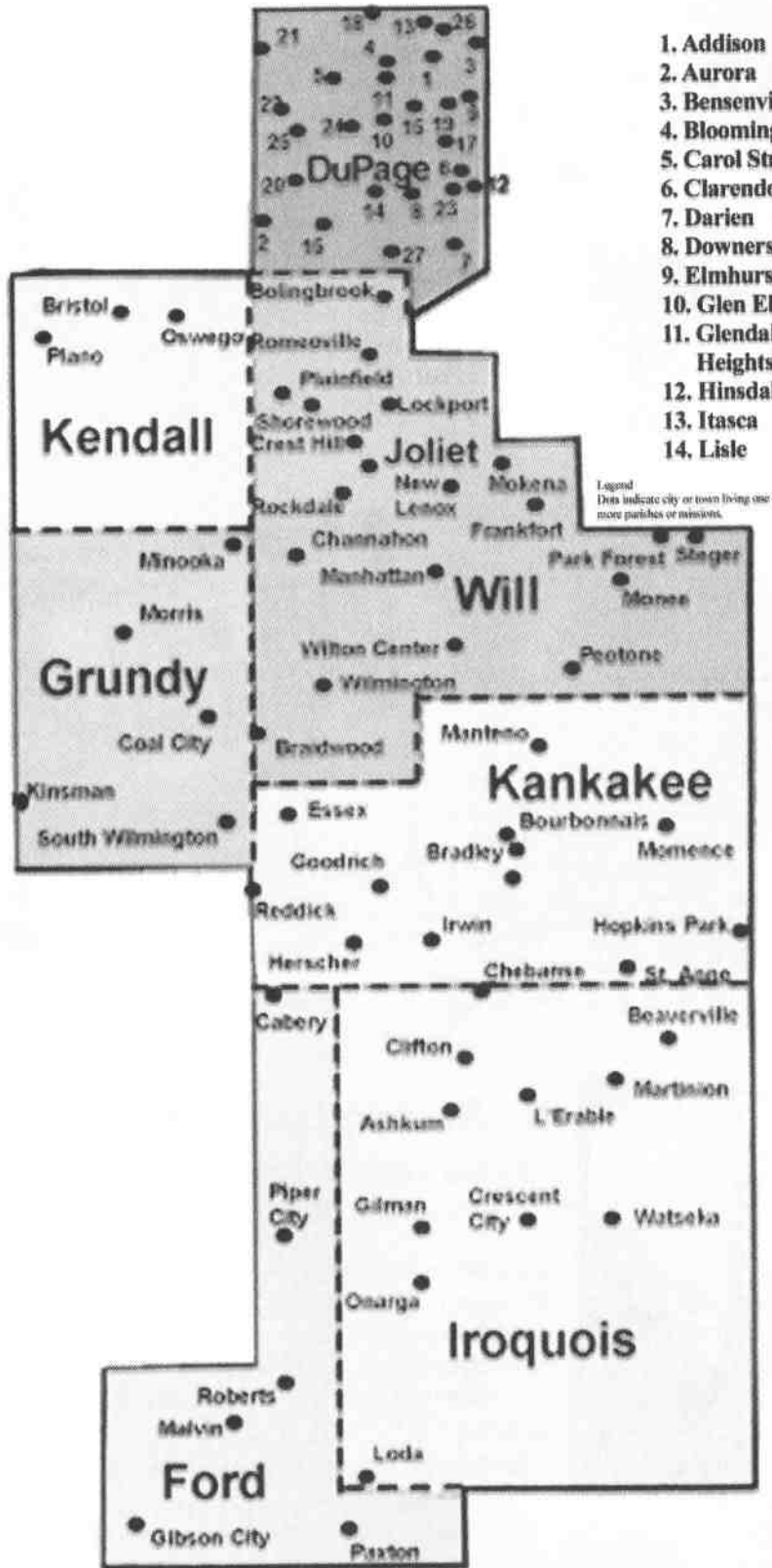


Our Lady of Mercy Church in Aurora, dedicated in 1997, is the newest church building in the diocese.

Special appointments to the building are its three steeple bells, 31 stained glass windows and 3-foot-tall Stations of the Cross, rescued from St. Augustine Church, Chicago.



The Parishes of the Joliet Diocese - 1999



- | | |
|------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Addison | 15. Lombard |
| 2. Aurora | 16. Naperville |
| 3. Bensenville | 17. Oakbrook Terrace |
| 4. Bloomingdale | 18. Roselle |
| 5. Carol Stream | 19. Villa Park |
| 6. Clarendon Hills | 20. Warrenville |
| 7. Darien | 21. Wayne |
| 8. Downers Grove | 22. West Chicago |
| 9. Elmhurst | 23. Westmont |
| 10. Glen Ellyn Heights | 24. Wheaton |
| 11. Glendale Heights | 25. Winfield |
| 12. Hinsdale | 26. Wood Dale |
| 13. Itasca | 27. Woodridge |
| 14. Lisle | |



St. Joseph Parish

330 E. Fullerton Ave.
Addison, IL 60101-4099

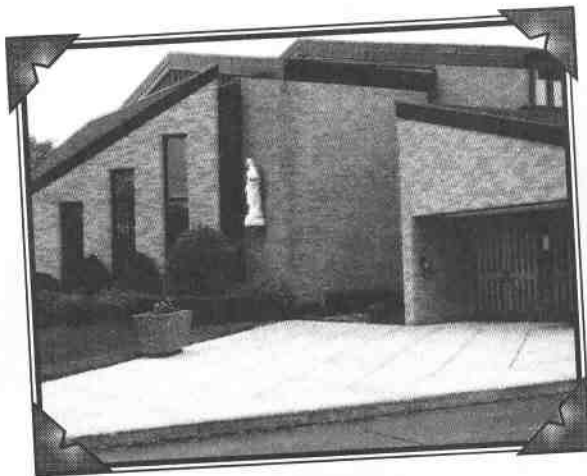
Founded: 1956

Founding Pastor: Father Sylvester J. Mulloy

Number of Households: 1,916

Current Pastor: Father James T. Kempfer

Mission Statement: We, the members of St. Joseph Parish family, affirm our oneness in Christ and accept our calling to spread His message of love. We envision a world where people build friendships, find nourishment, seek harmony and experience Christ as Savior. We hope to achieve this through pastoral care, family support, life-long learning and social activity, in an environment of worship and sacrificial giving.



St. Philip the Apostle Parish

1223 W. Holtz Ave.
Addison, IL 60101

Founded: 1963

Founding Pastor: Father Salvatore Giunta

Number of Households: 2,250

Current Pastor: Father Thomas Sularz

Mission Statement: As members of the Diocese of Joliet we are a faith community united in Christ by a common bond to the universal Catholic Church. Our words and actions are a reflection of Christ's presence among us. We manifest God's Word through active participation in spiritual, liturgical, educational, service and social ministries directed at bringing all people to Christ.



Assumption B.V.M. Parish

Box 218, 208 N. Second St.
Ashkum, IL 60911

Founded: 1881 as a mission of Immaculate Conception Parish in Gilman; 1903 as a parish

Founding Pastor: Father Peter McGair

Number of Households: 135

Current Pastor: Father James A. Holup

Mission Statement: Through Our Lady of All Nations, who was assumed into heaven, we have been gifted as an extended community to recognize and adore Jesus in the Most Blessed Sacrament in perpetual adoration. With Our Lady may we always love and adore her Son and Our Lord.





Our Lady of Mercy Parish

801 S. Eola Road
Aurora, IL 60504

Founded: 1988
Founding Pastor: Father Gerald Tivy
Number of Households: 1,745
Current Pastor: Father Gerald Tivy

Mission Statement: Beautiful people and a beautiful church.

St. Martin Mission *Martinton*

P. O. Box 152
Beaverville, IL 60912

Founded: 1899
Founding Pastor: Father August Tapin
Number of Households: 67
Current Pastor: Father Robert Coleman

Mission Statement: We are a small rural community which tries to excel in the spirit of harmony, cooperation, creativity and flexibility. We accept God's call and challenge to trust in Him and work for the spiritual growth of all of our members. We try to be a model for the church of the virtues of the apostolic communities of the New Testament.



St. Mary Parish

308 S. Charles St.
Beaverville, IL 60912

Founded: 1857
Founding Pastor: Father Epiphane Lapointe
Number of Households: 140
Current Pastor: Father Robert Coleman

Mission Statement: We are an independent and "unique" chip of the rock on which Jesus built his church. A small rural Christian Catholic family which strives to live and practice the strong moral values of our Roman Catholic tradition by being open, friendly and community oriented. We serve the spiritual needs and general welfare of the parish and community through our worship services, ministries to the homebound, the education of our youth and concern for all.





St. Alexis Parish

400 W. Wood St.
Bensenville, IL 60106

Founded: 1926

Founding Pastor: Father A. J. Milcheski

Number of Households: 1,008

Current Pastor: Father William J. Conway

Mission Statement: St. Alexis is a community blessed by God with a diversity of cultures and languages. Celebrating that richness, we reach out to all, inviting them to gather at the table of the Lord as one people. In openness to the Gospel, we form ourselves as stewards of the Lord's gifts to create a community of faith that is unifying, supporting and nurturing.

St. Charles Borromeo Parish

145 E. Grand Ave.
Bensenville, IL 60106

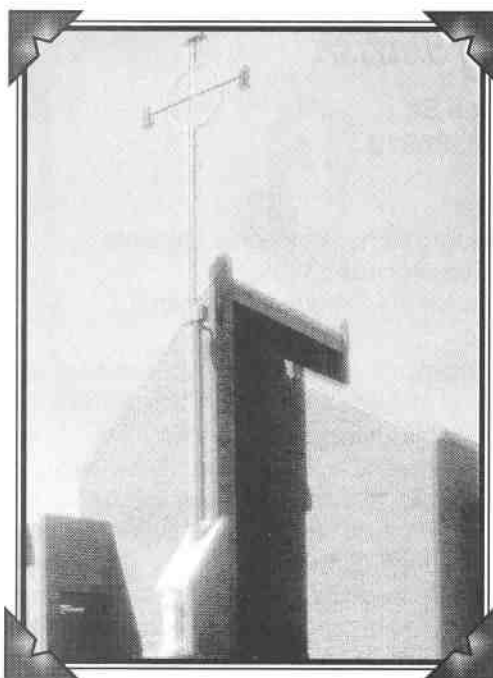
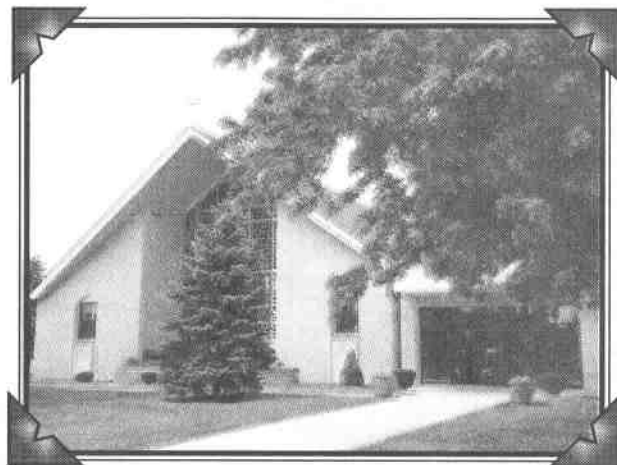
Founded: 1959

Founding Pastor: Father Leonard J. Lenc

Number of Households: 1,700

Current Pastor: Father Don E. McLaughlin

Mission Statement: The people of St. Charles Borromeo Parish are recognized as a spirit-filled and prayerful faith community. We accept the challenge of responsible participation and loving acceptance of one another, inviting all to experience the good news of Jesus Christ.



St. Isidore Parish

427 West Army Trail Road
Bloomington, IL 60108

Founded: 1920

Founding Pastor: Father John Wester

Number of Households: 5,400

Current Pastor: Father Joel F. Fortier

Mission Statement: Bringing People to God and God to People

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St. Dominic Parish

440 E. Briarcliff Road
Bolingbrook, IL 60440

Founded: 1963

Founding Pastor: Father Edmund Gregory

Number of Households: 3,026

Current Pastor: Father Mark Jendrysik

Mission Statement: We, the people of St. Dominic Parish, united through baptism and guided by the Holy Spirit, are called...to proclaim the Gospel message; to live lives of service; to celebrate the unique gifts of all our people; to respect life from conception to natural death; to be a community where all are welcome. Under the patronage of St. Dominic, we pledge and dedicate ourselves to this vision as we work together to build the Kingdom of God.



St. Francis of Assisi Parish

325 Whitewater Dr.
Bolingbrook, IL 60440

Founded: 1980

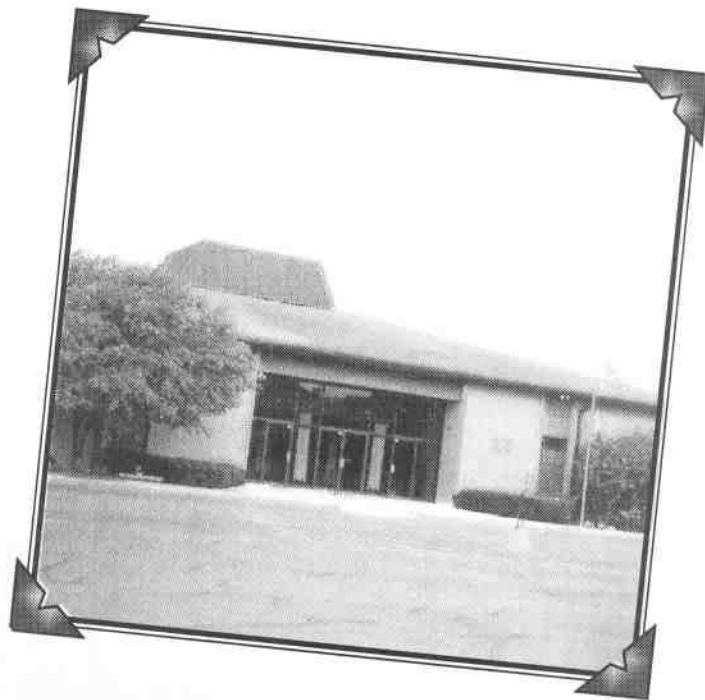
Founding Pastor: Father James Dougherty

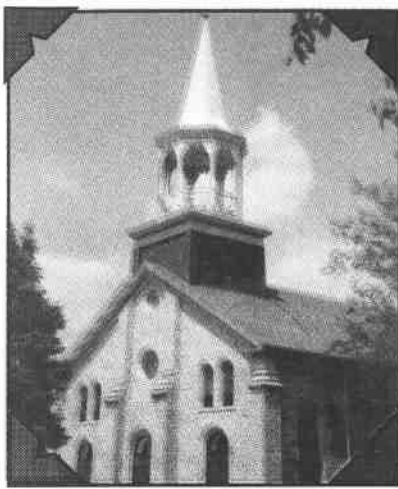
Number of Households: 1,785

Current Pastor: Father David Hankus

Mission Statement: Our journey together as a faith community is strengthened by the sacraments, constant prayer and tireless service. We strive, through the power of the Holy Spirit, to bring Christ's message to all in the atmosphere that encourages and fosters personal prayer, worship and fellowship. With Christ as our foundation, we seek to satisfy the spiritual and corporal needs of all by following the example of St. Francis of Assisi, our patron and brother.

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Maternity B.V.M. Parish

308 E. Marsile
Bourbonnais, IL 60914

Founded: 1847

Founding Pastor: Father Renee Courjault

Number of Households: 1,225

Current Pastor: Father Charles Bolser, CSV

Mission Statement: Under the guidance of the Roman Catholic Church and the Diocese of Joliet, Maternity B.V.M. Parish seeks to proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ by serving the spiritual needs of the people of the parish community. Today the appreciation of our long tradition is combined with a progressive look to the future, continuing our history as

the first establishment of the Clerics of St. Viator and the Congregation of Notre Dame in the United States. Therefore, the parish strives to demonstrate the values of Jesus Christ—freedom, justice, peace, charity, compassion and reconciliation through interfaith cooperation, civic involvement and concern for the disadvantaged—and to provide a welcoming spirit to all. Through the involvement of its members, Maternity B.V.M. Parish is open to new direction, new challenges and the enhancement of the parish community spirit.

St. George Parish

5272 E. 5000 N. Road
Bourbonnais, IL 60914-4168

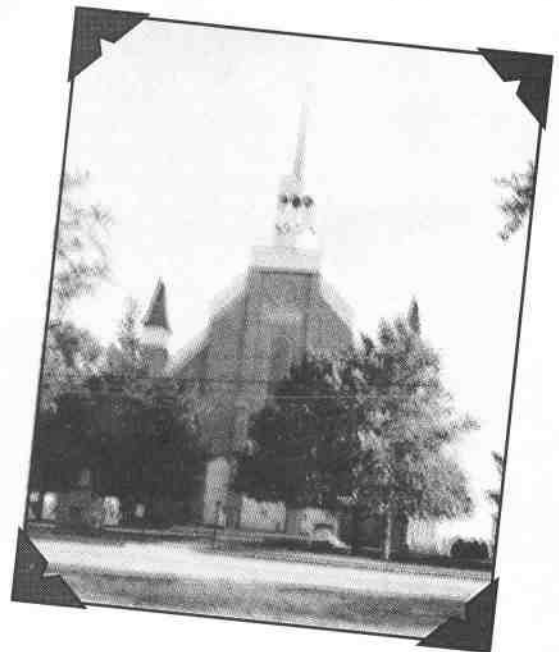
Founded: 1853

Founding Pastor: Father Epiphane Lapointe

Number of Households: 150

Current Pastor: Father Kenneth Yarno, CSV

Mission Statement: We, the people of St. George Catholic Church, gather as a Eucharistic community to accept and share God's love. We are rooted in the truth of our Christian faith, and together we are striving to reach heaven. We come together as a family of believers, renewed, unified and nourished by the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ. Guided by the Holy Spirit, we foster ministry by reaching out to our neighbors, aspiring in word and deed to be faithful witnesses of Jesus.



St. Joseph Parish

211 N. Center Ave.
Bradley, IL 60915

Founded: 1904

Founding Pastor: Father Joseph Avila Milot

Number of Households: 1,675

Current Pastor: Father William Dewan

Mission Statement: We, the family of St. Joseph's, through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, strive to be living examples and witnesses of the teaching of Jesus Christ. This is accomplished through: reception of the sacraments, valuing Christian formation and education for our adults and youths, ministering to the needs of others and striving to bring the Gospel message to all God's people.





Immaculate Conception Parish

110 S. School St.
Braidwood, IL 60408-1947

Founded: 1869

Founding Pastor: Father John McMullen

Number of Households: 500

Current Pastor: Father Steven Bondi

Mission Statement: Trusting in God and in the Holy Spirit, we build community and a life of faith, thanking God for his goodness to us.

St. Joseph Parish

212 W Main
Cabery, IL 60919

Founded: 1867 as a mission of St. Michael's, Chicago

First Vicar: Father Carl Rosenbauer

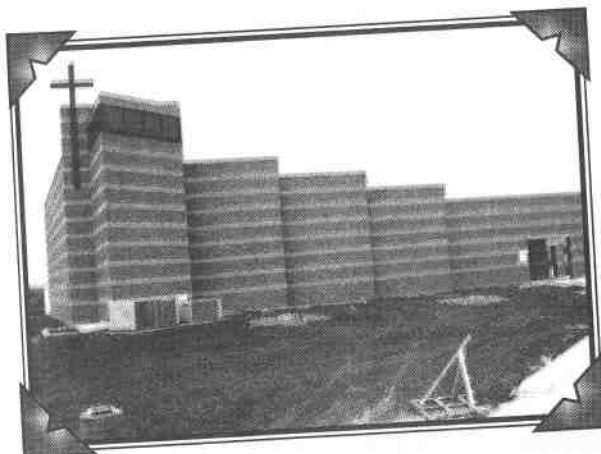
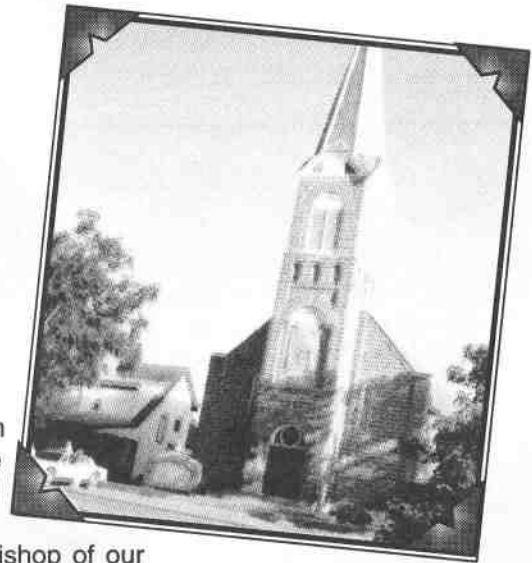
Founded: 1892 in the Peoria Diocese

First Pastor: Father Jeremiah Donovan

Number of Households: 55

Current Pastor: Father Richard F. Kostelz

Mission Statement: We, the parishioners of St. Joseph's Parish in Cabery, form a community of believers to worship God in the sacrifice of the Mass and to share in the sacraments and spiritual growth which the Roman Catholic Church shares with its members. Under the spiritual leadership of our local priest and the bishop of our diocese, we seek to mutually support each other in our spiritual, educational, psychological and social needs according to the teaching of the Gospel. Hence, liturgical worship, religious education at the various levels, and works of charity are priorities in our parish.



Corpus Christi Parish

1415 Lies Road
Carol Stream, IL 60188-4841

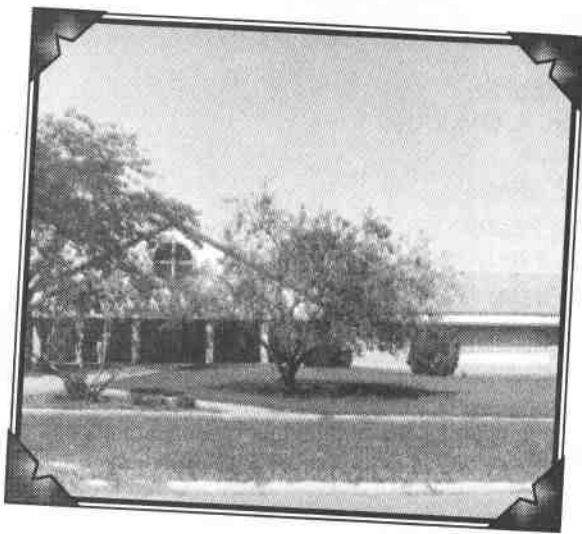
Founded: 1989

Founding Pastor: Father Charles A. Gemskie

Number of Households: 1,700+

Current Pastor: Father Charles A. Gemskie

Mission Statement: We are Corpus Christi Catholic Church, a community of Christian believers who embrace the Word of God, who proclaim its message to all with a welcoming spirit. As a prayerful and sacramental people empowered by unity, inspired by the Holy Spirit, we extend ourselves seeking to recognize the needs of others and responding with compassion by gratefully sharing our blessings. We gather as the Body of Christ to celebrate and become a source of hope and inspiration to all.



St. Luke Parish

421 Cochise Ct.
Carol Stream, IL 60188

Founded: As a mission 1960; as a parish 1963

Founding Pastor: Father John D. Sullivan

Number of Households: 1,311

Current Pastor: Father Thomas Schutter

Mission Statement: St. Luke's is hard to find but tough to top!

St. Ann Parish

25050 W. Eames St.
Channahon, IL 60410

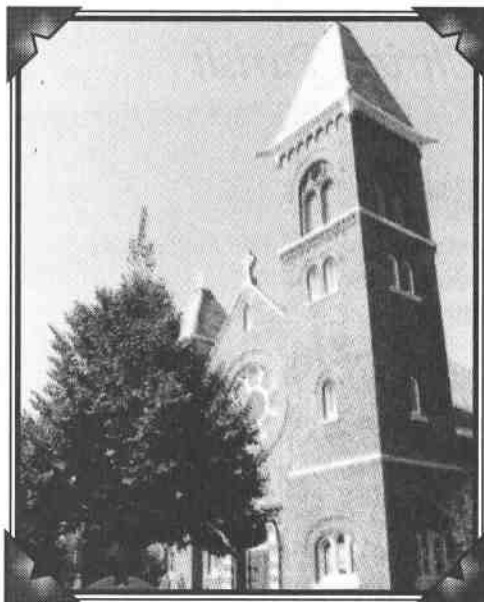
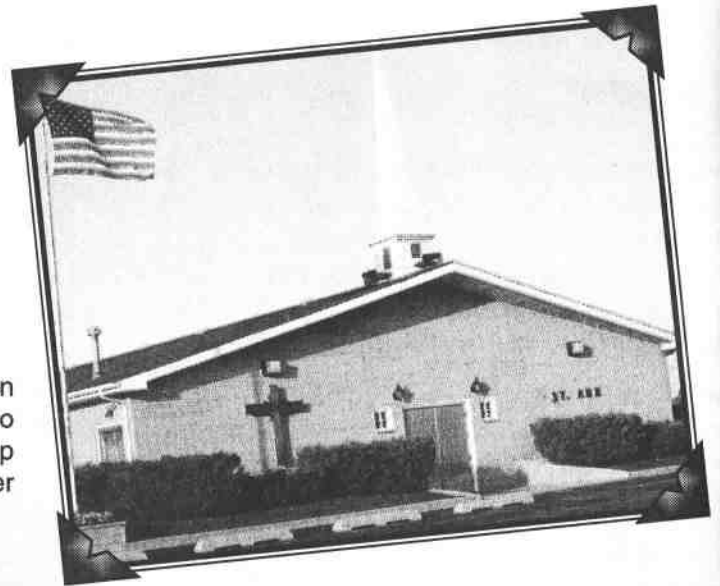
Founded: 1990

Founding Pastor: Father Gerold Schubert, OFM

Number of Households: 558

Current Pastor: Father Richard L. Smith

Mission Statement: St. Ann's Parish is a Roman Catholic family of believers who strive to minister to the needs of each other through service, worship and loving acceptance; therefore, drawing us closer to God.



Sts. Mary & Joseph Parish

525 S. Chestnut St.
P. O. Box 5
Chebanse, IL 60922

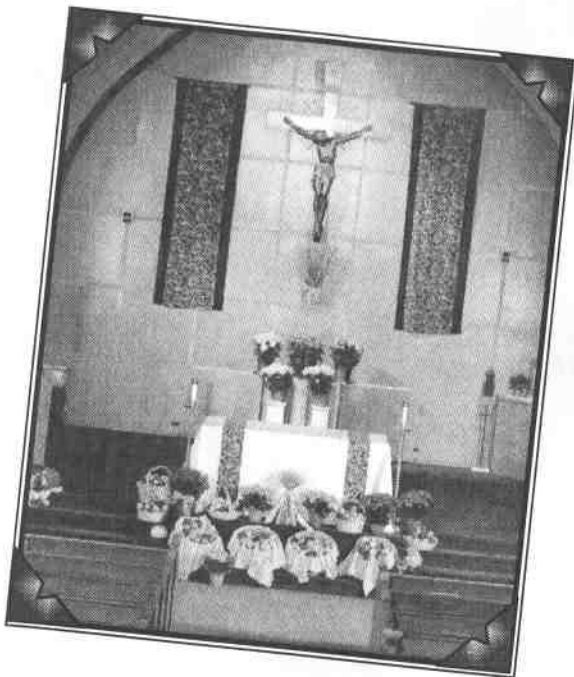
Founded: 1869

Founding Pastor: Father William Kuchanbuch

Number of Households: 188

Current Pastor: Father Lee Bacchi

Mission Statement: We, the parishioners of Sts. Mary and Joseph Parish in Chebanse, form a community of believers to worship God in the sacrifice of the Mass and to share in the sacraments and spiritual growth which the Roman Catholic Church shares with its members. Under the spiritual leadership of our local priest, the bishop of our diocese and the pope, we seek to mutually support each other in our spiritual, educational, psychological and social needs according to the teaching of the Gospel. Hence, liturgical worship, religious education at the various levels, and works of charity are priorities in our parish.



Notre Dame Parish

64 Norfolk
Clarendon Hills, IL 60514

Founded: 1954
Founding Pastor: Father Thomas E. Doherty
Number of Households: 1,750
Current Pastor: Father Robert Schuler

Mission Statement: As a parish we come together in the Catholic faith to celebrate God's goodness and presence. Strengthened by Word and sacrament, we strive to relate the Gospel to our everyday lives, to build unity in spirit and purpose, and to minister to the needs of one another and the larger community.

St. Peter Parish

450 E. Third Ave.
Clifton, IL 60927-0703

Founded: 1898
Founding Pastor: Father William Kuchenback
Number of Households: 301
Current Pastor: Father Lee Bacchi

Mission Statement: A small parish family with an ecumenical heart.



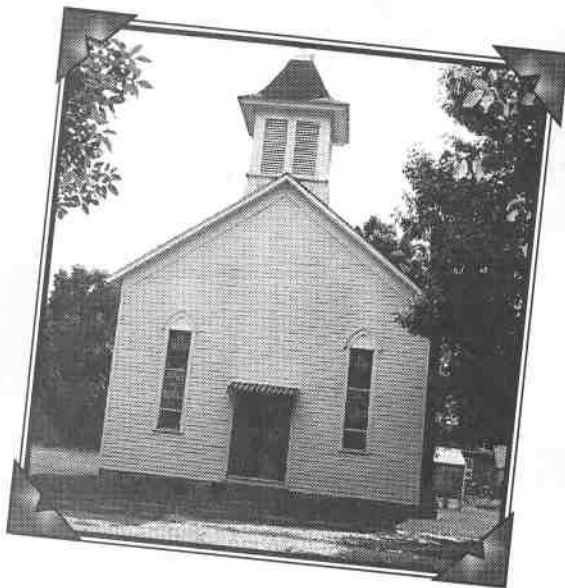
Assumption Parish

245 S. Kankakee St.
Coal City, IL 60416

Founded: 1889
Founding Pastor: Father P. A. De Paradis
Number of Households: 1,350
Current Pastor: Father Donald O'Connor

Mission Statement: We are people of faith and love.





St. Joseph Mission

Crescent City

c/o St. Edmund Parish
219 E. Locust
Watseka, IL 60970

Founded: 1874

Founding Pastor: Father Fanning

Number of Households: 25

Current Pastor: Father Lee Ryan

History: St. Joseph's Catholic Church was built in 1874. The parish was out of St. Edmund, Watseka. It became a mission of Martinton in 1940. In 1957 the parish came under Assumption Parish, Ashkum. In 1967 St. Joseph's returned to Immaculate Conception Parish, Gilman. St. Joseph's returned to Watseka in 1989. St. Joseph is blessed with fine membership.

St. Ambrose Parish

1711 Burry Circle Dr.
Crest Hill, IL 60435

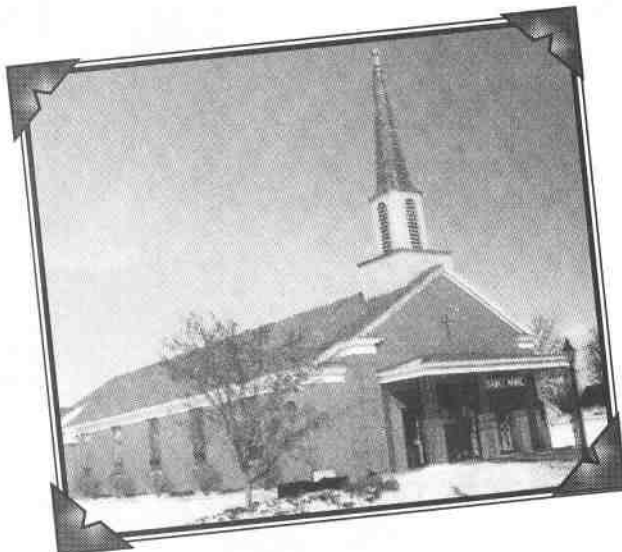
Founded: 1965

Founding Pastor: Father James Storm

Number of Households: 725

Current Pastor: Father John Doyle

Mission Statement: A welcoming parish prayerfully working at deepening our relationship with Our Lord and each other and at the same time being aware of the needs of others outside the parish.



St. Anne Parish

1702 N. Dearborn St.
Crest Hill, IL 60435

Founded: 1953

Founding Pastor: Father Felix Matasso

Number of Households: 500

Current Pastor: Father John Doyle

Mission Statement "A welcoming and caring parish."



Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Parish

8404 Cass Ave.
Darien, IL 60561-5349

Founded: 1970

Founding Pastor: Father Patrick Gleeson, OCarm

Number of Households: 2,904

Current Pastor: Father Gavin Quinn, OCarm

Mission Statement: We are the church, alive with Christ, a diverse community rooted in faith, celebrating a liturgy of life. We are prayerfully responsive to the spirit of the Living Gospel freely and fully ministering to all. Our mission as a people of God is to strive to live the values Christ has given us, as we proclaim His Word, worship together and cultivate our faith, while reaching out with love to the spiritual and human needs of all.

Our Lady of Peace Parish

701 Plainfield Road
Darien, IL 60561

Founded: 1959

Founding Pastor: Father Alphonse Micka, MIC

Number of Households: 4,500

Current Pastor: Father Alphonse Micka, MIC

Mission Statement: To praise God and honor His Mother! We, as Marian Fathers bearing the title of Mary the Immaculate Conception, hope to instill in our parishioners love and devotion to Mary.



Christ the Servant Parish

Downers Grove (temporary facility)
future site: 8700 Havens Dr.
Woodridge, IL 60517

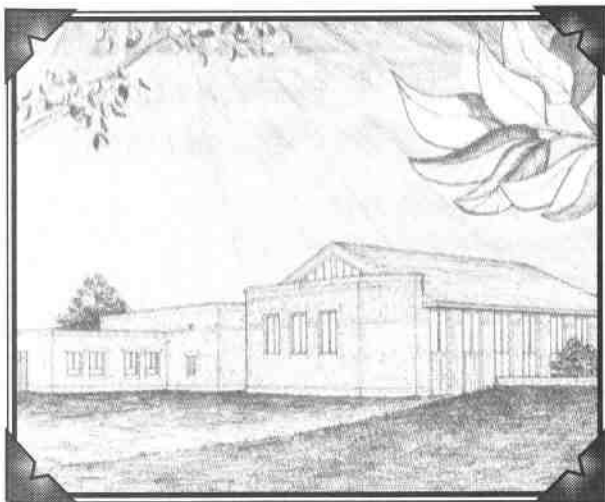
Founded: 1991

Founding Pastor: Father James Ratigan

Number of Households: 275

Current Pastor: Father Dennis G. Lewandowski

Mission Statement: Christ the Servant Parish is a Christian faith community. We gather to worship and to celebrate our belief in the Risen Christ. We commit to personal and spiritual growth. We commit to promote social justice and to serve anyone in need. We commit to pass on the faith through Scripture and tradition. We commit to be a people of inclusion and outreach with affirming love for all. Christ the Servant Parish remains open to the everchanging challenge and wisdom of the Spirit.



Divine Savior Parish



6700 Main St.
Downers Grove, IL 60516

Founded: 1968

Founding Pastor: Father Donald Pock

Number of Households: 1,867

Current Pastor: Father Robert E. Pietras

Mission Statement: We, the members of Divine Savior Parish, of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Joliet, DuPage County, Illinois, as a community inspired by the Holy Spirit, are committed to providing an environment that enables our members to build the Kingdom of God through the sharing of our time, talent and treasure. As Catholics we are called, by our baptism, to a life long conversion of the heart by committing ourselves, through the Eucharist, to sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ through the ministries of prayer, worship, education, service and evangelization.

St. Joseph Parish

4801 South Highland Ave.
Downers Grove, IL 60515

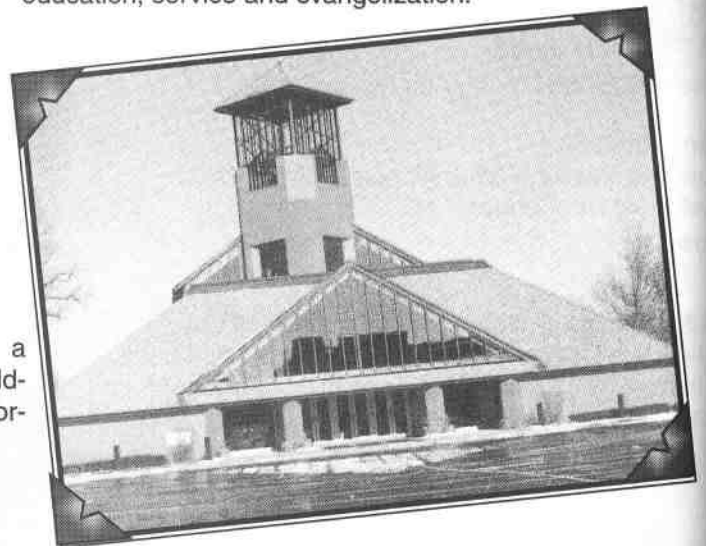
Founded: 1906

Founding Pastor: Father Eneas Goodwin

Number of Households: 2,062

Current Pastor: Father Paul A. Hottinger

Mission Statement: St. Joseph's Parish, a diverse people, committed to reaching out and building a welcoming Christian community through worship and service.



St. Mary of Gostyn Parish

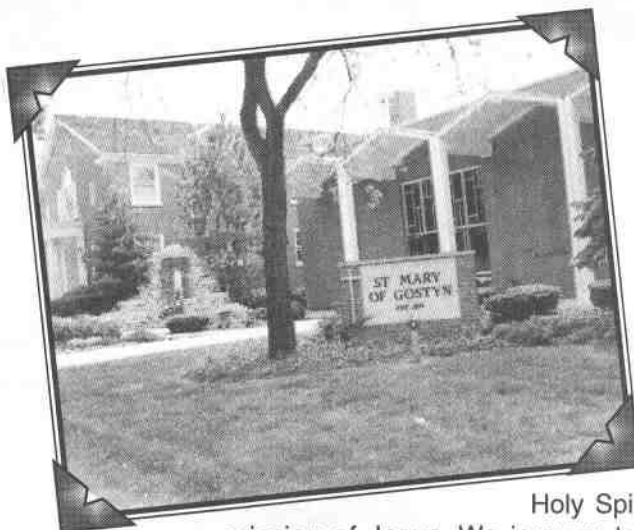
444 Wilson
Downers Grove, IL 60515

Founded: 1891

Founding Pastor: Father Francis Wojalewicz

Number of Households: 2,865

Current Pastor: Father Thomas Paul



Mission Statement: St. Mary of Gostyn Parish is a loving faith community called together by God, strengthened by the Scriptures, led in worship by the Holy Spirit and nourished by the Body of Christ to share in the mission of Jesus. We journey together with charity and compassion, celebrating our Catholic Christian faith through meaningful liturgies in the spirit of Vatican II. We are called to serve not only the immediate needs of people within our parish and community, but also to challenge the causes which underlie these needs. We dedicate ourselves to the ongoing spiritual renewal of each individual and strive to be witnesses of Jesus Christ to one another and to the world.

Immaculate Conception Parish

134 Arthur St.
Elmhurst, IL 60126-3382

Founded: 1876
Founding Pastor: Father Charles Becker
Number of Households: 2,440
Current Pastor: Father James Murphy

Mission Statement: We, Immaculate Conception Parish of Elmhurst, are a Catholic Community. We are Christians who worship and glorify God as a sign of our faith. Empowered by the Holy Spirit, we proclaim our faith to the world through prayer, education, concern for and service to our community. By participating in the sacraments and giving of our time, talent and treasure, we help to make Christ present and share God's love in our community and the world around us.

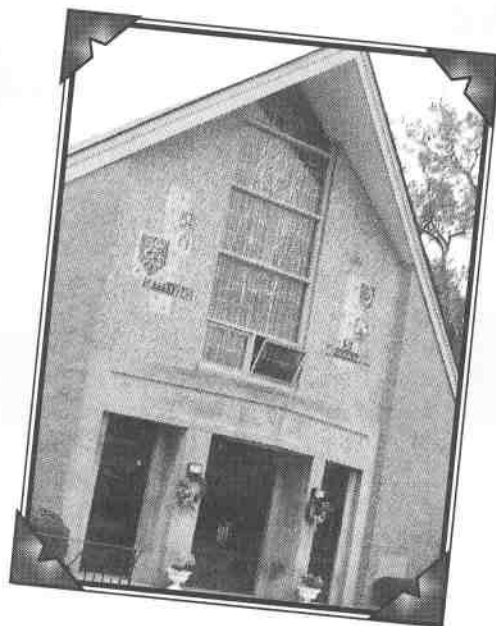


Mary, Queen of Heaven Parish

425 North West Ave.
Elmhurst, IL 60126-2171

Founded: 1956
Founding Pastor: Father Thomas B. O'Keefe
Number of Households: 650
Current Pastor: Father John Barrett

Mission Statement: We, the faith community of Mary Queen of Heaven in northwest Elmhurst, established as a parish in the Roman Catholic Diocese of Joliet in 1956, come together to celebrate God's love and providence. Strengthened with His grace and power, we go out to do the work of Jesus, by proclaiming the "Good News," and reaching out to those in our community who are hungry, thirsty, lonely, sick or otherwise in need. Having thus gathered with our different needs and talents, with diverse experiences and images of God, we invite others to unite with us in our journey, as we return again to pray, and continue our celebration of God's goodness and love.

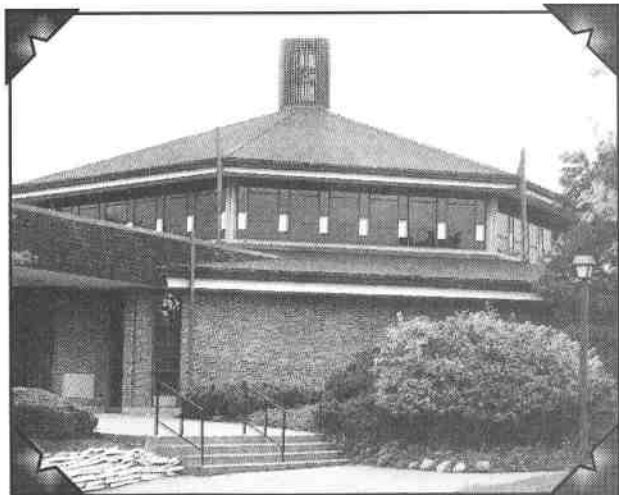


Visitation Parish

779 S. York Road
Elmhurst, IL 60126

Founded: 1953
Founding Pastor: Msgr. John Podesta
Number of households: 2,987
Current Pastor: Father Michael Lane

Mission Statement: To work with our pastor in leadership through prayer and action, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, the Roman Catholic Church and the Diocese of Joliet. Our goal is to foster a growing sense of "Parish Family" by nurturing and developing faith-filled ministries and activities which reflect the needs of our parish, while reaching out to all for the greater glory of God.





St. Lawrence O'Toole Parish

Essex

c/o Immaculate Conception Parish
110 S. School St.
Braidwood, IL 60408-1947

Founded: 1880

Founding Pastor: Father M. Zara

Number of Households: 100

Current Pastor: Father Steven Bondi

St. Anthony Parish

7659 W. Sauk Trail
Frankfort, IL 60423

Founded: 1972

Founding Pastor: Father James Frederick

Number of Households: 2,812

Current Pastor: Father Thomas Corbino

Mission Statement: We, at St. Anthony's, are a Catholic Christian family, in the Diocese of Joliet, united by our faith in Jesus Christ. We have been called to share in Christ's mission to bring ourselves in the name of Christ to His Father's kingdom and to proclaim the good news of Jesus in word and deed through worship and sacrament throughout our Christian community. As ministers to God's people, we recognize that our mission at St. Anthony's will only be accomplished through the power of the Holy Spirit expressed in the gifts and the talents of the people in our community.



Our Lady of Lourdes Parish

534 N. Wood St.
Gibson City, IL 60936

Founded: 1875

Founding Pastor: Father John Fanning

Number of Households: 90

Current Pastor: Father William Smith

Mission Statement: To work for Christ and His church.

sh



Immaculate Conception Mission

224 N. Secor St.
Gilman, IL 60938

Founded: 1872

Founding Pastor: Father John Fanning

Number of Households:

Current Pastor: Father John Balluff

History: The first Catholics in Gilman were served by missionaries of the Chicago Diocese. The first church was built in 1858. In 1875, our church became part of the Peoria Diocese until 1949, when Immaculate Conception came under the jurisdiction of the newly created Joliet Diocese. A stone grotto and shrine, designed by Dr. A.W. Fordyce, was built during the 1920s. We cherish our past accomplishments and look forward to a bright future as the Immaculate Conception Parish family.

Queenship of Mary Parish

23 W 371 Armitage Ave.
Glen Ellyn, IL 60137

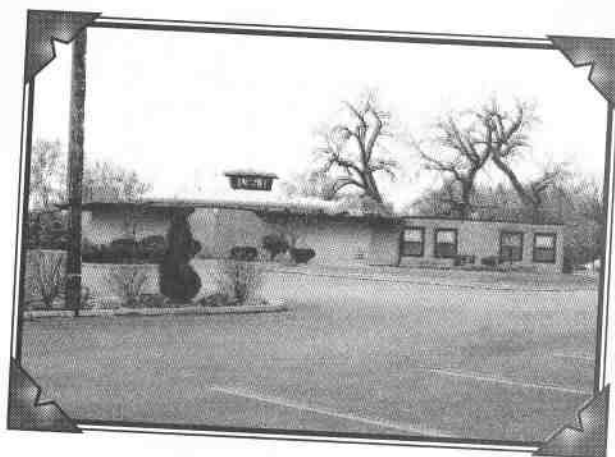
Founded: 1993

Founding Pastor: Father Alph-Nguyen Huy Quyen

Number of Households: 275

Current Pastor: Father Alph-Nguyen Huy Quyen

Mission Statement: Serving, sustaining, nourishing the Vietnamese's faith and the Vietnamese's culture which will be brought to enrich the diversity of the church of the U.S. through our local church, Joliet.



St. James the Apostle Parish

490 S. Park Blvd.
Glen Ellyn, IL 60137

Founded: 1965

Founding Pastor: Father Thomas Fleming

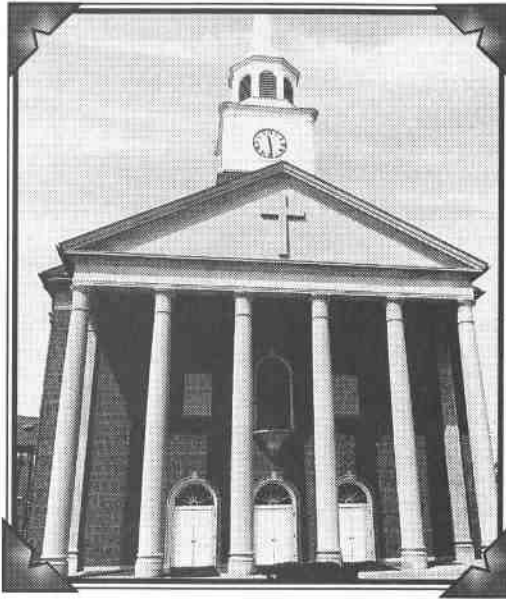
Number of Households: 2,500

Current Pastor: Father John M. Sebahar

Mission Statement: As members of Christ's family, through St. James the Apostle Parish, we worship the Lord by proclaiming His Word and celebrating His sacraments, grow by learning more about God's loving plan for us, respond to the call of Christ by sharing our talents, our gifts and our love, reach out to the universal community by loving and serving our neighbors.



church.



St. Petronille Parish

420 Glenwood
Glen Ellyn, IL 60137

Founded: 1925

Founding Pastor: Father Walter L. Fasnacht

Number of Households: 2,495

Current Pastor: Father Michael O'Keefe

Mission Statement: Conscious of our human weakness, but empowered by the presence of the Holy Spirit among us, we pledge ourselves to this, the mission of Jesus Christ. We are the Roman Catholic Community of St. Petronille, Diocese of Joliet, a people of prayer, word and sacrament. We strive to grow in the awareness of Jesus' presence in ourselves and in each other, and so we respond to His call to pray, to love, to serve, to forgive and to teach His Word to all people.

St. Matthew Parish

1555 Glen Ellyn Road
Glendale Heights, IL 60139-2595

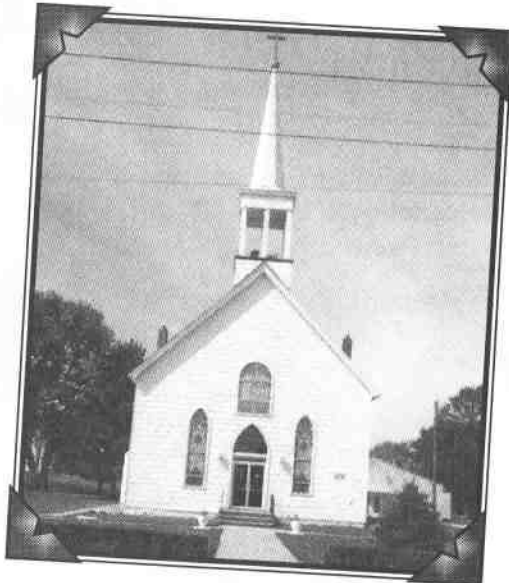
Founded: 1960

Founding Pastor: Father George Moran

Number of Households: 2,751

Current Pastor: Father David Dillon, OCarm

Mission Statement: Our mission is to identify and satisfy the spiritual and human needs of St. Matthew's Parish community by providing Christian values and growth through liturgy, sacraments, education and service. Living a Christ-like lifestyle, growing in knowledge and understanding of our faith, and wisely using our talents, gifts and resources, we are dedicated to spreading these Christian values to all within the parish.



Sacred Heart Parish

Goodrich

588 S. 10000 W. Road
Bonfield, IL 60913

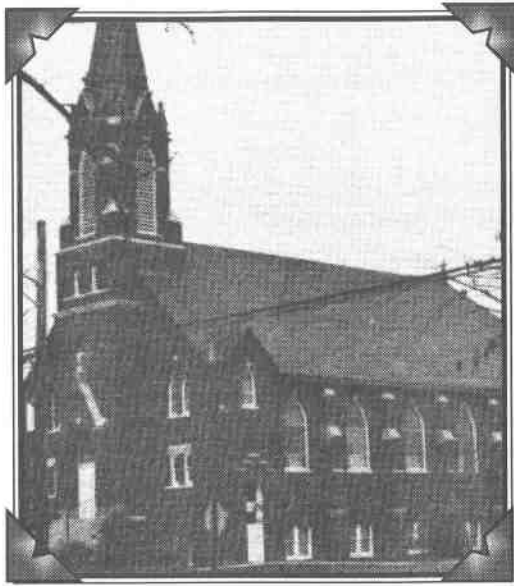
Founded: 1896

Founding Pastor: Father J. Meyer

Number of Households: 90

Current Pastor: Father Paul Jasinski, CSV

Mission Statement: A little church with a big heart.



St. Margaret Mary Parish

207 E. Fifth St.
Herscher, IL 60941

Founded: 1920

Founding Pastor: Father Rempe

Number of Households: 175

Current Pastor: Father Ronald Hart

Mission Statement: St. Margaret Mary Catholic Church is a Roman Catholic Community whose mission is to serve the Lord and give witness to His teachings. This is accomplished by using the talent and blessings bestowed upon us by Jesus Christ, in accordance with the Magisterium of the church.

St. Isaac Jogues Parish

306 W. Fourth St.
Hinsdale, IL 60521

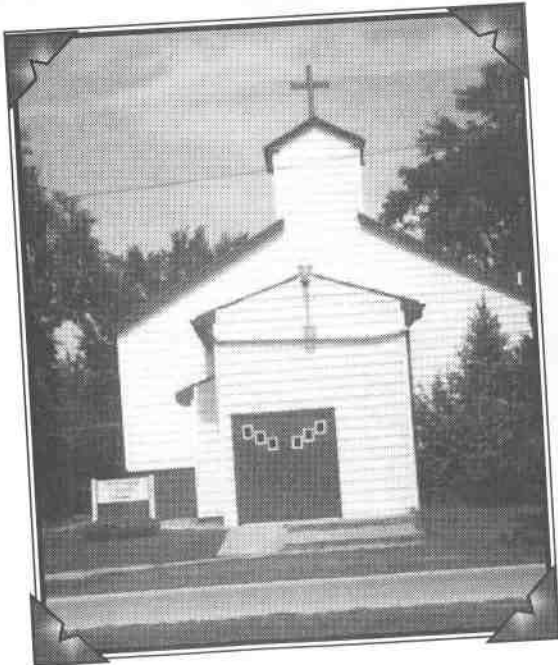
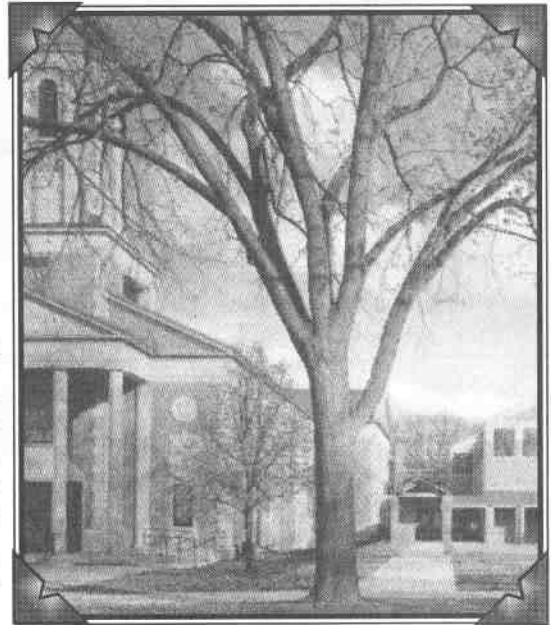
Founded: 1930, Chicago Archdiocese
1949, Joliet Diocese

Founding Pastor: Father Thomas Tormey

Number of Households: 2,987

Current Pastor: Father Theodore Weitzel

Mission Statement: We are the church, people of God called to journey together to discover God and to share the presence of God within us and all creation. We strive to follow Jesus, prayerfully seeking God's help, as we struggle in life through death to new life. We are graced by the movement of the Holy Spirit in our lives. We offer ourselves, our stories, and our resources to our fellow travelers and we share our joys and sorrows. When we are separated, we are lovingly called and welcomed back. We give thanks to God for the wondrous gift of the journey and for those with whom we share it.



Sacred Heart Mission

16485 E. Birch
Hopkins Park, IL 60944-0557

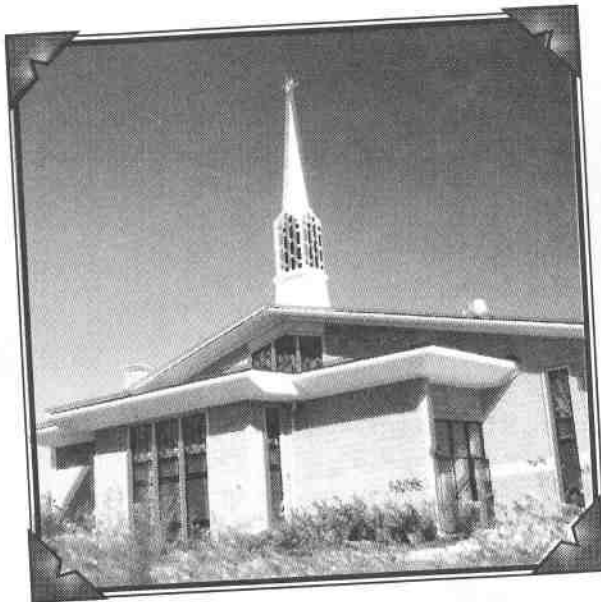
Founded: 1939

Founding Pastor: Father T. U. Demarais

Number of Households: 74

Current Pastor: Father Denis E. White

Mission Statement: Sacred Heart Parish, first and foremost, must proclaim the Good News of Jesus. This message must be lived in community, motivated by God's love and our response. We serve by meeting the needs of our people and also by working to change the structure of society that keeps people needy.



St. Andrew Kim Mission

1275 N. Arlington Heights Road
Itasca, IL 60143

Founded: 1981

Number of Households: 250

Current Pastor: Father Mathias Lee (Kiwhan, Lee)

Mission Statement: This parish's main mission is to support and serve new Korean immigrants until they feel confident enough to go in the main stream of America. We especially focus on our next generation's well balanced healthy growth and success in spirit, social and academic achievement while they are adjusting themselves between traditional Korean and American culture.

St. Peter the Apostle Parish

524 N. Rush St.
Itasca, IL 60143-1698

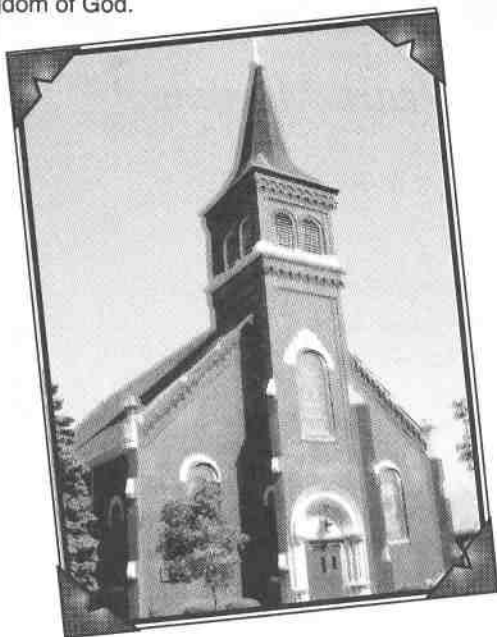
Founded: 1956

Founding Pastor: Father Sylvester Mulloy

Number of Households: 1,500

Current Pastor: Father Donald P. Pock

Mission Statement: St. Peter the Apostle Parish is...A group of Roman Catholic Christians called together by God through baptism to share in the mission of Jesus. A faith community gathered in word and sacrament becoming church, the people of God. A believing community which takes seriously the words of Jesus, "Do this in memory of Me," and strives within diversity to imitate His life through prayer and service. A caring community who responds in justice through stewardship of our time, talent and treasure to continue the mission of Jesus: to proclaim the Good News, to heal the sick, to build up the Kingdom of God.



Holy Cross Parish

901 Elizabeth St.
Joliet, IL 60435-4603

Founded: 1893

Founding Pastor: Father Casimir Slominski

Number of Households: 265

Current Pastor: Father William L. Slikas



Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Parish

407 E. Irving St.
Joliet, IL 60432

Founded: 1949

Founding Pastor: Father Joel Moelter, OCarm

Number of Households: 1,800

Current Pastor: Father Raymond F. Corkery, OCarm

Mission Statement: As a Hispanic Catholic community of faith, we witness to and proclaim the Reign of God through worship, faith formation, service and work for justice.

Sacred Heart Parish

337 S. Ottawa St.
Joliet, IL 60436-2229

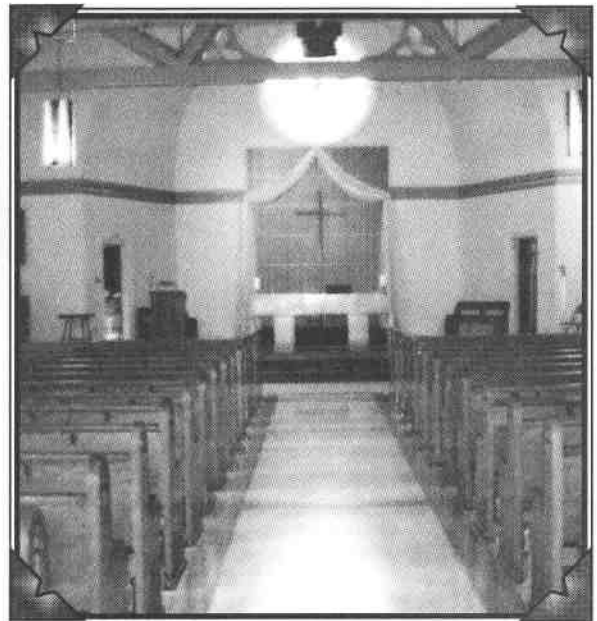
Founded: 1886

Founding Pastor: Father Ambrose Goulet

Number of Households: 175

Current Pastor: Father Raymond Lescher

Mission Statement: We, the members of Sacred Heart Parish, Christians of many ethnic, cultural and racial heritages, are empowered by the Holy Spirit to live the Word, to celebrate our shared faith, to build relationships and to serve our community, as we rejoice in the Lord!



St. Anthony Parish

100 Scott St.
Joliet, IL 60431-1210

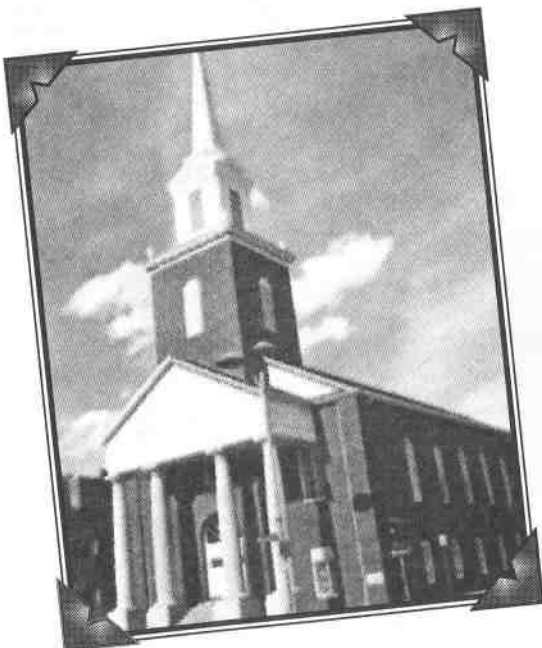
Founded: 1902

Founding Pastor: Father Joseph Tonello

Number of Households: 627

Current Pastor: Father Arthur LaPore

Mission Statement: The oldest edifice in use in the city of Joliet (1858), it is the former First Baptist Church purchased by the Italian community in 1902. Renovated in 1980 in Williamsburg Colonial style, often referred to as "The friendly little church downtown." Plans are already being made for the 100th anniversary of the parish in the year 2002.





St. Bernard Parish

1313 Ridgewood Ave.
Joliet, IL 60432

Founded: 1921

Founding Pastor: Father James P. Cannell

Current Households: 350

Current Pastor: Father Richard Ross

Mission Statement: A Catholic, Eucharistic community, glorifying God through prayer, sacraments and service; building oneness with God and neighbor.

Sts. Cyril & Methodius Parish

704 Landau Ave.
Joliet, IL 60432

Founded: 1900

Founding Pastor: Father Aloysius Kollar

Number of Households: 320

Current Administrator: Father Branislav Càniga

Mission Statement: We, the Catholic parishioners of Sts. Cyril & Methodius Church, are here to spread the good news of Jesus Christ within the parish and the surrounding community. We want to retain our ethnic heritage while we welcome new members to the parish family.



St. John the Baptist Parish

404 N. Hickory St.
Joliet, IL 60435

Founded: 1852

Founding Pastor: Father Caspar Mueller

Number of Households: 650

Current Pastor: Father Ed Shea, OFM

Mission Statement: We, the people of St. John the Baptist Catholic Church, aware of our rich multi-cultural history and touched by the spirit of St. Francis and his followers, seek to be an example of God's presence through our Christian worship, education, service and stewardship of all God's gifts. We are called to be a people of prayer, to evangelize and to reach out to the world around us in love.





St. Joseph Parish

416 N. Chicago St.
Joliet, IL 60432

Founded: 1891

Founding Pastor: Father Francis Sustersic

Number of Households: 1,104

Current Pastor: Father George F. Klepec

Mission Statement: Beautiful, historic church; K-8 school over 100 years in operation.

St. Jude Parish

2212 McDonough St.
Joliet, IL 60436

Founded: 1954

Founding Pastor: Msgr. Peter Seidl

Number of Households: 1,645

Current Pastor: Father James A. Schwab

Mission Statement: The Church of St. Jude Parish family celebrates God's presence by striving to live the Word and by sharing God's love, joy and peace. We work to build unity through worship, prayer, education, service, fellowship and by ministering to the needs of each other and the community-at-large.



St. Mary Magdalene Parish

127 S. Briggs St.
Joliet, IL 60433

Founded: 1953

Founding Pastor: Father John Desmond

Number of Households: 591

Current Pastor: Father David Stalzer

Mission Statement: Our message is not only to preach and teach, but also to provide the necessary tools or opportunities to nurture a Christian Community of today. An older community that utilizes the wisdom of the past to envision the success of the future with Christ as the center.



St. Mary Nativity Parish

706 N. Broadway St.
Joliet, IL 60435-6319

Founded: 1906

Founding Pastor: Father George Violich

Number of Households: 1,994

Current Pastor: Father Christopher Groh

Mission Statement: In our Catholic parish family, God acts in our midst sharing life with us and calling us to love one another. At Saint Mary Nativity, we strive to be a loving, faith-sharing community. Join us!

St. Patrick Parish

710 W. Marion St.
Joliet, IL 60436

Founded: 1838

Founding Pastor: Father John Francis Plunkett

Number of Households: 963

Current Pastor: Father James M. Lennon

Mission Statement: We, the parishioners of St. Patrick, pledge ourselves to live the message of Jesus through prayer, service, education and loving one another.

St. Patrick Parish is best described as a warm, welcoming and compassionate community of truly committed loyal parishioners.



St. Paul the Apostle Parish

18 N. Woodlawn Ave.
Joliet, IL 60435

Founded: 1950

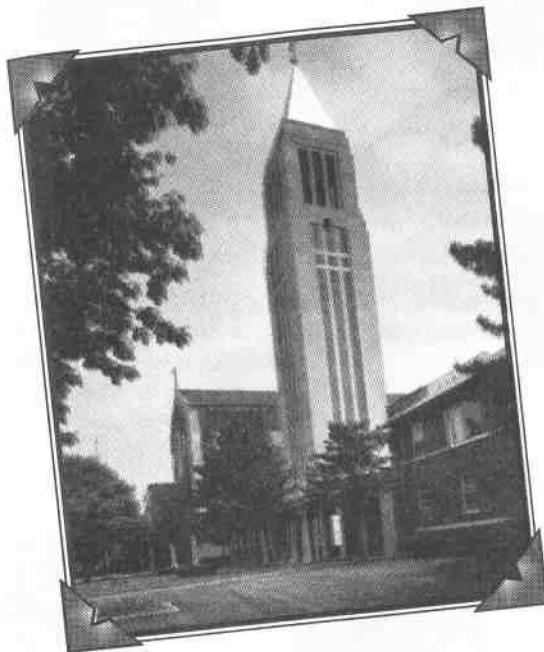
Founding Pastor: Father Gordon Michels

Number of Households: 1,750

Current Pastor: Father James Dougherty

Mission Statement: We, the members of St. Paul the Apostle Parish, are a faith community of the Diocese of Joliet committed to the teachings of Jesus Christ. We celebrate these teachings both in prayer and liturgy. We proclaim the Gospel through education and example. We live the Word of God by responding to the physical, emotional and spiritual needs of our faith community. We pledge to use our time, talent and treasures to continually find ways to further the teachings of Jesus Christ.





Cathedral of St. Raymond Parish

604 N. Raynor Ave.
Joliet, IL 60435

Founded: 1917

Founding Pastor: Father Francis Scanlan

Number of Households: 2,000

Current Pastor (rector): Father Stanley Orlikiewicz

Mission Statement: We, the members of the Cathedral Parish, the center of the Joliet Diocese, are called to be an example of a Catholic faith community. As the family of St. Raymond, we gather together for worship and mutual support. United by baptism, we are called by our Father to carry out the Gospel message of Jesus Christ, who came to serve. Empowered by the Spirit, we are called to preach, teach and proclaim the Good News with our lives.

St. Thaddeus Parish

510 Columbia St.
Joliet, IL 60432

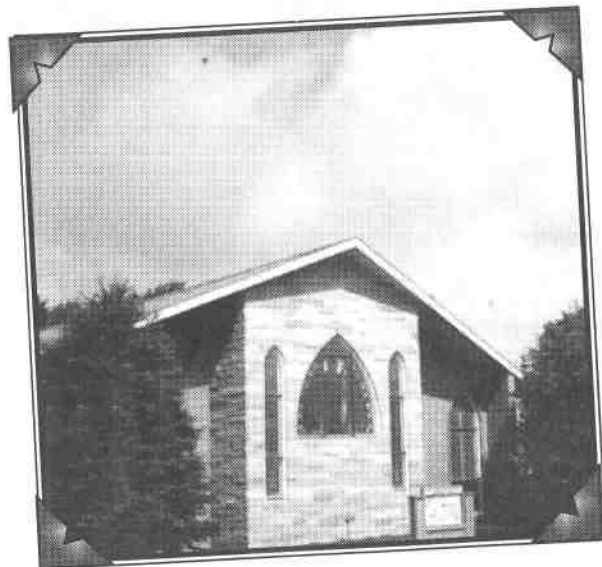
Founded: 1927

Founding Pastor: Father Stanislaus Chyla

Number of Households: 98

Current Pastor: Father Edward Rowland

Mission Statement: Let's get there!



St. James the Apostle Mission

Irwin

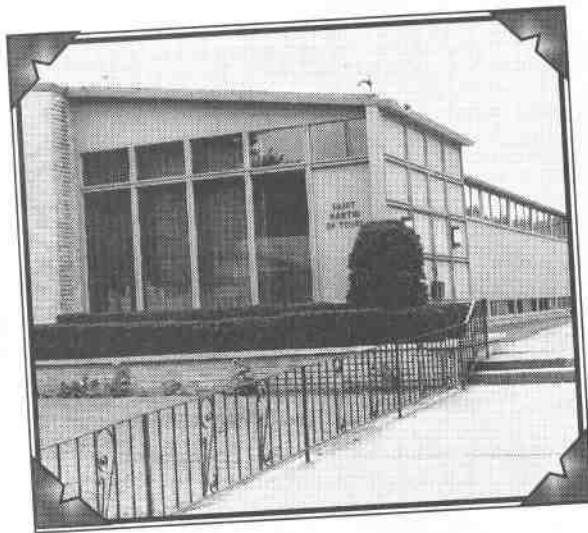
4372 Main St.
Kankakee, IL 60901

Founded: 1877

Founding Pastor: Father Ambrose Goulet

Number of Households: 110

Current Pastor: Father Ronald Hart



St. Martin of Tours Parish

953 S. Ninth Ave.
Kankakee, IL 60901-4603

Founded: 1950

Founding Pastor: Father Basil J. Doyle

Number of Households: 714

Current Pastor: Father Dennis Settles

Mission Statement: As a people of God, under the guidance of the Roman Catholic Church and the Diocese of Joliet in Illinois, we seek to proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ through worship, service, education and living the values of Christ in the community. We welcome all who seek God and embrace those who need healing in their lives. Let us journey together.

St. Patrick Parish

428 S. Indiana Ave.
Kankakee, IL 60901

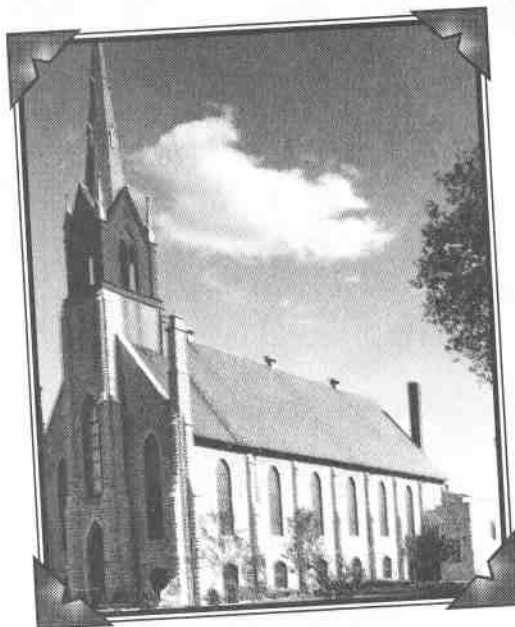
Founded: 1893

Founding Pastor: Father J. J. Darcy

Number of Households: 770

Current Pastor: Father Richard J. Pighini, CSV

Mission Statement: We, members of St. Patrick Parish, acknowledge that we have been called together by God to share in the mission of Jesus. We are empowered by the Holy Spirit to a four-fold mission: to proclaim the Good News, to build a Christian community of faith, to serve the people of God, to celebrate the presence of the Risen Lord. We are a pilgrim people journeying in the company of the Master. We are fed on our pilgrim way by the Word of God, by the sacraments, by one another. We are constantly being called to live Gospel values, to grow individually and as a parish community, to be prophet and servant bringing peace and justice to our human community. In union with each other and with the Universal Church, grounded in faith and worship, we, as St. Patrick Parish, commit ourselves to our four-fold mission of bringing about the kingdom of God.



St. Rose of Lima Parish

486 W. Merchant St.
Kankakee, IL 60901

Founded: 1857

Founding Pastor: Father Epiphane Lapointe

Number of Households: 875

Current Pastor: Father Charles T. Wheeler

Mission Statement: We, the Catholic Faith Community of St. Rose Parish, in union with the Universal Church, the Holy Father, and our bishop, are called by God, through baptism, to proclaim the Kingdom of God. Through the liturgical and sacramental life of the church, we are guided by the teachings of Christ: the Gospel, the Scriptures and the tradition of the church. We live our mission of service through prayer and by participating fully in the sacramental life of the church and expressing concern, respect and care for all human life and all creation.



St. Teresa Parish

361 S. Joseph Ave.
Kankakee, IL 60901

Founded: 1949

Founding Pastor: Father Emile J. Cousineau

Number of Households: 680

Current Pastor: Father Anthony R. Taschetta

Mission Statement: We, the people of God in St. Teresa Parish, see ourselves as people growing into a loving, serving community of believers that strives to become a spiritual and social leaven in our neighborhood, our city, our country and our diocese. We believe that we are redeemed, blessed and called by Christ Jesus to share, with each other and with anyone in need, our faith and talents and material resources. We believe that communal worship of God in liturgical celebration is central and vital to our efforts of reaching out to others and to our passing on of Christian values. We are a people who seek knowledge, love and understanding of the presence of Jesus in today's world. To achieve these goals, we agree on the importance of developing and deepening our faith through the thoughtful reading of God's Word, individual prayer and contemplation, and group study. We commit ourselves to the unselfish acknowledgement of one another's gifts, and to encouraging members of our faith community to freely share their individual talents and abilities with others, both within and outside our parish. By doing so, our light will shine more brightly, serving as a beacon to encourage others to give glory to God. In summary, we are a faith community, led by the spirit and called together to be formed by God's Word, to experience the Living Word, to share that Word with those around us, and to celebrate God's love for us. Out of the knowledge we gain and the spirit of community we share, we gain understanding of our need, through faith and love, to become servants to one another and to

Sacred Heart Parish

P. O. Box 824
219 Emmett St.
Kinsman, IL 60437

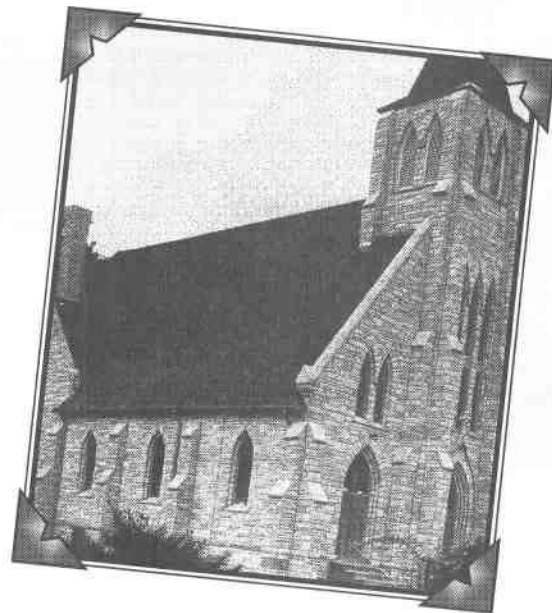
Founded: 1869

Founding Pastor: Father J. A. Hemlock

Number of Households: 89

Current Pastor: Father Robert Maternoski

Mission Statement: "In the heart of the country."



St. John the Baptist Mission

L'Erable

Box 218
208 N. Second St.
Ashkum, IL 60911

Founded: 1856

Founding Pastor: Father C. Brizard

Number of Households: 70

Current Pastor: Father James A. Holup

Mission Statement: The gift of the presence of the Roman Catholic Church was planted in 1856 in L'Erable. We are entrusted to bring that gift, by the power of the Holy Spirit, into the new millennium. We are called to a new evangelization by our beloved Pope John Paul II. Each of us must make an active response to the movement of the Holy Spirit.





St. Joan of Arc Parish

820 Division St.
Lisle, IL 60532-2248

Founded: 1924

Founding Pastor: Father Aloysius Keclik, OSB

Number of Households: 2,481

Current Pastor: Father Roman S. Galiardi, OSB

Mission Statement: The work of the parish is to share in the mission of Jesus continued through the church. The works of the parish seek human wholeness, peace and a bond of charity in our relationships with one another and making the Kingdom of God visible in our community.

Our Mother of Good Counsel Parish

15430 Sulky Dr.
Lockport, IL 60441

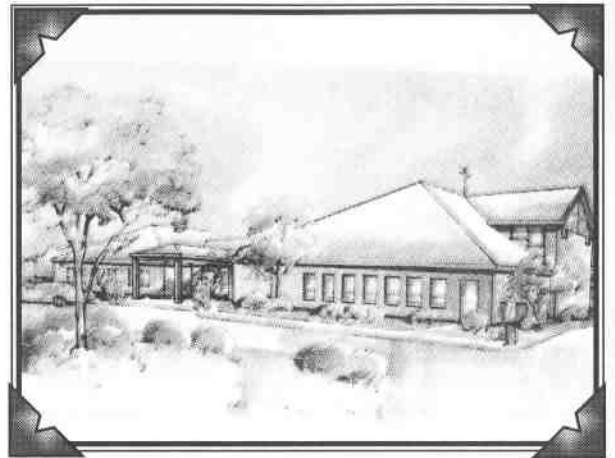
Founded: 1996

Founding Pastor: Father Thomas L. Osborne, OSA

Number of Households: 284

Current Pastor: Father Thomas L. Osborne, OSA

Mission Statement: We, the family of Our Mother of Good Counsel Parish, call ourselves to be the light of Christ, leading all to unity with God. We do this by our community worship and celebration of the sacraments, prayer at home with our families, sharing our joy and responding to the needs of others.



St. Bernard Parish

14135 Parker Road
Lockport, IL 60441

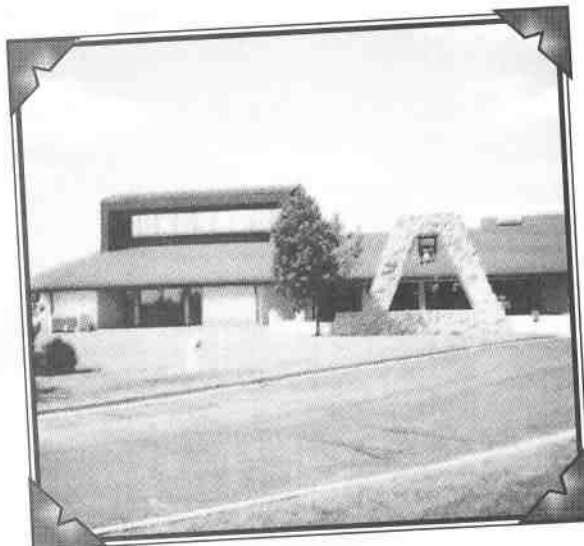
Founded: 1978

Founding Pastor: Father Thomas Schutter

Number of Households: 1,949

Current Pastor: Father Richard B. Prodehl

Mission Statement: Our future is not mortar, brick, stone or lumber. Our future is church and church is people working, living and worshipping together. We are St. Bernard's—Together We Are Church. This is our motto and much more important, this is a challenge for each of us to live.





St. Dennis Parish

1214 Hamilton St.
Lockport, IL 60441

Founded: 1846

Founding Pastor: Father Dennis Ryan

Number of Households: 1,610

Current Pastor: Father Jim Curtin

Mission Statement: St. Dennis Parish is a Catholic Community of faith dedicated to bringing all to a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ. We are called to love one another and to serve one another. We are committed to bring the healing presence of God into the lives of all we meet.

St. John Vianney Parish

401 Brassel St.
Lockport, IL 60441

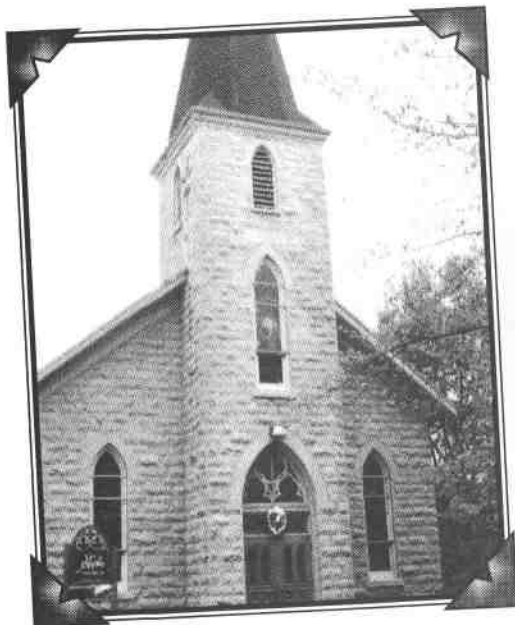
Founded: 1956 as mission; 1963 as a parish; 1997 as Shrine of the Divine Mercy

Founding Pastor: Father Henry Wilkening

Current Pastor: Father Andrew L. Buczyina



Mission Statement: Our mission is to call each parishioner to holiness as proclaimed and taught by the Roman Catholic Church under Our Holy Father, the Roman Pontiff, Pope John Paul II, with our Bishop Joseph L. Imesch and the teaching magisterium. Each parishioner individually and as a community is to become the living word (the Gospel) and the Eucharist (the mystical Body of Christ) to all we meet and serve. All honor, glory and praise to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit by each one of us.



St. Joseph Parish

410 S. Jefferson St.
Lockport, IL 60441

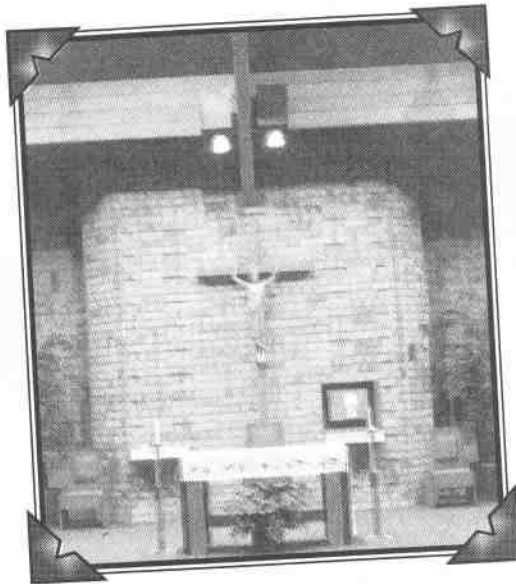
Founded: 1868

Founding Pastor: Father H. Yutting

Number of Households: 1,300

Current Pastor: Father Hugh Fullmer

Mission Statement: We, the members of St. Joseph Parish of Lockport, are a community of diverse people gathered together in faith. We strive to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ under the guidance of the Holy Spirit and the Roman Catholic Church. We are committed to bring about the Kingdom of God through the words and actions of our lives.



Christ the King Parish

1501 S. Main St.
Lombard, IL 60148

Founded: 1960

Founding Pastor: Father James Gilbride

Number of Households: 1,400

Current Pastor: Father James Dvorscak

Mission Statement: The church on a hill, in a park, where Christ is King.

Sacred Heart Parish

114 S. Elizabeth St.
Lombard, IL 60148-2597

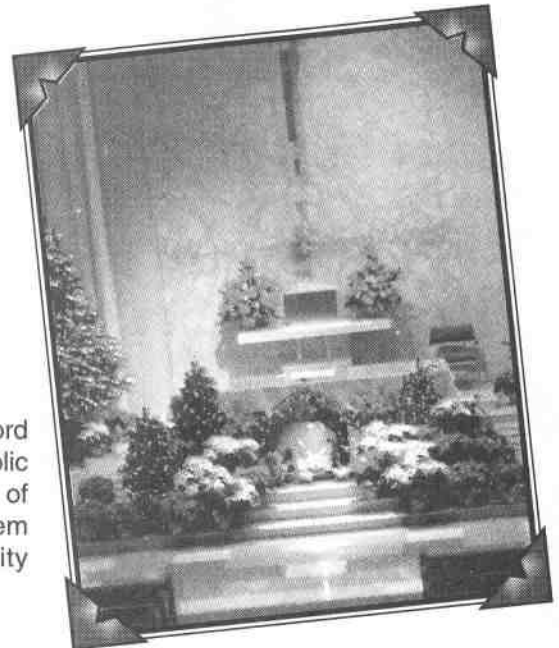
Founded: 1912

Founding Pastor: Father Anthony J. Boecker

Number of Households: 1,796

Current Pastor: Father Arno Dennerlein

Mission Statement: In accordance with God's word and His example, we will strive to nurture the Catholic faith and values of our parish family, to be cognizant of its spiritual and physical needs and to act upon them accordingly in order to build a stewardship of unity engulfed in a common goal.



St. Pius X Parish

1025 E. Madison St.
Lombard, IL 60148

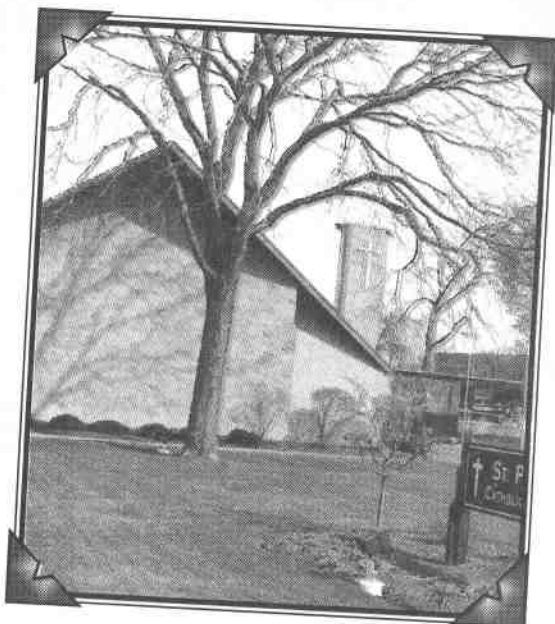
Founded: 1954

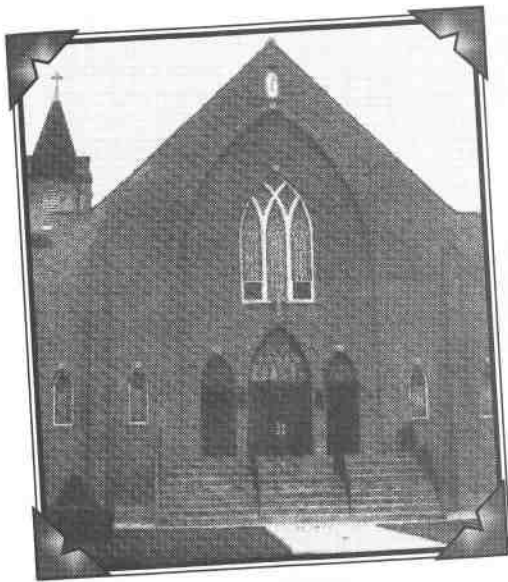
Founding Pastor: Father Edmund O'Neill

Number of Households: 2,292

Current Pastor: Father Herb Essig

Mission Statement: St. Pius X Parish is a Christian faith community guided by God to be witnesses of Christ's Gospel through worship, prayer, education, service and social activities. Nourished by the Eucharist, the Holy Spirit, and the power of prayer, we will provide an environment that will educate, develop people's faith, promote small Christian faith communities, embrace other cultures, promote diversity, enhance the social atmosphere of our parish and serve the needs of the people in our community.





St. Joseph Parish

P. O. Box 25
Manhattan, IL 60442

Founded: 1891

Founding Pastor: Father C. P. Foster

Number of Households: 947

Current Pastor: Father Edward J. O'Malley

Mission Statement: St. Joseph, Manhattan, although more than 100 years old, has suddenly found itself in a rapidly growing community. It has more than doubled in size in the past few years. As it experiences the normal growing pains, this parish continues to foster a sense of community and a faith life through its various organizations and small faith communities. When the people gather to worship the sense of togetherness is almost palpable and is clearly evident as the community gathers after Eucharist to socialize and reach out to each other.

St. Patrick Parish

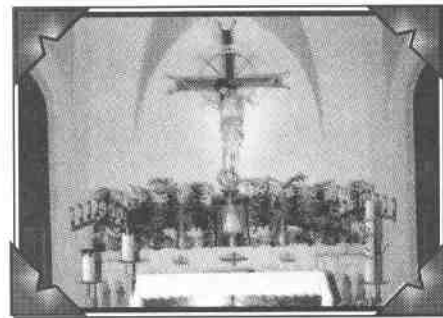
14936 W. Peotone Road
Manhattan, IL 60442

Founded: 1879

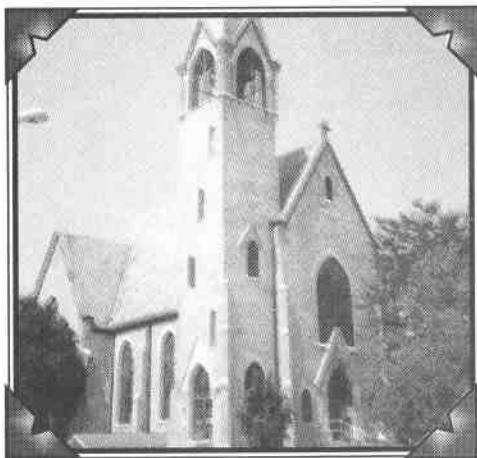
Founding Pastor: Father Thomas F. O'Gara

Number of Households: 97

Current Pastor: Father Sal Guinta



History: In 1851, the "Twelve Mile Grove" was a station where Mass was said by a priest from St. Patrick Church, Joliet. The first St. Patrick Church was built in 1864 and almost immediately destroyed by a tornado. From 1874 to 1879 the "Twelve Mile Grove" was a mission of St. Joseph Church, Manteno. In February 1879, Father Thomas F. O'Gara became the first pastor of St. Patrick Parish. On November 27, the second St. Patrick Church was dedicated by Bishop John McMullen. Disaster struck in 1897 when an out-of-control fire in the stove caused the church to burn to the ground. The third St. Patrick Church was built in 1898. In October of 1905, Father Joseph McNamee became the second pastor, but first resident pastor of St. Patrick. In 1917, Father William C. Burke was appointed fourth pastor of the parish. On Feb. 2, 1929, the third church building was destroyed by fire. The fourth and present church was built with brick and dedicated by Bishop Bernard J. Sheil on June 16, 1930. Father Sal Guinta joined the parish in 1988 as the 18th pastor.



St. Joseph Parish

207 S. Main St.
Manteno, IL 60950

Founded: 1855

Founding Pastor: Father P. Paradis

Number of Households: 750

Current Pastor: Father Ed Grotovsky

Mission Statement: We, the people of St. Joseph Parish, united to form and establish the St. Joseph Parish Council in the Diocese of Joliet, because of the awareness of our Christian faith through the Gospels on the life of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the proclamation of the Second Vatican Council. In order to

involve all parishioners by sharing of work responsibilities in: promoting proper, orderly growth and development of the parish; providing a means of communication for all members of the parish; developing a truly Christian spirit; promoting love and understanding for all people; discovering and filling the needs of the parish and community; encouraging apostolic initiative in all parishioners; supporting the mission of the church in the world; supporting our Holy Father, the pope, our bishop and our clergy; enabling the pastor and his staff to devote more time to the spiritual needs of the parish.



St. George Parish

Hunt St. & Rt. 54
Melvin, IL 60952

Founded: 1889

Founding Pastor: Father John Quinn

Number of Households: 15

Current Pastor: Father William Smith

Mission Statement: To work for Christ and His church.

St. Mary Parish

303 W. St. Mary St.
P.O. Box 456
Minooka, IL 60447

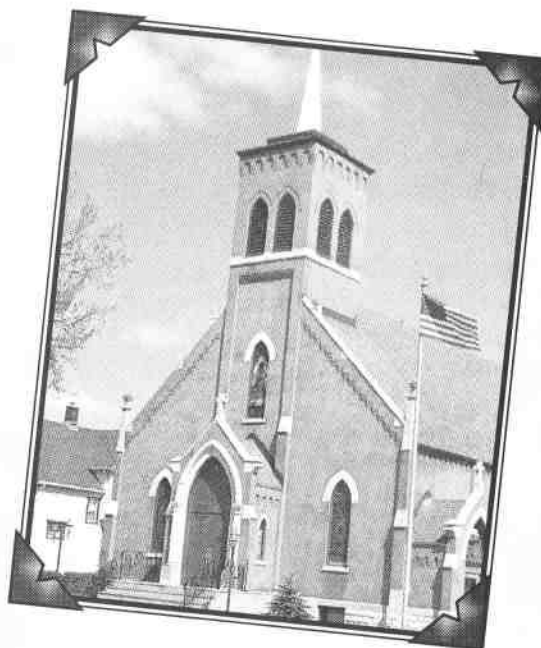
Founded: 1852

Founding Pastor: Father Peter Sheedy

Number of Households: 600

Current Pastor: Father Mark A. Fracaro

Mission Statement: St. Mary Catholic Parish is a Christ-centered family which welcomes all members to continue their spiritual growth and religious education and to use their individual talents to assume shared responsibility for service and fellowship to our community.



St. Mary Parish

19515 S. 115th Ave.
P.O. Box 2
Mokena, IL 60448

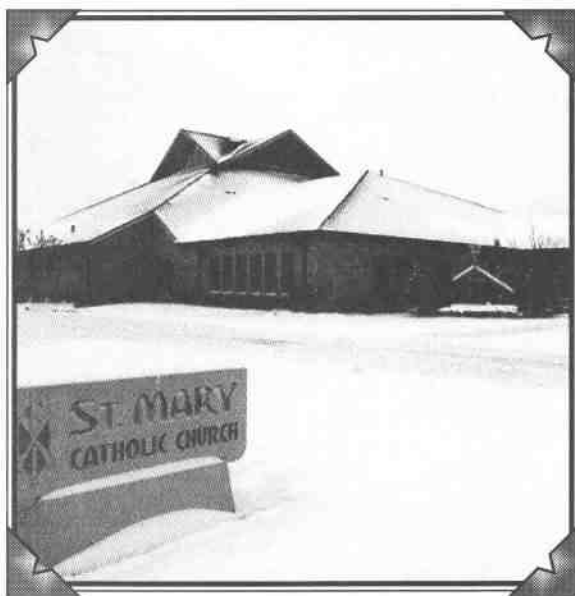
Founded: 1864

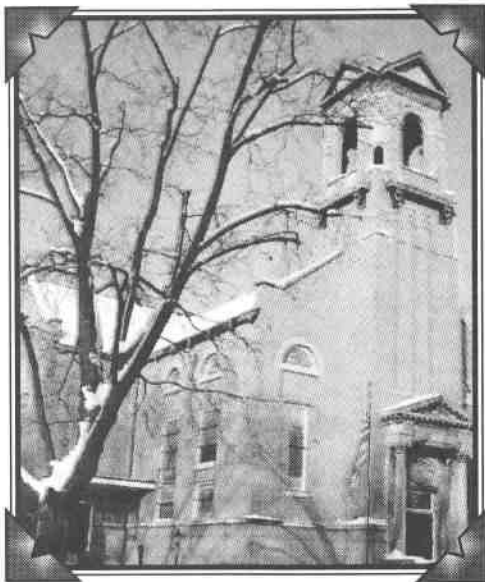
Founding Pastor: Father Peter Fassbender, OFM

Number of Households: 3,319

Current Pastor: Father James Fitzgerald

Mission Statement: We, the parishioners of St. Mary Parish, are committed to living the Gospel message of Jesus Christ through worship, education and service of our parish, our community and our world.





St. Patrick Parish

119 Market St.
Momence, IL 60954

Founded: 1859

Founding Pastor: Father George Kerston

Number of Households: 630

Current Pastor: Father Denis E. White

Mission Statement: We, the parish of St. Patrick in Momence, Illinois, a Roman Catholic parish in the diocese of Joliet-in-Illinois, a people/parish of diverse backgrounds, strive to be the Body of Christ by living the faith, preaching the Word, building Christian community, serving others in Christ, especially the poor, and celebrating our unity through the sacraments.

St. Boniface Parish

5304 W. Main St.
Box 217
Monee, IL 60449

Founded: 1868

Founding Pastor: Father Joseph Abt

Number of Households: 300

Current Pastor: Father Mark Menezes



Mission Statement: Who are we. We are the family of St. Boniface, Roman Catholic Christians who come together from the towns of Monee, University Park, Crete, Green Garden, Park Forest and many surrounding communities. We have approximately 300 families in our faith community. We are a people of diverse ethnic backgrounds, occupations, ages and marital status who are united by our common baptism. We are also a part of the church of Joliet and the universal Catholic Church. Why we exist. We gather together as a community of believers in Jesus Christ to celebrate the sacraments—to be spiritually nourished and strengthened by the Word of God and the Eucharist. Together we worship God, pray, support one another in time of spiritual and physical need, help each other to grow in faith, knowledge and love of God. We seek to transform our lives and the lives of those with whom we come in contact—in light of the Gospel message.



Immaculate Conception Parish

516 E. Jackson St.
Morris, IL 60540

Founded: 1852

Founding Pastor: Father Patrick Terry

Number of Households: 1,202

Current Pastor: Father Robert Hoffenkamp

Mission Statement: Created by God the Father, reconciled through Jesus Christ, his son, empowered with the gift of the Holy Spirit, each of us is united through baptism into the one body of Christ. In response to this love, we are called and we are committed to be a welcoming, listening, healing, service and worshipping community. As Mary gave birth to Christ in the flesh, so shall we continually labor to make His presence felt in the loves of the people we touch. Amen.



Catholic Community of Wheatland Parish

2228 Snow Creek Road
Naperville, IL 60564

Founded: 1998

Founding Pastor: Father Richard Bennett

Number of Households: 1,000

Current Pastor: Father Richard Bennett

Mission Statement: Our parish is just beginning and growing very quickly in the southwestern part of Naperville. Our people are young families with wonderful children. We are building relationships with one another as we grow together in the love of Jesus in our midst. We look forward to spreading this love to the Naperville, Diocese and World communities.

St. Elizabeth Seton Parish

2220 Lisson Road
Naperville, IL 60565-5234

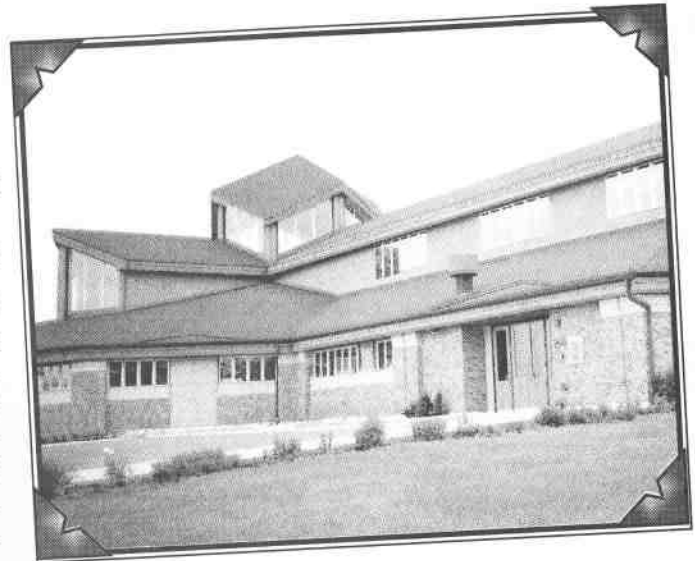
Founded: 1986

Founding Pastor: Father Anthony Nugent

Number of Households: 2,221

Current Pastor: Father Ernest R. Norbeck

Mission Statement: We are people of God gathering together in prayer and faith as the community of St. Elizabeth Seton. Our mission, individually and collectively, is to create a loving environment in which people feel welcome to participate, grow, worship and share their talents in service to God and neighbor. We shall strive to become more prayerful, peaceful people.



St. Margaret Mary Parish

1450 Green Trails Dr.
Naperville, IL 60540

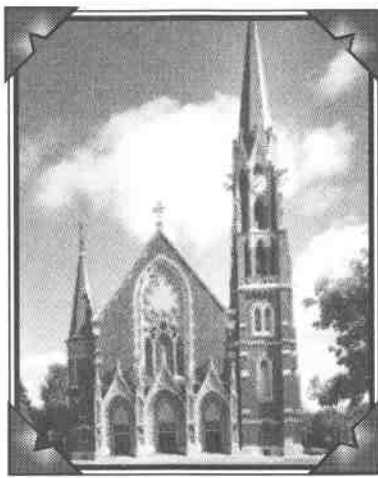
Founded: 1980

Founding Pastor: Father Joseph Voss

Number of Households: 3,076

Current Pastor: Father William J. O'Shea

Mission Statement: As a worshipping Roman Catholic parish family, we are guided by a collegial partnership of laity, pastor and ministerial staff. Together we seek to foster spiritual growth through the active practice of Christianity. By the sharing of our God-given talents and resources with all God's people, we strive for peace and justice as the "Parish with Heart."



SS. Peter & Paul Parish

26 N. Ellsworth St.
Naperville, IL 60540-4697

Founded: 1846

Founding Pastor: Father Raphael Rainaldi

Number of Households: 4,107

Current Pastor: Father James Burnett

Mission Statement: SS. Peter & Paul Catholic Church is a welcoming, faith-sharing community called to proclaim the Kingdom of God in the world by serving others, celebrating liturgy and living the teachings of Jesus Christ. Our value goals are: Welcoming—to provide a welcoming atmosphere within the community of SS. Peter & Paul so that there will be more opportunities to gather in fellowship and more people involved

in that fellowship. Faith-sharing—To provide a diversity of opportunities which will encourage parishioners to engage in ongoing renewal of their faith. Serving—To hear the needs of the parish and community by written assessments; to direct our efforts to meet those in light of our mission statement. Involving—To invite and empower people to a greater sense of participation and ownership in our parish so that there will be more people involved and possibly different ministries emerging. Providing facilities—To evaluate and provide adequate and functional facilities for parish programs now and in the future so that there will be greater accommodations in scheduling activities.

St. Raphael Parish

1215 Modaff Road
Naperville, IL 60540-7818

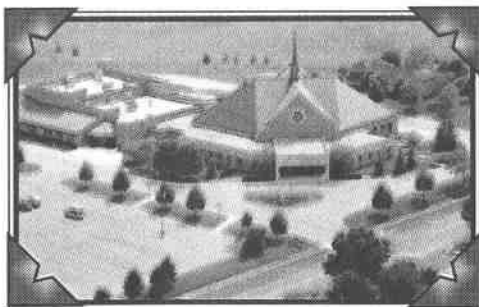
Founded: 1963

Founding Pastor: Father William Condon

Number of Households: 3,400

Current Pastor: Father William Donnelly

Mission Statement: We are the church, alive with Christ, a diverse community rooted in faith, celebrating a Liturgy of Life. We are prayerfully responsive to the Spirit of the Living Gospel—freely and fully ministering to all. Our mission as a people of God is to affirm and love, to forgive and accept forgiveness, to listen and speak out. We are called to comfort, to challenge, to participate, to welcome, to evangelize, to teach and to heal. The spirit empowers us to continue this commitment to St. Raphael's and to the world.



St. Thomas the Apostle Parish

1500 Brookdale Road
Naperville, IL 60563

Founded: 1984

Founding Pastor: Father James Curtin

Number of Households: 3,670

Current Pastor: Father Donald Kenny

Mission Statement: We, the people of St. Thomas, are gathered together by God as a Catholic Community of faith. We are challenged to accept God as the heart and center of our lives. We are the Body of Christ by our baptism, members of one another. We believe each life is sacred, each person gifted by God. We value diversity in our midst. We try to discern the Spirit's direction by prayer and by listening to the wisdom of all. We share our lives in laughter, at times in tears, enjoying the goodness of one another. We are a community of fragile human beings, often in need of forgiveness and healing. We gather in worship around the Lord Jesus to lift our hearts, minds and voices in praise, to be nourished by God to renew the bonds of community. We take time to pray together and support one another whenever we meet for ministry. We are an open, welcoming Christian community, reaching out to others, sharing the Good News, inviting people to join us on the journey. We are called by Jesus to continue His mission in our place and time. God sends the Holy Spirit to dwell in our hearts, charging us to proclaim God's love by our actions and word. We are called to be servants—Good Samaritans, foot-washers, like Jesus. We are called to live simply, as Jesus lived, sharing our time and resources with those in need, promoting God's kingdom of justice and peace. Each of us is empowered and co-responsible for carrying out the mission of our parish.



St. Jude Parish

241 W. Second Ave.
New Lenox, IL 60451-1764

Founded: 1934

Founding Pastor: Father Roman Hasenstab, OFM

Number of Households: 3,400

Current Pastor: Father Michael J. Slattery, OSA

Mission Statement: St. Jude is a faith community searching for the presence of Our Lord, Jesus Christ, in ourselves and in others. We are dedicated to creating an environment of welcoming and fellowship through worship, outreach, evangelization and service.

Ascension of Our Lord Parish

19314 Summit Ave
Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181

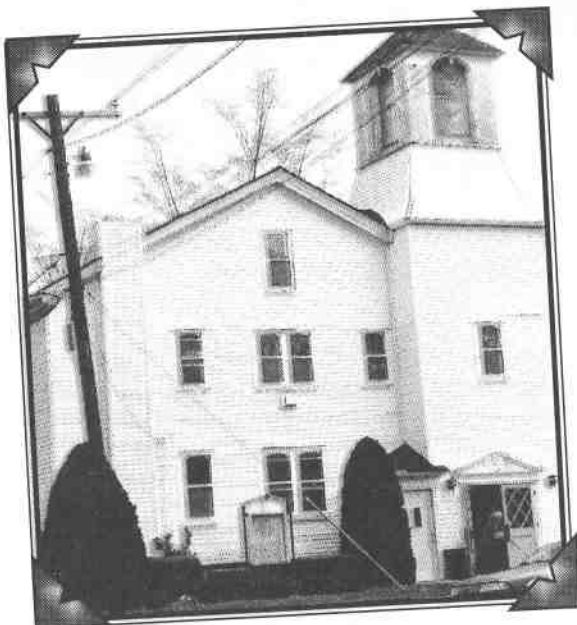
Founded: 1967

Founding Pastor: Father James C. Duffy

Number of Households: 1,274

Current Pastor: Father J. Damien Graziano

Mission Statement: Ascension of Our Lord Parish is a diverse Catholic community that endeavors to be a spirit-filled people. We encourage our members to witness to Christ's continuing presence in the world. Therefore, we resolve: To acknowledge Jesus Christ as the center of our lives and to give honor and glory to God through meaningful liturgy. To encourage the formation of Christian values in our members' daily experiences of family, work and other relationships. To be a welcoming community of prayer, service, education and friendship. As members of Ascension of Our Lord Parish, we accept these tasks and declare ourselves open to the Holy Spirit.



Our Lady of Guadalupe Mission

504 Seminary Ave.
P. O. Box 1
Onarga, IL 60955

Founded: 1980

Current Pastor: Father John Balluff

Mission Statement: (Mission of Immaculate Conception Parish, Gilman)



St. Anne Parish

551 Boulder Hill Pass

P. O. Box 670

Oswego, IL 60543

Founded: 1963

Founding Pastor: Father Clifford Brier

Number of Households: 2,243

Current Pastor: Father Daniel F. Stempora

Mission Statement: God has called us to be Christian witnesses by the precious gift of our Catholic faith through baptism. Just as St. Anne had a role in God's plan, so do each of us. We are called to faithfully teach and live the message of Jesus. We listen to God's word, grow in our understanding of it and respond to it through outreach and service in our own parish as well as the wider community. We exercise our responsibility to develop and see the gifts God has given us for the common good and to insure that our Eucharistic celebrations are truly joyful and meaningful.

St. Mary Parish

227 Monee Road

Park Forest, IL 60466-2403

Founded: 1959

Founding Pastor: Father Henry L. Wilkening

Number of Households: 450

Current Pastor: Father John J. Ryan

Mission Statement: The mission of the Church of St. Mary is to provide a Catholic environment that fosters a warm Christian atmosphere of welcome and prayer for all generations. We serve one another in our community through the sacraments, education and stewardship. This enables all to grow in their relationship with God, our parish and the surrounding communities. We proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ! Alleluia!



St. Joseph Mission

Loda

407 W. Pells St.

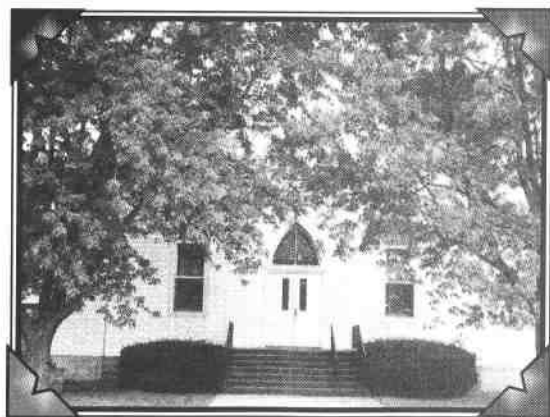
Paxton, IL 60957-1290

Founded: 1870

Founding Pastor: Father William A. Fanning

Number of Households: 60

Current Pastor: Father James Heramb



Mission Statement: A "hidden treasure" in Southwest Iroquois County (Loda-Bayles Lake-Lake Iroquois), 128 years old, rekindled (from a devastating fire in earlier years in Loda) into a still-close-knit, loving country family.



St. Mary Parish

407 W. Pells St.
Paxton, IL 60957-1290

Founded: 1910

Founding Pastor: Father P. H. Durkin

Number of Households: 276

Current Pastor: Father James Heramb

Mission Statement: An ever stalwart bulwark of solid, warm faith, hope and love among both younger and older in Ford County.

St. Paul the Apostle Parish

511 N. Conrad St.
P.O. Box 700
Peotone, IL 60468

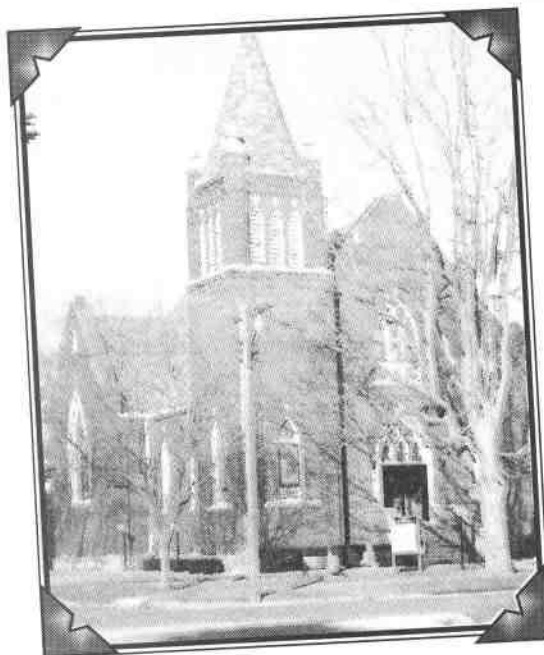
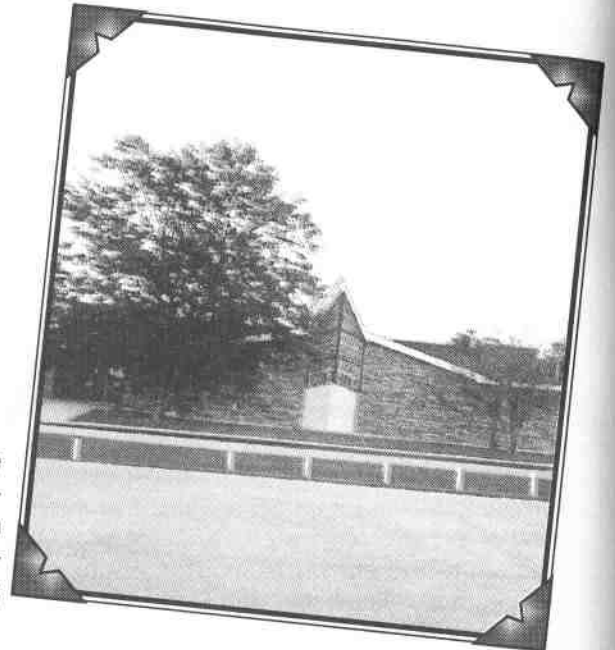
Founded: 1949 as a mission of St. Patrick, Wilton Center; 1961 as a parish

Founding Pastor: Father John George

Number of Households: 572

Current Pastor: Father Michael W. Ginter

Mission Statement: We, the church of St. Paul the Apostle, through the grace of the Holy Spirit, strive to be living witnesses to the teaching of Jesus Christ. This mission is accomplished through: reception of the sacraments; continuing education; ministering to the needs of each other; which enable us to proclaim the Gospel message.



St. Peter Parish

212 N. Pine St.
Piper City, IL 60959

Founded: 1887

Founding Pastor: Father Donat Crowe

Current Pastor: Father John Balluff

History: Around 1867, area Catholics attended Mass in homes or public halls whenever possible. In 1877, Chatsworth was organized as a parish and Piper City was annexed as an out-mission. Independent status was granted to Piper City in 1887. In 1937, Cullom was re-assigned to another parish and Roberts became our new out-mission. During 1945-50, both Piper City and Roberts were taken from the Peoria Diocese to become part of the newly formed Diocese of Joliet.

St. Mary Immaculate Parish

129 S. Division St.
Plainfield, IL 60544

Founded: 1909

Founding Pastor: Father Henry Epstein

Number of Households: 4,061

Current Pastor: Father Anthony A. Nugent

Mission Statement: We are the parish community of St. Mary Immaculate rooted in the Scriptures and the Roman Catholic tradition of the Diocese of Joliet. We are a growing community blessed with people of variety. We believe we can unite as an accepting, affirming and supportive faith community. Guided by the Holy Spirit, we celebrate our union with God in worship and proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ. We do this by loving, serving and sharing our time, talent and treasure with one another and God's peo-



St. Mary Parish

901 N. Center St.
Plano, IL 60545

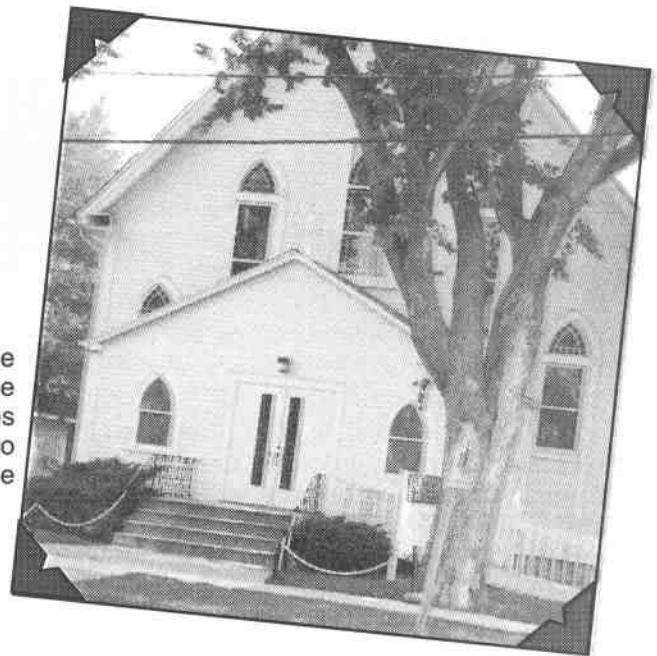
Founded: 1885

Founding Pastor: Father Erhard

Number of Households: 678

Current Pastor: Father Jerome Zalonis, MIC

Mission Statement: St. Mary's Parish, a part of the Joliet Diocese, as a diverse group of people who come together to worship as one body in Christ, possesses unique gifts that need to be brought together in order to strengthen our parish and community now and for the future.



St. Mary Parish

216 E. Lincoln
Reddick, IL 60919

Founded: 1899 as a mission of Immaculate Conception Church, Braidwood
1905 as a parish with mission of St. Lawrence O'Toole, Essex

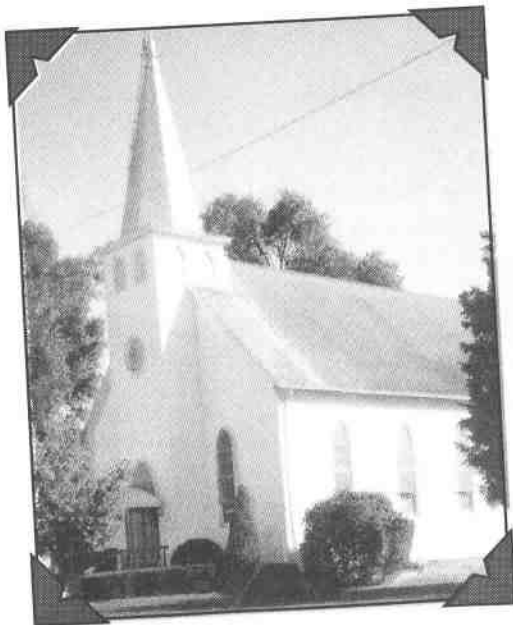
First Vicar: Father Dominic Spellman

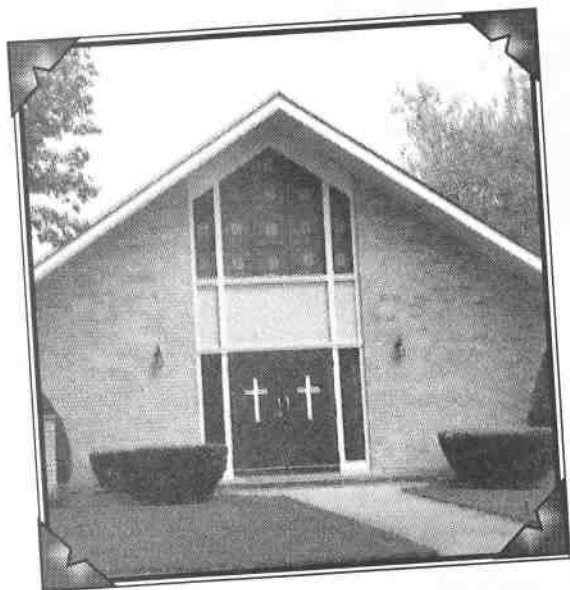
First Pastor: Father Francis Caraher

Number of Households: 40

Current Pastor: Father Richard F. Kostelz

Mission Statement: Striving to serve Christ in his church in western Kankakee County.





Immaculate Conception Mission

Roberts

c/o St. Peter Church
212 Pine St.
Piper City, IL 60962

Founded: 1880

Founding Pastor: Father Martin F. Kelly

Current Pastor: Father John Balluff

History: Immaculate Conception Parish was originally part of the Peoria Diocese and in 1880 was placed as an out-mission of Loda. In 1889, it was re-assigned to Gilman for two years. In 1891, Roberts was again re-assigned and became one of several out-missions of Gibson City. In 1937, as a final change, Immaculate Conception Parish was made an out-mission of Piper City. In December 1948, Roberts was separated from the Peoria Diocese and incorporated into the newly formed Diocese of Joliet.

St. Joseph Parish

1329 Bellevue Ave.
Rockdale, IL 60436

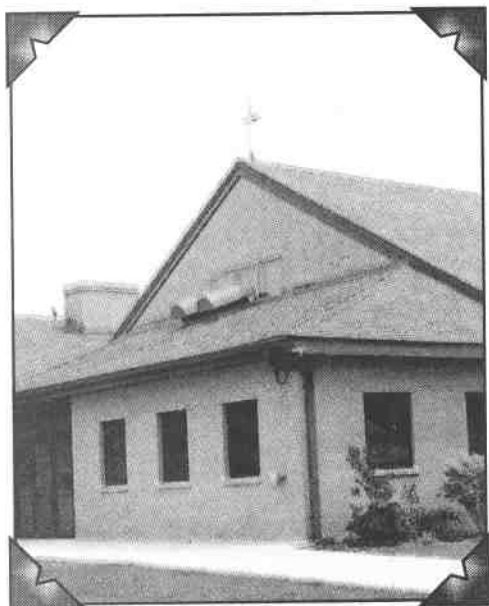
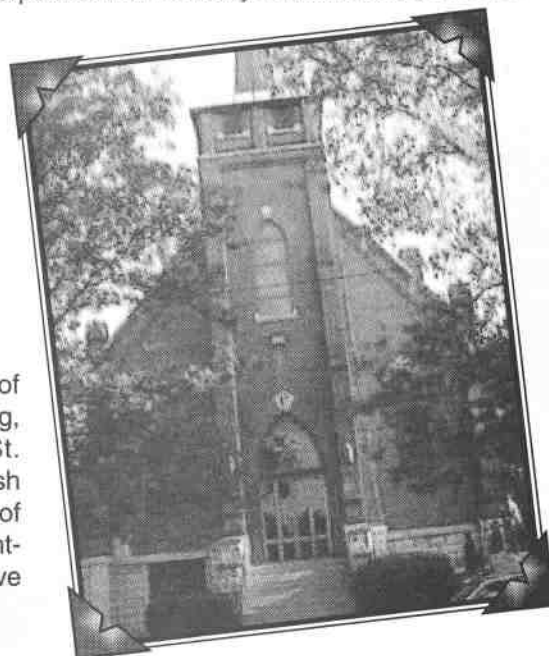
Founded: 1914

Founding Pastor: Father John P. Baltutis

Number of Households: 200

Current Pastor: Father John Zanoni

History: The church was begun by the Lithuanians of the community. Two and a half years after its founding, the church at Rockdale was made a mission of St. Joseph's Church in Joliet. In 1927 it regained its parish status under the direction of the Benedictine Order of Peru. In 1951 the Benedictines from Lisle were appointed administrators. The parish school is staffed by five nuns of the Order of St. Dominic, Adrian, Michigan.



St. Andrew the Apostle Parish

219 Arlington Dr.
Romeoville, IL 60446-1262

Founded: 1959

Founding Pastor: Father Joseph Jurkovich

Number of Households: 1,618

Current Pastor: Father Richard Walsh

Mission Statement: St. Andrew the Apostle is a community seeking both to celebrate and struggle with Jesus' proclamation of the Reign of God in our Catholic tradition in a new millennium. We are a willingly diverse people sharing a common call to live a challenging, evangelical faith in the world. To be about this mission as stewards of God's grace we build ministries spanning our life cycle which support common life, prayer, learning and outreach in service among individuals, families, small communities, our entire parish community and the wider world.



St. Walter Parish

130 W. Pine Ave.
Roselle, IL 60172

Founded: 1946

Founding Pastor: Msgr. Joseph Wagner

Number of Households: 3,892

Current Pastor: Father Francis McDonald

Mission Statement: "May all who enter here share the love of our community."

St. Anne Parish

230 North 6th Ave.
St. Anne, IL 60964

Founded: 1871

Founding Pastor: Father Michel Letellier

Number of Households: 152

Current Pastor: Father James F. Fanale, CSV



Mission Statement: The Church of God in St. Anne are a people called by God to carry on the mission of Jesus who came to make the kingdom of God a reality in our world. We are called to proclaim God's word, celebrate his liturgy, and through the intercession of St. Anne, to provide a place for healing the sick physically, spiritually and emotionally. As the Body of Christ, we are called to be a vibrant community of faith, his presence in the world, instruments in the accomplishment of his purposes, witnessing by our words and lives before one another and the world to the reality of God's love revealed in Jesus, and to the presence of the Holy Spirit in our midst. All structures, ministries and service in St. Anne Parish exist and draw their meaning from this mission, and all our efforts and works are undertaken with loving generous and trusting hearts, and a sense of personal ownership. We look forward in hope to the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ in glory for the establishment of His kingdom in perfection, and commit ourselves to this mission, and with God's grace and in the power of the Holy Spirit we pledge ourselves to be faithful.



Holy Family Parish

600 N. Brookforest Ave.
Shorewood, IL 60431

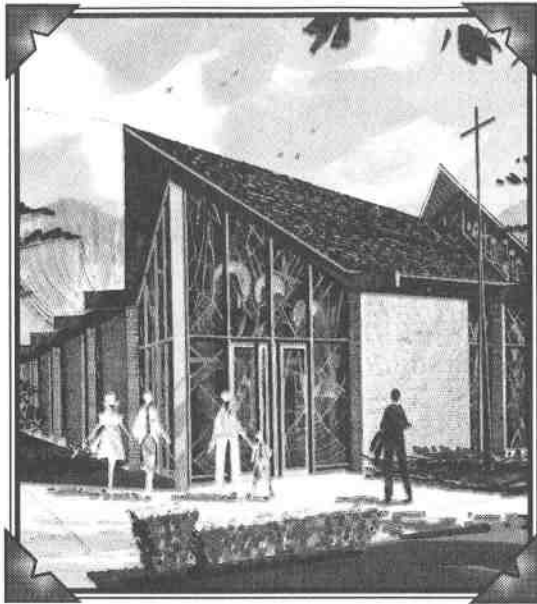
Founded: 1960

Founding Pastor: Father James J. Dicken

Number of Households: 610

Current Pastor: Father John L. Dennerlein

Mission Statement: We, the Church of Holy Family, through the grace of God and the wisdom of the Holy Spirit, strive to be the living witnesses of the teachings of Jesus Christ, which enables us to proclaim the Gospel message. This mission is accomplished through the following: continuing education, a warm welcome place of joyful worship, reception of the holy sacraments, ministering to the needs of each other.



St. Lawrence Parish

165 Rice St.
P.O. Box 190
South Wilmington, IL 60474

Founded: 1904

Founding Pastor: Father Lawrence Donna

Number of Households: 246

Current Pastor: Father Robert Maternoski

Mission Statement: "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations. Baptize them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. And behold I am with you always until the end of the world."

St. Liborius Parish

71 W. 35th St.
Steger, IL 60475

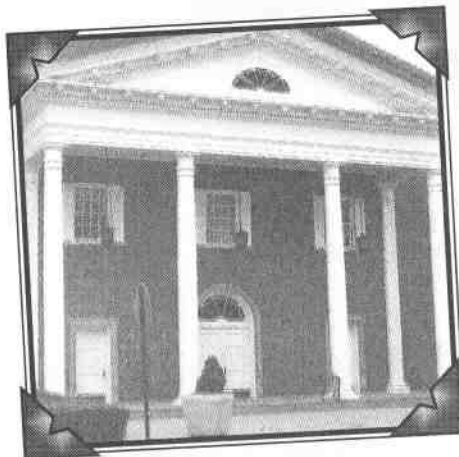
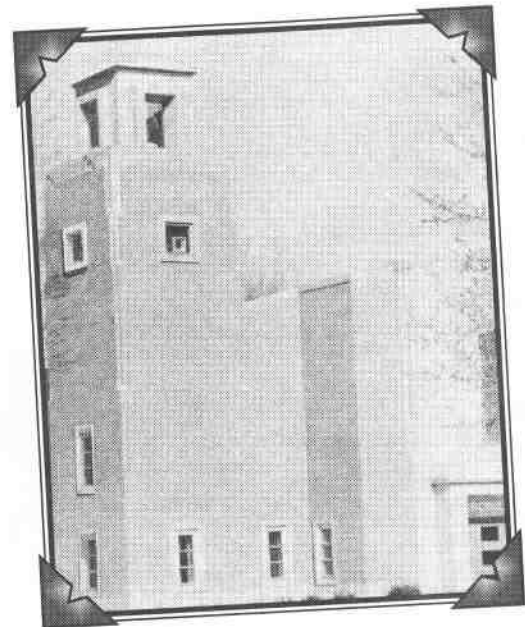
Founded: 1901

Founding Pastor: Father Theodore Gross

Number of Households: 2,493

Current Pastor: Father Joseph M. Burns

Mission Statement: "To grow in love and service to our God and community."



St. Alexander Parish

300 S. Cornell Ave.
Villa Park, IL 60181

Founded: 1924

Founding Pastor: Father Henry F. Kennedy

Number of Households: 1,600

Current Pastor: Father John M. Furdek

Mission Statement: We, the family of St. Alexander's, having been created by God, and freed through Christ's sacrifice, and cherishing our scriptural roots and Roman Catholic traditions, choose to unite as an accepting and supportive faith community. Since we are called to live and serve one another, our mission is to share ourselves in responding to the needs of God's people. Feed and clothe the poor, comfort the suffering, befriend the lonely and the alienated, bring justice and mercy to our communities, strengthen the faith of the adult community, educate future generations, mobilize one another into action and service, help the handicapped and the aged reach their potential, share in God's work of creation by preserving life and being His stewards on earth, make our common worship inspiring and consoling and participate in its celebration with life and love.



St. John the Apostle Parish

330 N. Westmore Ave.
Villa Park, IL 60181-1999

Founded: 1959

Founding Pastor: Father John Ducaij

Number of Households: 750

Current Pastor: Father James Duffy

Mission Statement: We at St. John's feel that we are members of one large Catholic Christian community with firm roots in the Lord. Being nourished by the gifts of Faith, Hope and Love; we are committed to one another to share our relationship through service and worship with our Lord Jesus Christ.

St. Irene Parish

28 W 441 Warrenville Road
Warrenville, IL 60555

Founded: 1927

Founding Pastor: Father Francis X. Harnischmacher

Number of Households: 1,193

Current Pastor: Father James Antiporek

Mission Statement: We, the members of the St. Irene Parish Family, are called to be a Catholic Community of Faith. As a community, we gather together for worship, fellowship and mutual support. United by baptism, we are called by God to carry out the Gospel mission of Jesus Christ, who came to serve, to challenge and to teach. Empowered by the Holy Spirit, we are called to preach, to teach, and to proclaim the Good News of Jesus with our lives, in both our actions and our words, evangelizing in the name of Jesus.



St. Edmund Parish

219 E. Locust St.
Watseka, IL 60970

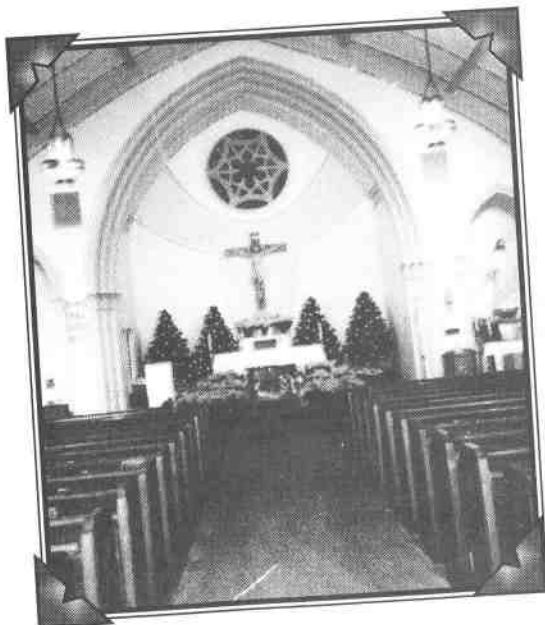
Founded: 1908

Founding Pastor: Father T. J. Timmons

Number of Households: 400

Current Pastor: Father Lee Ryan

Mission Statement: St. Edmund's Parish is a Roman Catholic Community in the Diocese of Joliet, striving to follow the teachings of Jesus Christ. Our role is to transform the world in which we live by bringing those teachings to every living person. We commit ourselves, with our pastor, to the apostolic work of the church through service, education and worship.





Resurrection Parish

P.O. Box 626
Army Trail Road & Rt. 59
Wayne, IL 60184

Founded: 1968

Founding Pastor: Father Marvin Tojek, OFM

Number of Households: 1,100

Current Pastor: Father Laurian Janicki, OFM

Mission Statement: We, a Catholic faith community of Resurrection Parish, are called together through baptism, by God, to share the mission of Christ: proclaiming, building and living the Kingdom of God. Goal: to be a community that, as a whole, is dedicated to becoming an instrument of peace that God calls us to be. Objective: by participating within our parish commissions, we can, as individuals, answer our call to service.

St. Mary Parish

140 N. Oakwood Ave.
West Chicago, IL 60185

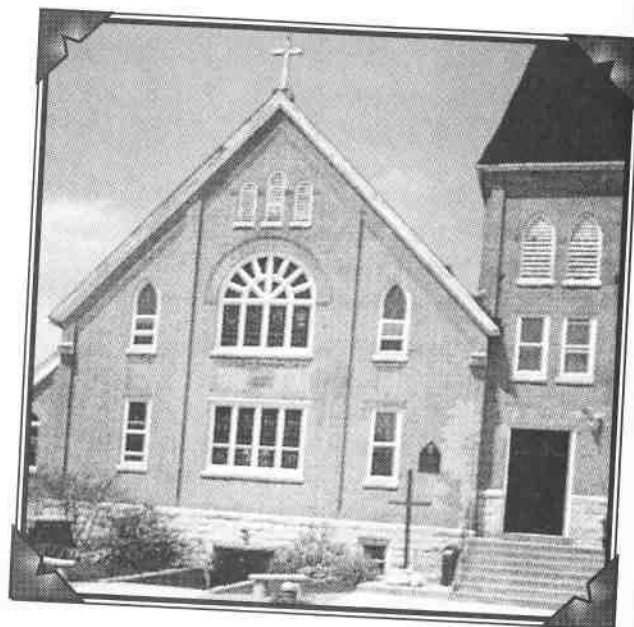
Founded: 1894

Founding Pastor: Father Ambrose Goulet

Number of Households: 1,200

Current Pastor: Father Vern Arseneau

Mission Statement: We, the members of St. Mary's Parish, West Chicago, see ourselves as a Catholic family drawn together by faith in Christ; a diverse community learning to accept each other as we are, to share freely our individual gifts, and to come together for worship and renewal. Nourished by our Christian faith, we are able to build bonds among individuals and groups of people, to confront causes of injustice, and to live out the Gospel through serving, teaching and witnessing.



Holy Trinity Parish

111 S. Cass Ave.
Westmont, IL 60559-1993

Founded: 1938

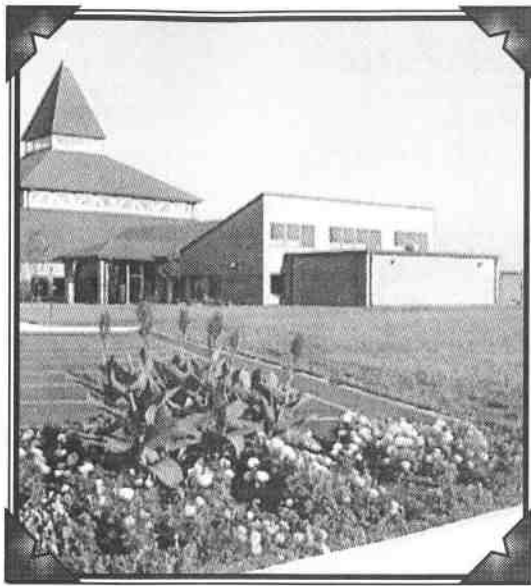
Founding Pastor: Father. Liguori A. Logsdon

Number of Households: 2,200

Current Pastor: Father James A. Nowak

Mission Statement: To continue the mission of Christ through word and sacrament for the people of Westmont.





St. Daniel the Prophet Parish

231 Danada Dr.
Wheaton, IL 60187-1010

Founded: 1989

Founding Pastor: Father Thomas J. White

Number of Households: 1,462

Current Pastor: Father Thomas J. White

Mission Statement: "God did not give us a spirit of cowardice, but one that is strong, loving and wise." 11 Timothy 1:7 And hence, a church, the people of God, was formed on the south side of Wheaton rooted in Christ Jesus so that these people could together love and serve God and one another. Strengthened by God and one another, we reach out to serve the community beyond us.

St. Mark Parish

303 E. Parkway Dr.
Wheaton, IL 60187

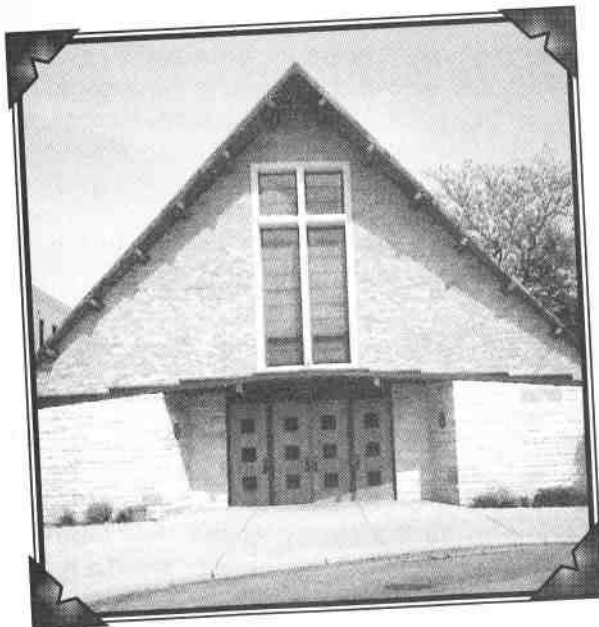
Founded: 1962

Founding Pastor: Father Joseph Kilas

Number of Households: 500

Current Pastor: Father John Ducaji

Mission Statement: As a parish, we look to our patron to inspire us. Jesus said, "The first is this: 'Hear, O Israel! The Lord our God is Lord alone! You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.' The second is this: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these." (Mark 12:29-31)



St. Michael Parish

315 W. Illinois St.
Wheaton, IL 60187

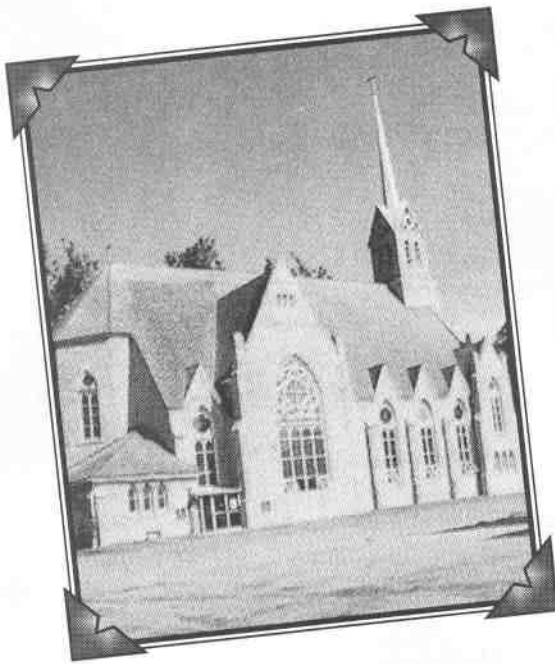
Founded: 1882

Founding Pastor: Father William de la Porte

Number of Households: 2,883

Current Pastor: Father Martin M. Gabel

Mission Statement: Is the Gospel being preached?
Is the Gospel being lived?



St. Rose Parish

603 S. Main St.
Wilmington, IL 60481

Founded: 1844

Founding Pastor: Father Hyacinth Inthout

Number of Households: 800

Current Pastor: Father Frank Vitus

Mission Statement: The mission of St. Rose Parish shall be proclamation, community, service and celebration. St. Rose is proud of its past, a history of struggle and achievement and looking forward with eagerness to the future of the parish and the school. Our achievements are the result of hard-working parishioners who sincerely believe that nurturing and strengthening their faith is the most important goal in life.

St. John the Baptist Parish

233 Church St.
Winfield, IL 60190-1291

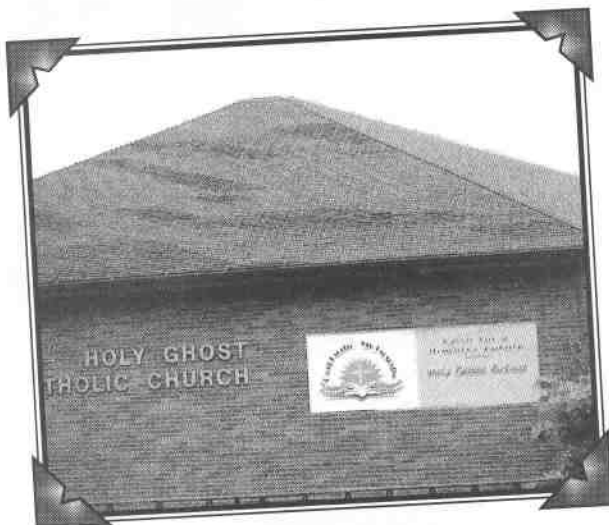
Founded: 1867

Founding Pastor: Father Corbinian

Number of Households: 2,720

Current Pastor: Father Guy J. Vaccaro

Mission Statement: We, the people of St. John the Baptist Catholic Parish, are called by God to encounter His Son, Christ, in word, sacrament, service and community.



Holy Ghost Parish

254 N. Wood Dale Road
Wood Dale, IL 60191-1912

Founded: 1946

Founding Pastor: Father Joseph E. Wagner

Number of Households: 1,655

Current Pastor: Father Kevin R. Farrell

Mission Statement: Holy Ghost Parish sees itself as that group of people who are united by their common bond of faith in Jesus Christ and who find their common spiritual home to be the church of the Holy Ghost. Through the riches of the Catholic present and the riches of the Catholic past, this family of Jesus Christ attempts to discover the meaning and purpose of life.



St. Scholastica Parish

7800 Janes Ave.
Woodridge, IL 60517

Founded: 1962

Founding Pastor: Father John Kloepper

Number of Households: 2,491

Current Pastor: Father Gerald Riva

Mission Statement: St. Scholastica is a sacramental community whose members share a sense of welcome and belonging. Its members have been called in baptism and through the Holy Spirit to be disciples of Jesus in service. This community of believers provides opportunities for spiritual growth and religious education. As a parish we are committed to support and nurture those in need.

St. Patrick Mission

Bristol

406 Walnut St.
Yorkville, IL 60560

Founded: 1884

Founding Pastor: Father L. A. Erhard

Number of Households: 700

Current Pastor: Father Jerome Zalonis, MIC

Mission Statement: First and foremost to proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ. This includes teaching, preaching and informing the members of the parish in order that the message of Jesus may be lived. To build the community into a group giving witness to unity and love. As an ecumenical body, the entire local community is a responsibility of the parish and its registered members. To meet the immediate needs of people as well as to work to change the structure of society that keeps people needy. The parish must be of Christian service to its members and local community. To celebrate the realities of our faith. Our call to celebrate means working to make the liturgy, particularly the Eucharist, truly joyful and meaningful.



Retirement Communities

Nursing and Special Care Facilities

Merkle-Knipprath Long Term Health Care Facility

1190 E. 2900 North Road
Clifton, IL 60927

Director: Brother Damian De Braekeleer, OSF

Queen of Peace Center

1910 Maple
Lisle, IL 60532

Director: Sister Judith Ann Heble, OSB

St. James Manor

1251 E. Richton Road
Crete, IL 60417

Director: Diane Strutzynski

Good Shepherd Manor

P. O. Box 260
Momence, IL 60954

Director: Dr. James Czerwionka

Carmelite Carefree Village

8419 Bailey Road
Darien, IL 60561

Director: Father Roy Ontiveros, OCarm

St. John Vianney Villa

1464 Green Trails Dr.
Naperville, IL 60540

St. Patrick Residence

1400 Brookdale Road
Naperville, IL 60540

Director: Sister Anthony de Lourdes Veilleux,
OCarm

Villa Franciscan

210 N. Springfield
Joliet, IL 60435

Director: Cheryl Stout

Mayslake Village

1801 35th St.
Oak Brook, IL 60523

Director: Michael Frigo

Our Lady of Angels Home

1201 Wyoming Ave.
Joliet, IL 60435

Director: Sister Phyllis Pitz, OSF

Marian Park

2126 W. Roosevelt Road
Wheaton, IL 60187

Director: Lori Volpenstesta

St. Elizabeth Home

704 W. Marion St.
Joliet, IL 60436

Director: Sister Ellen Thomas, RC

National Shrine

St. Therese of Lisieux

Darien



The National Shrine of St. Therese, on the spacious grounds of Aylesford Priory, welcomes thousands of pilgrims each year since its founding in 1987, according to Father Robert Colaresi, OCarm, director. The original shrine, located at St. Clara's Church in the Woodlawn section of Chicago, was destroyed by fire in 1975.

A beautiful, life-sized statue of St. Therese, the beloved Little Flower to millions of devotees around the world, welcomes visitors to the National Shrine. The statue was salvaged from the original shrine in Chicago and is a focal point in this peaceful and prayerful place of pilgrimage.

"The shrine is home to the most wonderful collection of relics, personal effects and memorabilia of St. Therese outside of France," explained Father Colaresi. "Visitors are fascinated by viewing actual drawings of the young Therese, her toys, her prayerbook and especially the chair from St. Therese's cell in the convent in Lisieux, France."

Delightful photos of St. Therese, taken by her sister Celine, along with an original portrait, offer pilgrims a visual record of the short life of St. Therese. She is the first saint whose life is documented in photographs.

"Perhaps it is the beauty and majesty of the St. Therese Chapel that most captivates visitors," added Father Colaresi. "The chapel seems to glow with light and color as sunlight filters through the stained glass windows. A story of a soul's journey to God is told in these windows and many pilgrims reflect, pray and find peace here."

In addition, visitors find the great men and women of the Carmelite order—Simon Stock, Teresa of Avila, Edith Stein, Titus Brandsma and John of the Cross—illuminated in these windows and experience the rich heritage of Carmelite spirituality which permeates the chapel.

Covering the entire north wall of the chapel is the largest religious wood-carving in the U.S. Hand carved in Italy of lindenwood, it is an inspiring sight depicting the major events in the life of St. Therese. Beneath the carving is an antique reliquary made in France containing five first-class relics of St. Therese.

Also, the National Shrine houses an unusual collection of statues of Our Lady of Mount Carmel from around the world. The collection highlights Mary, the Mother of Jesus, in a variety of cultures. A beautiful collection of rosaries is artfully displayed in another area.

Visitors are welcome every day from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Mass is celebrated Monday through Friday at 11:30 a.m. For information, call (630) 969-3311, or on the Internet at www.saint-therese.org.

Provincialates & Motherhouses

Benedictine Sisters of the Sacred Heart

The Benedictine Sisters of the Sacred Heart were founded in 1895 in Chicago by Mother Nepomucene Jaeger. In 1912 they moved to Lisle. At the present time the community has 50 members. The Prioress is Sister Judith Ann Heble, OSB.

1910 Maple Ave.
Lisle, IL 60532-2184

Mission Statement: The Corporate Mission of the Benedictine Sisters of the Sacred Heart is HOSPITALITY. Directed by the Gospel and the spirit of the Rule of St. Benedict, the mission is based on a commitment to use time, talent and resources of the community for those in need.



Loretto Convent

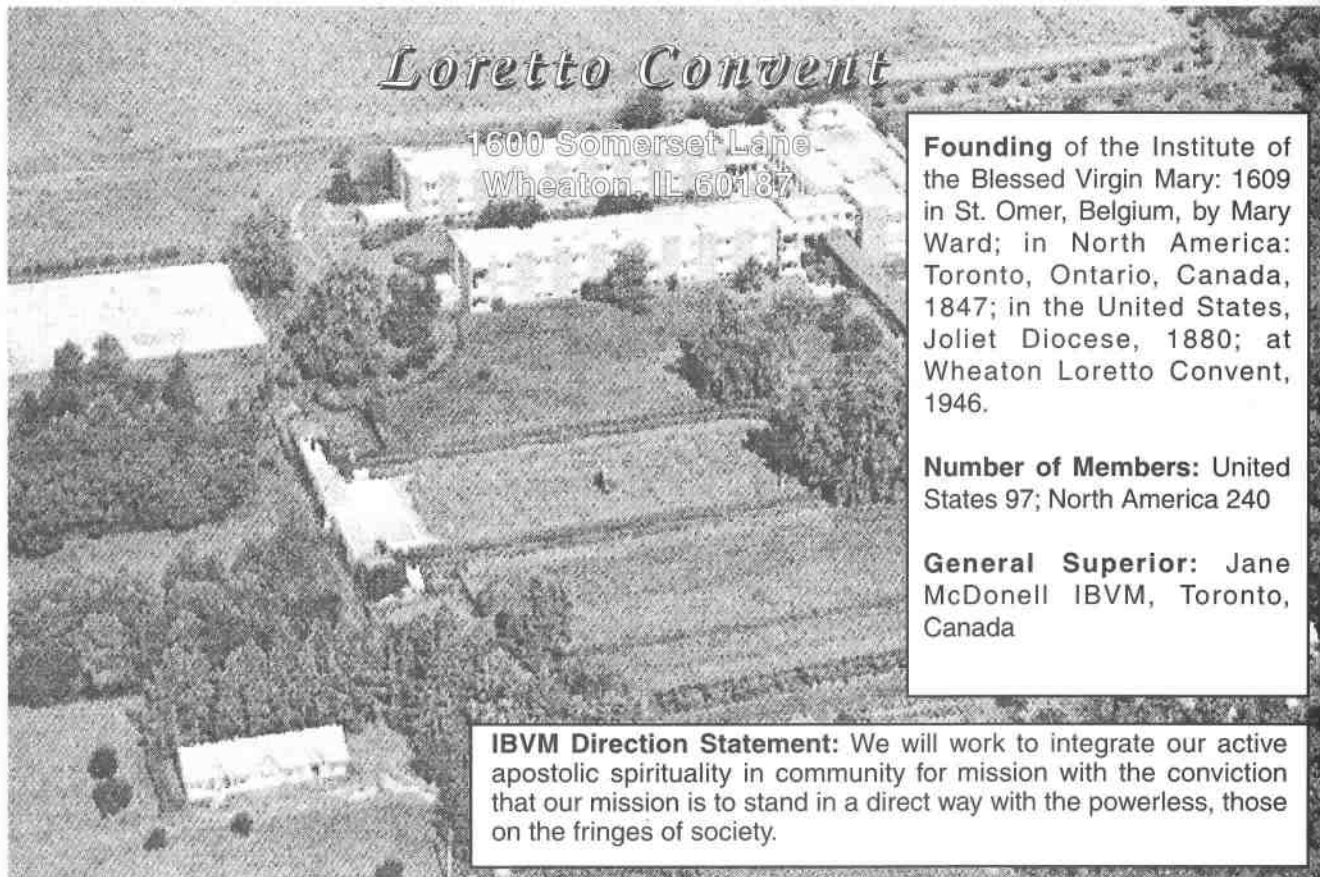
1600 Somerset Lane
Wheaton, IL 60187

Founding of the Institute of the Blessed Virgin Mary: 1609 in St. Omer, Belgium, by Mary Ward; in North America: Toronto, Ontario, Canada, 1847; in the United States, Joliet Diocese, 1880; at Wheaton Loretto Convent, 1946.

Number of Members: United States 97; North America 240

General Superior: Jane McDonnell IBVM, Toronto, Canada

IBVM Direction Statement: We will work to integrate our active apostolic spirituality in community for mission with the conviction that our mission is to stand in a direct way with the powerless, those on the fringes of society.

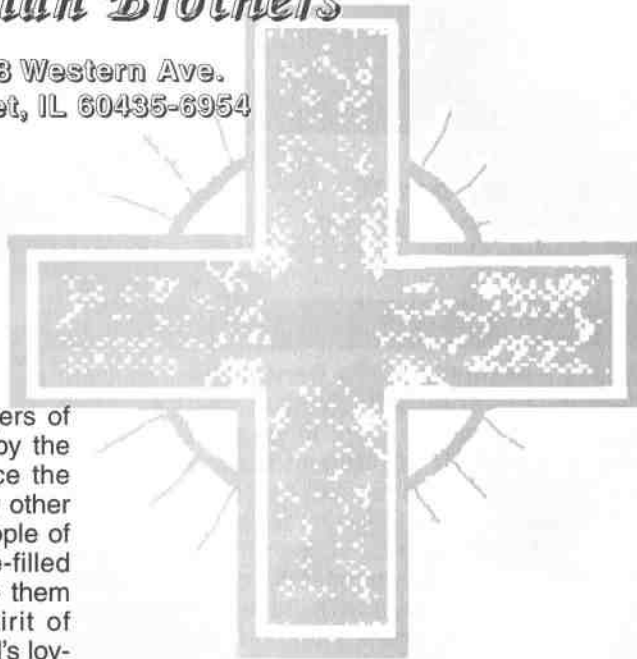


Brother Rice Province Christian Brothers

958 Western Ave.
Joliet, IL 60435-6954

Founded: 1802
Founder: Blessed Edmund Rice
Number: 96 Brothers
Providence Leader:
Brother Charles Joseph Gattone, CFC

Mission Statement: We, the Christian Brothers of the Brother Rice Province, gifted and called by the Spirit to consecrated Brotherhood, experience the deep presence of Christ in ourselves, in each other and in those we serve. We are sent to the people of God, so that by our joy-filled lives and hope-filled ministries, particularly education, we may help them discover God's loving presence. In the spirit of Edmund Rice, we are called to be signs of God's loving compassion for today's youth, especially the poor.



Congregation of the Third Order of St. Francis of Mary Immaculate

St. Francis Convent
520 Plainfield Road
Joliet, IL 60435-6191

Founded: 1865
Founder: Mother Alfred Moes and Father Pamfilo da Magliano in accord with the Rule of the Third Order Regular of St. Francis.
Current President: Sister Mary Jean Morris, OSF
Number: 324 Professed Sisters; 7 Temporary Professed Sisters; 2 Novices; 3 Affiliates

Mission Statement: Created in the image of God, we are women. Baptized and consecrated in the name of Jesus, we are Christians. Gifted in the power of the Holy Spirit, we are ministers. Formed in the charism of Francis and responding to the challenge of Mother Alfred Moes, we are Sisters of St. Francis of Mary Immaculate. Imitating the example of Mary, we conceive the Word of God in our minds and hearts so that the action of our lives may proclaim to all people, especially the poor and the powerless, that God's promise of peace and justice will be fulfilled. Sharing the vision of Francis and Clare of Assisi and their followers, we seek to discern the will of God as it is revealed to us in the realities and possibilities which exist within our world and our church. As ecclesial women religious following an evangelical form of life, we are committed by vow to bear faithful witness through prayer, community and ministry to the love of God working in us and among us. We embrace ongoing conversion as we unite with all women and men who respond to the call of discipleship. We serve as sisters, teachers, healers, peacemakers and prophets. We accept the responsibility of being advocates of God's poor. Mindful of our present, past and future, we commit ourselves to Jesus and to Gospel values as we continue to discover that where our treasure is, there our heart will be.



St. Procopius Abbey

5601 College Road
Lisle, IL 60532

Founded: 1885
Number of Members: 56
Current Abbot: Rt. Rev. Hugh
R. Anderson, OSB

Mission Statement: We Benedictines of Saint Procopius Abbey believe that we are called together by the Holy Spirit to be a Christian faith community within the Roman Catholic tradition. We strive to live the Gospel message according to the Rule of Saint Benedict under the guidance of our abbot in this post-Vatican II era. This effort sometimes involves struggle and conflict. Grateful to God for our heritage as a Benedictine community, we attempt to share the good news of salvation by our service to God and to his people mainly in the proximity of the monastery. As we witness to the future realization of God's Kingdom, we encourage one another to grow in holiness that in all things God may be glorified.



Wheaton Franciscan Sisters

P. O. Box 667
26 W 171 Roosevelt Road
Wheaton, IL 60189

Founded: In USA 1877
In Wheaton 1947
Number of members: 126
Current Head: Sister Mary
Ellen McAleese, OSF
Provincial Directress

Mission Statement: In the spirit of Francis of Assisi and our foundress Clara Pfander, the mission of the Wheaton Franciscans is to live the Gospel life, discovered in prayer and in community. Through loving presence and service, we foster personal and community growth as we respond to the needs of the church and the times.

Brothers of the Christian Schools

(De La Salle Christian Brothers)
Midwest Province Office
200 S. Frontage Road, Suite 300
Burr Ridge, IL 60521-6953

Founded: 1781

Members: 236 members in the Midwest Province

Current Provincial:

Brother Thomas Johnson, FSC

Charism: The purpose of this Institute is to give a human and Christian education to the young, especially the poor.

Mission Statement: We are Lasallian ministers, called together in association to serve and empower God's people and one another through the educational mission of the church. We are men and women, young and old, Christian Brothers and colleagues exercising our shared ministry in faith and zeal. Together we stand—open to the Spirit, rooted in the Gospel, enriched by our traditions, preferentially committed to the poor. Together we enthusiastically create a new district and forge a common future as Christian educators.

Franciscan Sisters of the Sacred Heart

St. Francis Convent
9201 W. St. Francis Road
Frankfort, IL 60423-8335

Founded:

1866 in Germany
1876 in the United States

Members: 147 Perpetually Professed; 2 Temporarily Professed; 4 Novices; 1 Candidate

Current Head: Sister Karen Marie Lanigan, OSF

Mission Statement: We, the Franciscan Sisters of the Sacred Heart, are called by God to live the Gospel life after the manner of Francis of Assisi as women religious, faithful to the Roman Catholic Church. Relying upon Divine Providence and with love as the foundation of all we are, we incarnate the presence of Jesus—a sign of hope. We joyfully embrace our vowed life in community, which is sustained by our personal and communal prayer and sisterly love. In Christ Jesus, we treasure each sister. We hold precious our Franciscan values of poverty, humility, contemplation and continual conversion. In the spirit and vision of our founders and in solidarity with all who work to bring about the Kingdom of God, we respond in a prophetic way to the needs of others through our ministries of education, healing and service. Empowered by the Spirit, we are creating the future.

Vision Statement: As Franciscan Women Religious, we attend to and are faithful to God's continuous creative action in our lives through contemplation and faith sharing. We respond radically to the Gospel way of life through bonded community living and works of neighborly love.

Servants of Mary-Mantellate Sisters

16949 So. Drauden Road
Plainfield, IL 60544



The Mantellate Sisters Servants of Mary is a branch of the Servite Order. The Servants of Mary were founded by seven holy men in the city of Florence, Italy, in 1233. The women members of the order were founded in the 13th century by St. Juliana Falconieri, a niece of one of the seven men. This particular congregation was formed by Sister Filomena Rossi and Giovanna Ferrari in Treppio, Italy, in the year 1861. Their charism, like that of the Virgin Mary, is to be available to the needs of the People of God.

Present apostolates include: teaching, retreat work, parish ministry, social work, nursing, homes for the aged and foreign missions.

The Community of Plainfield was started in 1966. The Delegation was established in June 1977 by Mother Claudina Barni, Superior General and Council.

The present convent was built in 1981 with the assistance of Mother Maria Burattini, Superior General and Council.

Institutions for Higher Education



University of St. Francis

500 Wilcox St.
Joliet, IL 60435

Founded: 1920
Number Enrolled: 4,300+
Current Director:
James A. Doppke, President

The University of St. Francis serves students at locations throughout the nation. It is a comprehensive institution offering more than 60 areas of undergraduate studies along with six graduate programs. The university's commitment to providing educational opportunities to meet student needs has recently been extended to include online education: the university now offers its entire MBA program as well as the full program for the bachelor of science in Health Arts online. This means that any place and any time a student has access to the Internet, he or she can take an MBA or Health Arts course from the University of St. Francis. The university has been a leader in providing distance education, especially for health professionals, since 1971, and is rapidly developing a leadership position in this new delivery system for distance learning. In recognition of the university's leadership in this area, USF has been asked to work with the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools to develop a model to evaluate distance learning programs for all NCA-accredited institutions. The university's MBA program and bachelor of science program in Health Arts are offered online through the Internet as well as in a traditional format. The University of St. Francis is a national leader in providing educational opportunities to healthcare professionals. Its bachelor of science in Health Arts and master of science in Health Services Administration degree programs are offered at locations in 18 states.

Benedictine University



5700 College Road
Lisle, IL 60532-0900

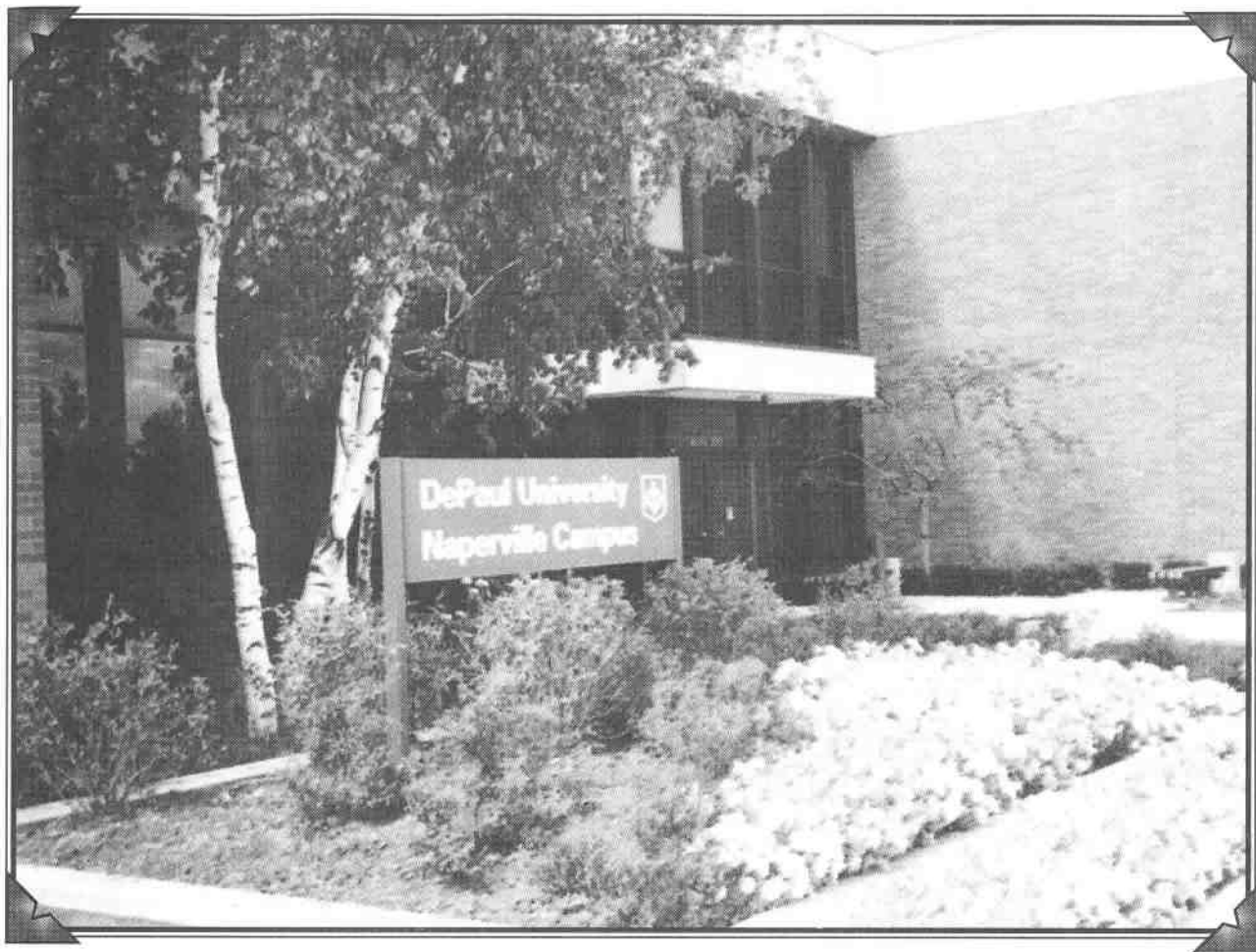
Founded: 1887

Number Enrolled: 1,700 Undergraduate students
1,000 Graduate and adult students

Current Director: William J. Carroll, President

Benedictine University dedicates itself to the education of undergraduate and graduate students from diverse ethnic, racial and religious backgrounds. As an academic community committed to liberal arts and professional education, distinguished and guided by its Roman Catholic tradition and Benedictine heritage, the university prepares its students for a lifetime as active, informed and responsible citizens and leaders in the world community.

DePaul University—Naperville Campus



150 W. Warrenville Road
Naperville, IL 60563

Founded: 1997
Number Enrolled: 2,000
Current Director: William A. Calzaretta

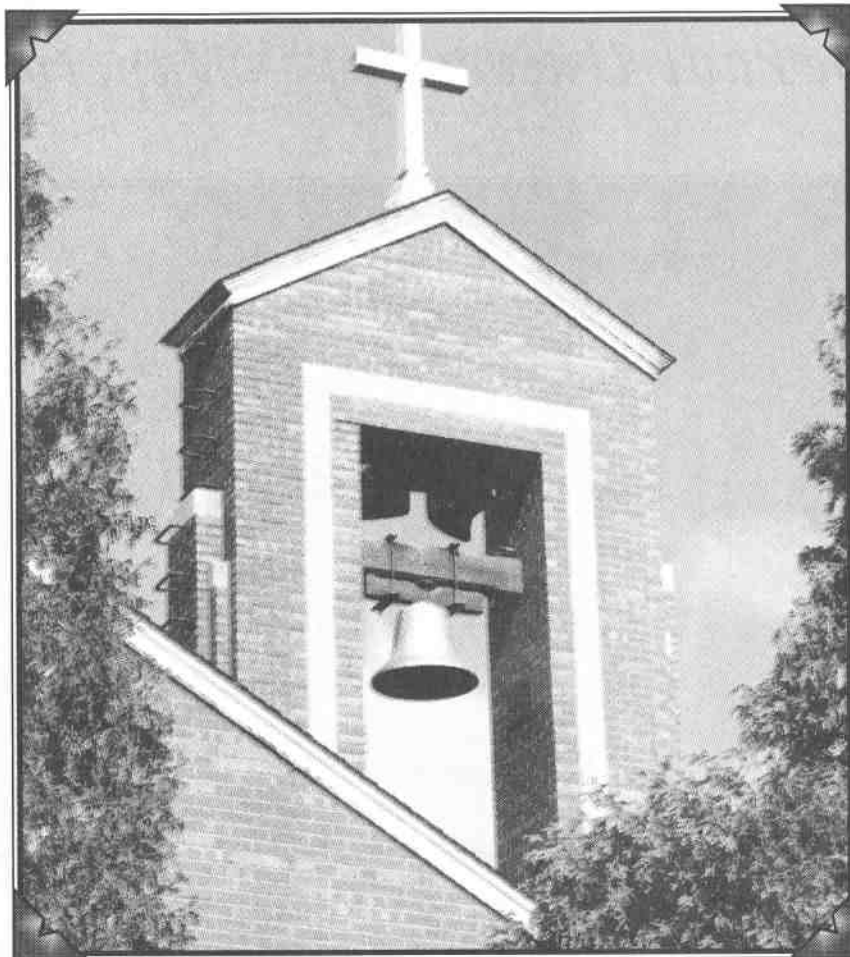
Mission Statement: DePaul is committed to reaching out to individuals from a broad range of cultural backgrounds, especially first-generation and non-traditional students. Inspired by the life of St. Vincent de Paul, the university has a distinctive mission: to foster through higher education a deep respect for the God-given dignity of all people, especially the materially, culturally and spiritually deprived, and to instill in its students a dedication to the service of others.

DePaul offers programs and services where you want them...close to home and work. The four suburban campuses are a vital part of the university that strives to be the premier provider of education to part-time adult students.

Lewis University

Route 53
Romeoville, IL
60446-2298

Founded: 1932
Number Enrolled: 4,077
Current Director:
Brother James Gaffney, FSC,
President



Now the 12th largest among private colleges and universities in Illinois, Lewis University has grown from a small aeronautical technical high school for boys into a dynamic, coeducational, comprehensive Catholic university with a richly diverse student body, including traditional-aged students as well as adults of all ages who attend classes at the main campus in Romeoville and at sites throughout the Chicagoland area.

Founded in 1932 by the Archdiocese of Chicago, under the direction of Bishop Bernard J. Sheil, Lewis began as the Holy Name Technical School, but was renamed to honor Frank J. Lewis, a noted Catholic philanthropist who took an active interest in the school. Aviation technology courses became the special emphasis of instruction and an airport was built next to the campus by faculty and students. During World War II, the campus was given over to the U.S. Navy for its flight instructors program. After the war, Lewis was reorganized as a junior college and developed quickly into a four year college.

The Diocese of Joliet assumed responsibility for the school after its founding and, in 1960, Bishop Martin McNamara asked the Brothers of the Christian Schools to sponsor Lewis. As members of a 300-year-old religious congregation devoted exclusively to teaching, the Christian Brothers brought to Lewis a new tradition of Lasallian values, based on the teachings of St. John Baptist de La Salle, their founder.

Inspired by this new leadership, Lewis has grown steadily, achieving accreditation from the North Central Association in 1963 and becoming a university in 1973. In the past 10 years, the campus has been completely renovated in preparation for the new century. Lewis now offers bachelor's degrees in more than 50 majors; master's degrees in business administration, counseling psychology, criminal/social justice, education, leadership studies, nursing and school counseling and guidance. Accelerated degree completion programs for working adults are offered in business, computer network administration, aviation maintenance administration, social and community studies and nursing.

Class sizes are small, assuring personalized attention for each student. The student/faculty ratio of 15:1 allows plenty of interaction in the classroom. Caring, professional faculty and staff assist students in reaching their career goals. At Lewis, we take your education personally.

Mission Statement: Lewis University, guided by its Catholic and Lasallian heritage, provides to a diverse student population programs for a liberal and professional education grounded in the interaction of knowledge and fidelity in the search for truth. Lewis promotes the development of the complete person through the pursuit of wisdom and justice. Fundamental to its Mission is a spirit of association which fosters community in all teaching, learning and service.

Joliet Diocesan High Schools



Driscoll Catholic High School

555 N. Lombard Road
Addison, IL 60101

Founded:

1966 by De LaSalle Christian Brothers and the
School Sisters of St. Francis

Number Enrolled: 492

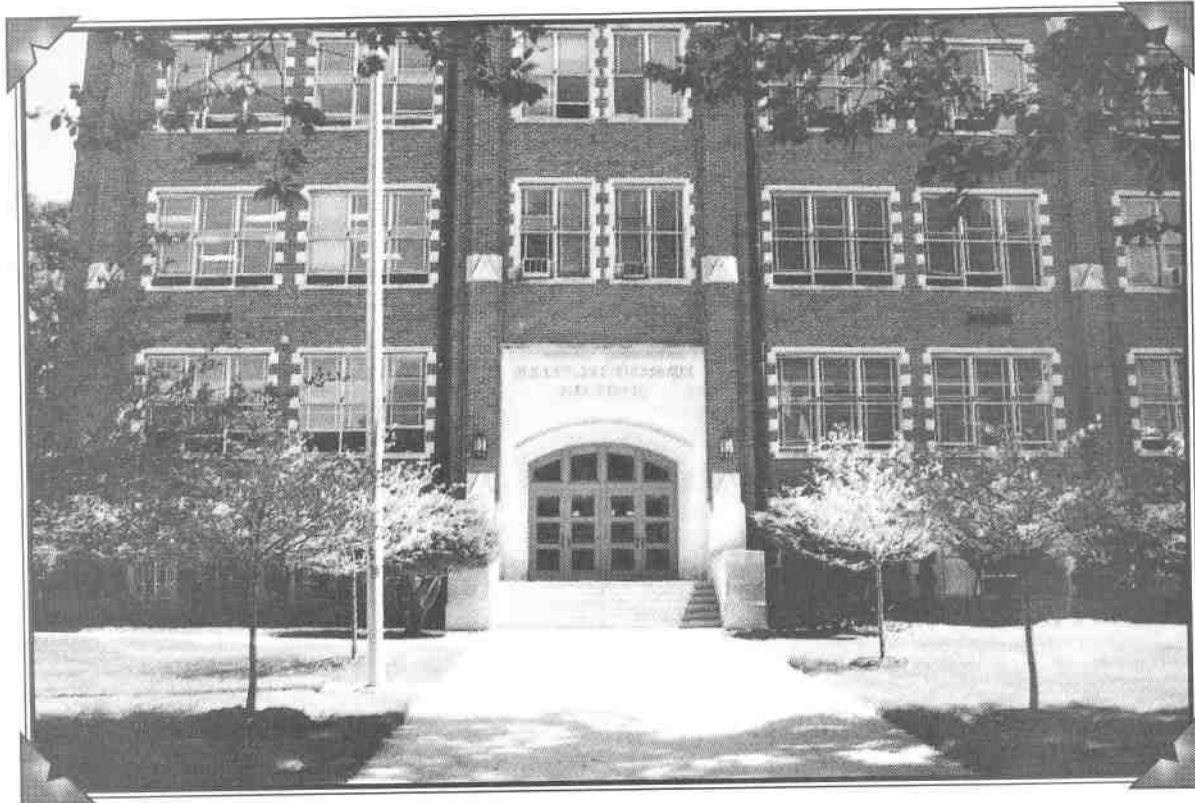
Current Director:

Brother Thomas Hetland, FSC, President
Stephen Marth, Principal

Mission Statement: The mission of Driscoll Catholic High School is to provide a quality, college-preparatory education in the Lasallian tradition, and to help students to develop skills necessary to lead happy, productive and satisfying lives. Driscoll Catholic High School is committed to the intellectual, religious and social development of each of its students.

In addition, the Driscoll teachers strive to help each student to become aware of his or her talents and to accept the responsibility to use these gifts to serve humanity now and in the future. Driscoll Catholic is dedicated to ministering to the student's personal and educational needs and to the attainment of success for each student. It is this value and educational-centered program which Driscoll Catholic offers to its nearby communities.

Immaculate Conception High School



217 Cottage Hill Ave.
Elmhurst, IL 60126

Founded: 1936
Number Enrolled: 236
Current Director: Sister Maureen Field, IHM,
Principal

Mission Statement: The mission of Immaculate Conception High School is to educate and support the development of the whole person. In the Catholic tradition, students will strive for excellence in the spiritual, academic, physical and social domains for the 21st century.

Immaculate Conception High School is the oldest Catholic, co-educational college preparatory school in DuPage County. For over 50 years it has fulfilled the dream of its founder, Msgr. William J. Plunkett, "to educate the whole person"—in body, mind and spirit. It is a school rich in tradition, yet anticipating and preparing for the 21st century.

As a regional high school serving students from over 30 communities, IC provides a rigorous college-preparatory curriculum which allows each student to become an independent and self-sufficient learner in today's world.

We share our faith in a school community dedicated to Catholic principles and teachings. The IC experience provides our students with a firm basis to deal successfully with their futures and the challenges they will encounter. Students are involved in liturgical celebrations, Christian service and theological study. Annual student retreats encourage and foster a closeness among classmates and help to prepare them for their roles as leaders in a complex world.

Immaculate Conception High School offers individualized attention to meet the needs and demands of each student. Challenging academic programs, including honors and advanced college placement courses, prepare the IC student for the rigors of college life. The college-preparatory curriculum is a strong blend of the liberal arts and sciences. Creating the academic foundation is a dedicated and nurturing faculty. With a student-to-teacher ratio of 16 to 1, faculty members can offer students the care and attention that is unique to IC.

Over 97 percent of IC graduates are admitted to the college or university of their choice. Many are recognized by the State of Illinois Scholars Program and the National Merit Scholarship Program. Historically, about 25 percent of IC students receive college scholarships. And, over the past 10 years, more than 50 percent of IC graduates have continued their education with post graduate studies.

IC continues to enhance the resources available to aid in the education of its students. One such example is the new state-of-the-art computer center featuring the latest in hardware and Windows-based software. This facility will supply not only computer classroom technology, but the future needs of all subject areas.

Joliet Catholic Academy



1200 N. Larkin Ave.
Joliet, IL 60435

Founded: 1990

Number Enrolled: 800

Current Director:

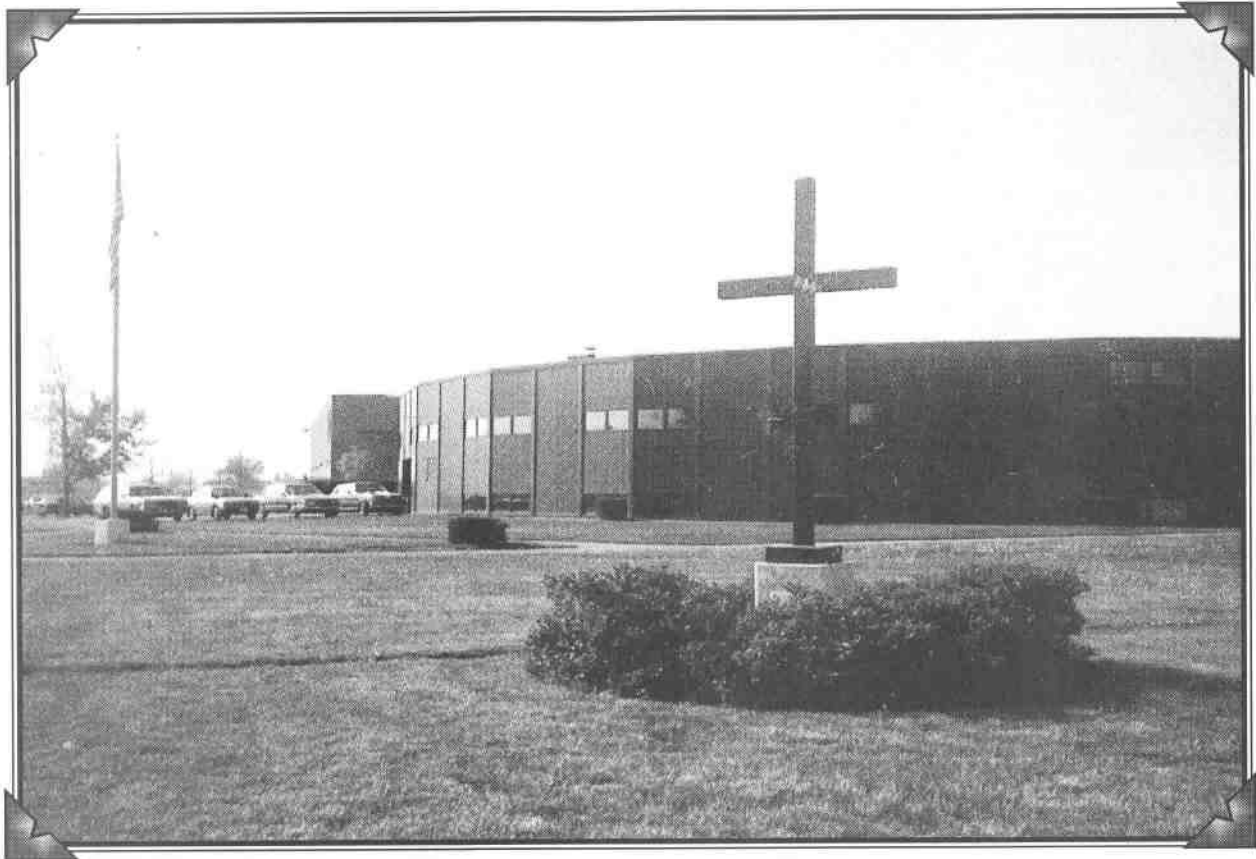
Sister Faith Szambelanczyk, OSF, President

Father Tim Andres, OCarm, Principal

Joliet Catholic Academy is a Catholic, secondary (grades 9-12), co-educational school. It was "born" in 1990 as the result of a merger between St. Francis Academy (founded in 1869) and Joliet Catholic High School (founded in 1933). Over the past eight years, Joliet Catholic Academy's enrollment has strongly and steadily grown to 800 students. They are guided and directed by President Sister Faith Szambelanczyk, OSF, and Principal Father Tim Andres, OCarm.

Joliet Catholic Academy exists to call forth, challenge and guide its young people to become leaders who will make a difference in their churches, communities and society in whole. The pursuit of excellence, reflecting the Carmelite and Franciscan spirit, is the foundation of JCA's holistic approach to education. JCA provides an educational environment that consistently helps students to achieve their maximum potential.

Bishop McNamara High School



550 West Brookmont Blvd.
Kankakee, IL 60901

Founded: 1922

Number Enrolled: 530

Current Director: Rev. Christopher K. Howe, OSA, Principal

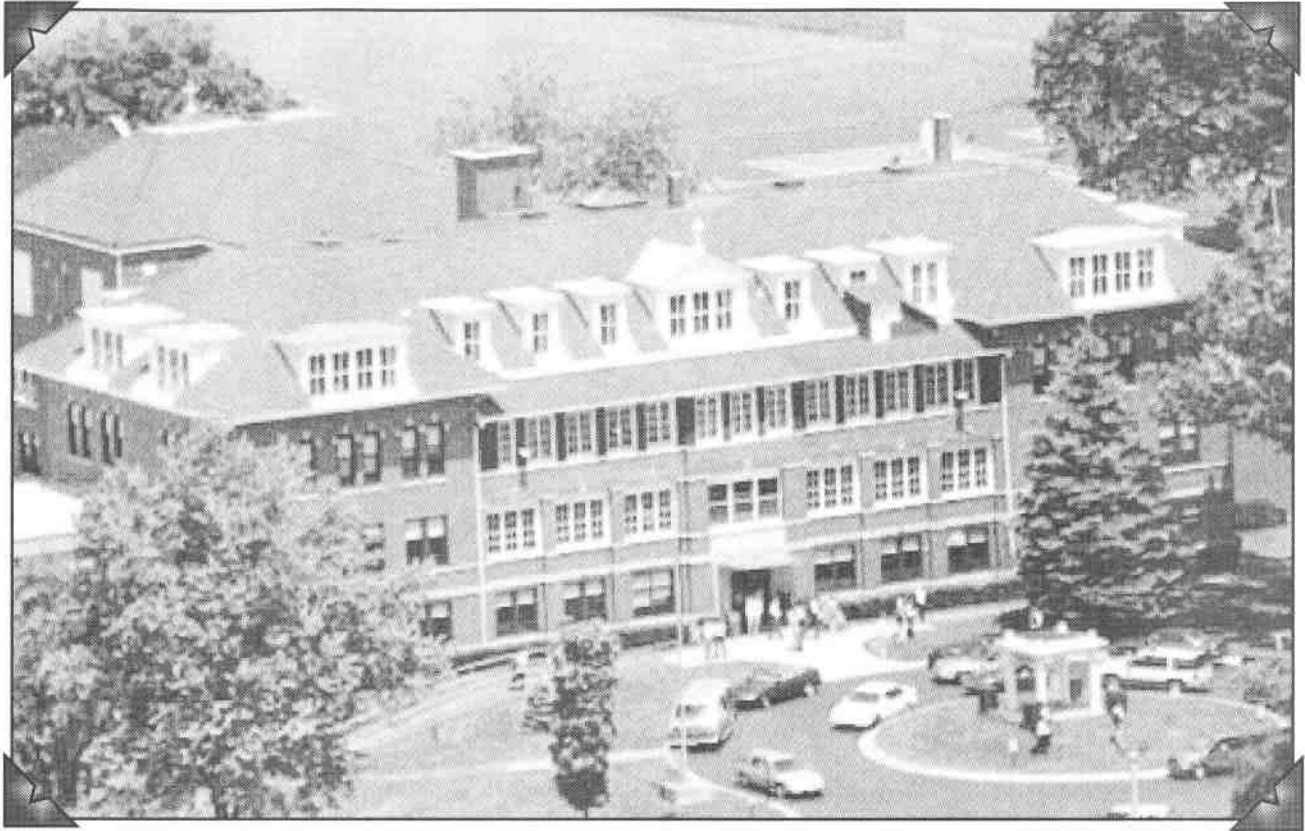
St. Patrick High School was founded in the year 1922 by Rev. Henry M. Shea, CSV, then pastor of St. Patrick Parish in Kankakee. The first graduating class was in 1925, made up of all commercial students. In 1926, the first classical (academic) class graduated. St. Patrick High School was recognized by the state of Illinois in 1928. The Clerics of St. Viator and the Sisters of Loretto at the Foot of the Cross educated children at the school on Hickory Street in Kankakee.

In February 1956, the school moved to the new, modern, round glass facility on Brookmont Boulevard. No longer a parish school, the name was changed to St. Patrick Central and served students from 16 parishes in the Kankakee area. The Clerics of St. Viator and the Sisters of Loretto at the Foot of the Cross continued to educate children at this new facility.

In 1964, construction began on a new wing and gymnasium. In the 1964-65 school year, the Sisters of the Congregation of Notre Dame, along with the girls from St. Joseph Seminary, joined our students and the school's name was changed to Bishop McNamara High School, in honor of the first bishop of the Joliet Diocese who had been instrumental in the new school's development. At this time the school was "co-institutional," with boys and girls attending separate classes; within a few years the school became co-educational, which it continues to be today. The Clerics of St. Viator directed the school until 1980; a lay board assumed directorship from 1980 to 1990.

Since 1990, the Order of St. Augustine has administered the school. Our mission statement says, "We are dedicated to maximizing the potential of our students, spiritually, morally and intellectually through a community of love." Bishop McNamara High School exists primarily to serve the Catholic Christian Community of the Kankakee area while welcoming students from all faiths.

Benet Academy



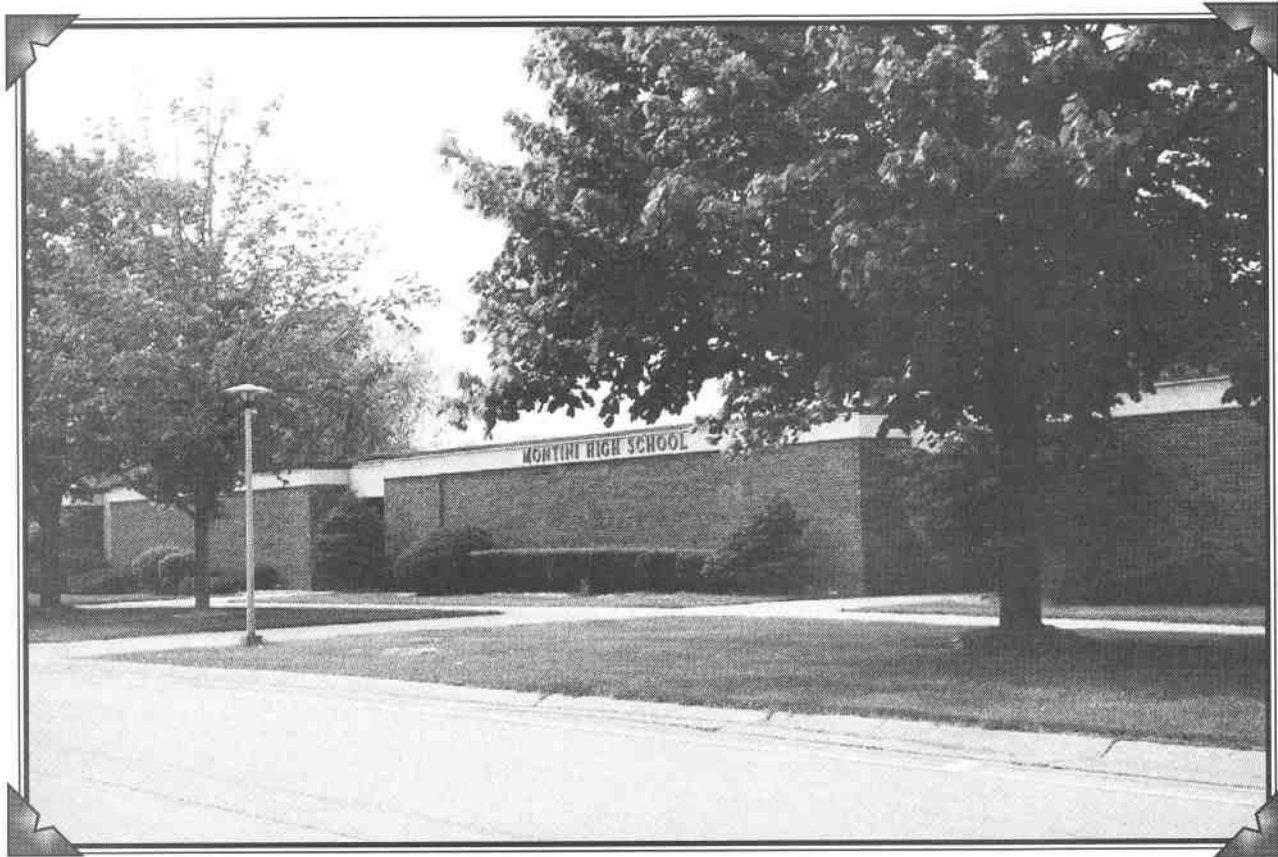
2200 Maple Ave.
Lisle, IL 60532

Founded: 1887
Number Enrolled: 1,262
Current Director: Father Jude Randall, OSB, President
Ernie Stark, Principal

Mission Statement: Benet Academy is a Catholic, Benedictine, college-preparatory high school established by the monks of St. Procopius Abbey in 1887. Benet Academy's mission is to provide a disciplined, educational environment that fosters the on-going religious, intellectual and social development of all members of the Benet family. The 1,500 year influence of the Benedictines, represented by the Sisters of Sacred Heart Monastery and by the monks of St. Procopius Abbey, encourages an atmosphere of prayer, work and stability. Benet provides religious instruction and opportunities for prayer and reflection that nurture the faith life of the faculty as well as the faith life of our young men and women so that they can respond to God's call to lead lives of loving service as young people and as adults. A devoted and demanding staff offers the support and attention necessary for academic excellence and distinction. In addition, Benet Academy's wide range of extracurricular activities seeks to develop the social and personal skills of each student.

History: Benet Academy, then known as St. Procopius Academy, was established in 1887 by the Benedictine Monks. For 111 years, Benet Academy has maintained its Benedictine and Catholic identity. Our students grow in their faith through the opportunities afforded them to worship, reflect on God's word, pray, engage in Christian service and study the Christian faith in the context of the Catholic and Benedictine tradition.

Montini Catholic High School



19 W 070 16th St.
Lombard, IL 60148-4797

Founded: 1966
Number Enrolled: 580
Current Director: Brother Thomas Harding, FSC, President
James F. Segredo, Principal

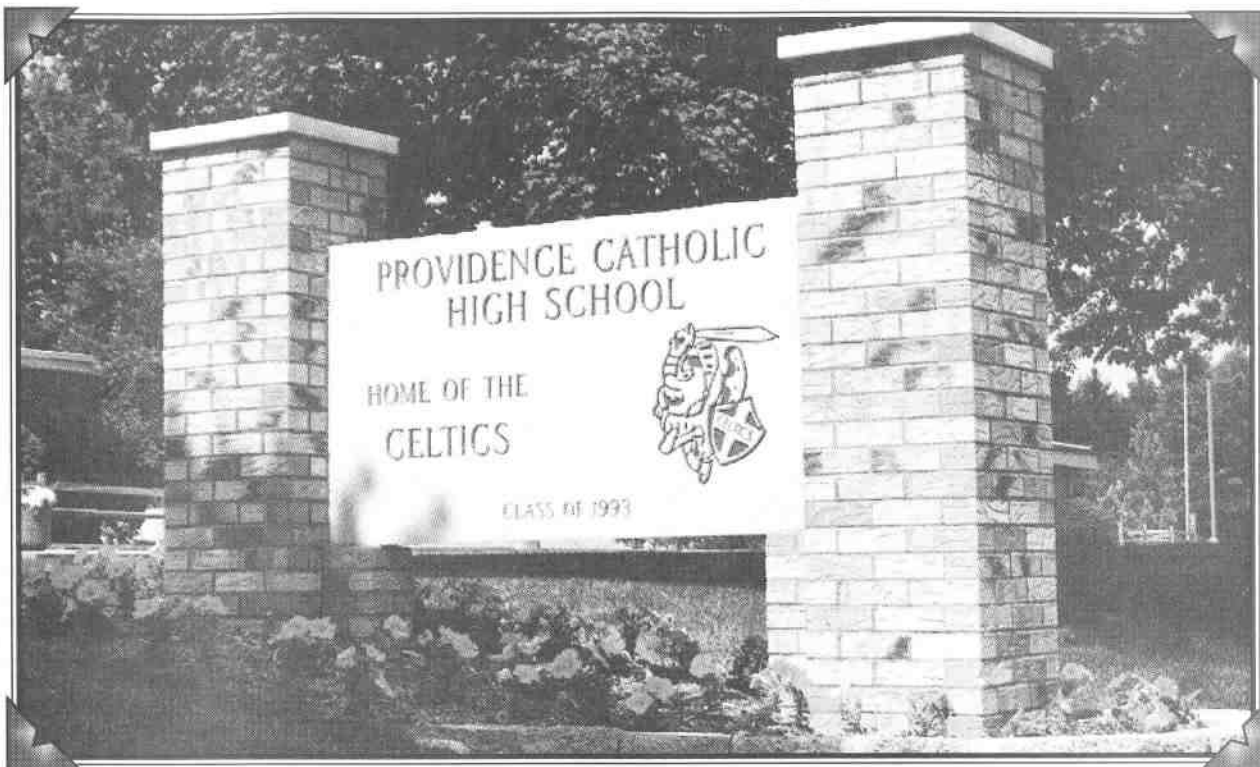
Mission Statement: Montini Catholic High School will provide the environment to achieve a quality, Catholic, family-centered education for each of its students that provides a foundation for lifelong learning. Each student is encouraged and is expected to participate in a creative, holistic, educational setting that will emphasize message, service and responsibility to community, church and family.

The mission of Montini Catholic High School is to present the message of salvation proclaimed by our Lord Jesus Christ. Montini is a Roman Catholic, co-educational, secondary school offering college preparatory and general secondary education to the young people of Chicago's western suburbs. The Brothers of the Christian Schools sponsor and manage the school in association with lay men and women, religious and clergy. In accordance with the Christian Brothers' presence, the following characteristic elements are given priority: Attention to persons; Special concern for the poor; Commitment to excellence; Creative education for a variety of ability levels; Religious instruction and pastoral service; Promotion of justice and peace; Faith-filled and zealous teachers working in association.

Montini's programs attempt to challenge and encourage the spiritual, intellectual, personal, cultural, social and physical development of each student. To this end, Montini endeavors: To provide an orderly learning environment which encourages serious pursuit of learning and achievement; To promote cultural activities, leading to aesthetic appreciation; To offer occasions for application of social amenities; To promote activities which lead to physical well-being.

Ultimately, Montini's purpose is the development of the total person: an informed and committed Catholic; an active citizen of the community, country and world; and a physically healthy person.

Providence Catholic High School



1800 W. Lincoln Highway
New Lenox, IL 60451

Founded: 1918

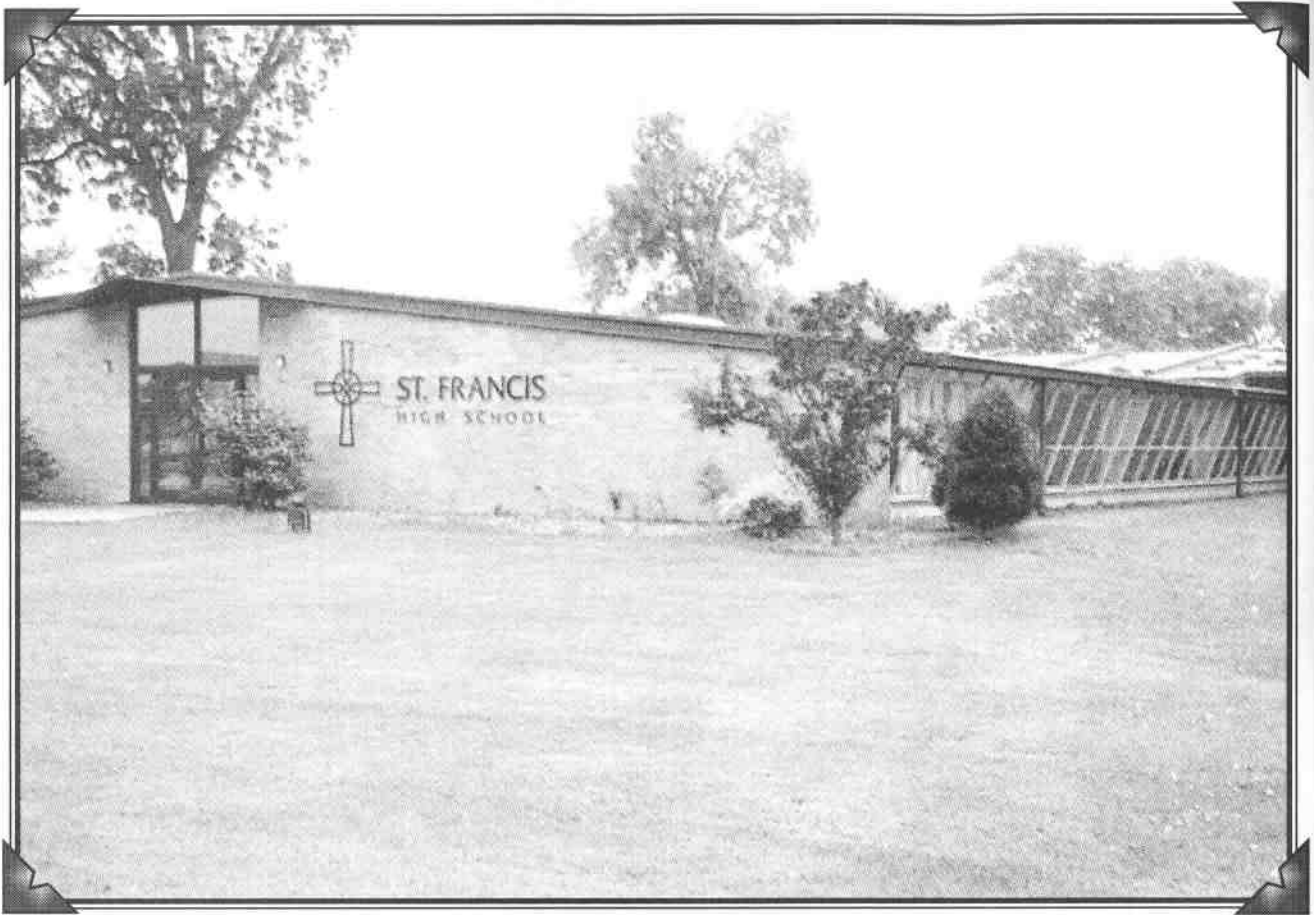
Number Enrolled: 1,196

Current Director: Father Richard McGrath, OSA, President

Mission Statement: We are a Prayerful community of believers, striving to be one mind, one heart in God. We live and teach the Gospel of Jesus with a strong sense of family. Together we worship, celebrate, learn and share our faith in Christ as the source of our love, compassion and strength. College preparatory school. We enhance the lives of our young people through a focused curriculum which develops their full human potential, nurtures a positive self-image, and guides them to strive for excellence. Our students become life-long learners who move beyond knowledge to wisdom, beyond information to truth. Healthy environment for spirit, mind and body. We provide a wide range of experiences both curricular and extracurricular that enhance a sense of belonging and well-being. We empower students to embrace the future with confidence, competence, faith and hope. Service oriented community. In serving God and others, students show the dignity and respect for human life. Made in the image and likeness of God, and under Christ's guidance, we answer the call to become disciples. **JESUS CHRIST IS THE REASON FOR OUR SCHOOL.**

Spiritual Philosophy: St. Augustine said: "Lord...You made us for Yourself, and our hearts find no peace until they rest in You" ("Confessions"), and the Pastoral Department reflects the Augustinian insight that the search for God coincides with the search for self. In conjunction with the Theology Department, the Pastoral Department seeks to foster the spiritual, intellectual and emotional growth of our students and staff, and to help bring the Gospel message of love to life. Each school day begins with a voluntary Mass which all members of the Providence family are invited to attend. All school liturgical celebrations occur at least once a month and include Masses, feast days, Ash Wednesday and reconciliation services. Every student participates in day long, off-campus retreats, and seniors may opt for the three-day Kairos Retreat. Providence Catholic supports many other programs and activities that promote Christian spirituality, service and community. These include A Call To Serve (ACTS), Augustinian Youth Ministry, Community Prayer, Mission Awareness, Eucharistic Ministry, Sacristans, Lectors, Liturgical Greeters, Prayer and Discussion Groups, Bible Study, Freshman Orientation, Vocations Program, Evangelization and Sacramental Instruction and Pastoral Counseling.

St. Francis High School



2130 W. Roosevelt Road
Wheaton, IL 60187

Founded: 1956
Number Enrolled: 600
Current Director: David Angerer, Principal

On July 23, 1956, the Christian Brothers signed a contract with the Diocese of Joliet to build a new school in the town of Wheaton. The school was to be a co-instructional Catholic high school. In the early days of the school, the Christian Brothers taught the boys' department while the Franciscan Sisters, the Daughters of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary (St. Clare Province) and the religious community of the Institute of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Ladies of Loretto) as well as other sisters would teach the girls' department.

Today, St. Francis is comprised of 48 teachers and administrators. As part of the teaching mission of the Roman Catholic Church, St. Francis strives to promote spiritual, academic and social excellence in our students by helping them to grow as life-long learners, effective communicators and healthy, responsible citizens.

Goals: We challenge students to meet standards and learning expectations that will prepare them for America's best colleges and universities. We provide young men and women with the opportunity to pursue Christian service, understand both Catholic traditions and Gospel values and experience Christian community. We constantly monitor student learning to ensure that every individual reaches his/her full potential. We build a close relationship among the school, students, parents and the community. We promote physical development, mental health and skillful social interaction. We structure a safe, disciplined and orderly learning environment.

Care Facilities for Children

Provena Fortin Villa

615 S. Main St.
Bourbonnais, IL 60914

Orphanage built in 1954
Became a child care facility in 1974
Provena took over Nov. 1997

Currently care for 111 children daily

Facility Director: Diana Parker

Mission Statement: Provena Health, a Catholic health system, builds communities of healing and hope by compassionately responding to human need in the spirit of Jesus Christ.

Philosophy: Fortin Villa is a not-for-profit Christian learning center serving children 15 months to 12 years. Our program will fulfill the needs of the children so they will be prepared for school and social life through proper learning activities. We believe that children learn through play, peer interaction; Christianity and daily living experience. We offer a safe, nurturing and hands-on learning environment that fosters creativity and imagination, enhancing growth in all areas of development. We encourage a self image with emotional and intellectual growth in a friendly and relaxed environment. We are here to provide a safe and loving atmosphere in which both children and parents feel comfortable.



Vilaseca

351 N. Chicago St.
Joliet, IL 60431

Vilaseca Josephine Day Care Center was opened on Sept. 24, 1974, and was invited to the Diocese of Joliet by Father Victor Lopez.

Current Director: Sister Araceli Perez, HJ
Staff: 22 staff caring for 88 children ages 6 months to kindergarten

Mission Statement: The educational community of the Josephine Sisters at the Vilaseca Day Care Center believes in the importance of the human and spiritual formation from infancy; therefore, they are conscious of the special need and attention that each child requires in accordance to his/her age, development, sensibility, culture and traditions. All children regardless of race, sex, color or religion are welcomed.

Centers for Spiritual Retreat



Cenacle Retreat House

The Cenacle Retreat House and Spirituality Center, situated on 42 acres in Warrenville, opened in Feb. 1939 as a place which fosters the search for wholeness and holiness. Entrance to the center is over a wooden bridge, which the Cenacle Sisters call the bridge of hope. In 1999, the Cenacle marked six decades of ministry in the Joliet Diocese.

Carmelite Spiritual Center

Situated on 40 beautiful, spacious acres with a lake as its centerpiece, the Carmelite Spiritual Center offers single or double rooms with a private bath, home-cooked meals, gift shop, meeting rooms and St. Therese Chapel.



LaSalle Manor

The LaSalle Manor Retreat House was built as a private residence in 1935, and was converted to a retreat house in 1937 by the Christian Brothers.



Mayslake Marmion Ministries

This is the architectural model of the future home of Mayslake Marmion Ministries to be housed on the Marmion Abbey campus on Butterfield Road in Aurora.

Portiuncula Center for Prayer

The original Portiuncula was outside the walls of Assisi, Italy, where St. Francis began his order. Frankfort's Portiuncula Center for Prayer offers a variety of programs in spirituality and has new hermitages for private prayer.



St. Clare House of Prayer

Nestled on seven scenic acres overlooking the Kankakee River, this Franciscan-operated retreat house offers spiritual refuge to all who seek it.

Healthcare Facilities in the Diocese



Provena Saint Joseph Medical Center

333 N. Madison St.
Joliet, IL 60435-6595

Founded: 1882

Bed capacity: 543

Current Director: David Benfer, FACHE, president and chief executive officer

Mission Statement: Provena Saint Joseph Medical Center, dedicated to advancing the healing ministry of Christ, is a value-driven provider of comprehensive, person-centered, quality health services. As the preferred provider and leader in community-based, regional health care, we will strive to improve the health status of those we serve through collaboration among employees, medical staff and the community.

The community, physicians and our employees are served by the mission statement.

Provena St. Mary Hospital

500 W. Court St.
Kankakee, IL 60901

Founded: 1897, originally named Emergency Hospital

Bed capacity: 303

Current Director: Paula M. Jacobi, president and chief executive officer

Mission Statement: Provena Health, a Catholic health system, builds communities of healing and hope by compassionately responding to human need in the spirit of Jesus Christ.



Marianjoy Rehabilitation Center

26 W 171
Roosevelt Road,
Box 795
Wheaton, IL 60189

Founded: 1972 by the Wheaton Franciscan Sisters

Current capacity: 22,000 patients seen annually

Current Director: Kathleen C. Yosko, president and CEO

Mission Statement: Our Mission—Marianjoy RehabLink is committed to Human and Community Development in ourselves and in health and shelter services. Our Role—Marianjoy RehabLink shall provide leadership and resources for the development and continuous improvement of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation systems and services to support the care of the people we serve.

*Agencies of
Ministry to the
People of the
Joliet Diocese*





Catholic Schools Office

425 Summit St.
Joliet, IL 60435

Founded: 1949

Enrollment in elementary and high schools:
25,717

Director: Sister Helen Jean Kormelink, OSB,
Superintendent of Schools

Mission Statement: The mission of the Catholic Schools Office is to provide leadership in education to the Catholic schools of the Diocese of Joliet. The Catholic Schools Office will serve their constituents by encouraging professional and spiritual growth, providing support and resources, and setting standards of excellence.



Catholic Schools

Religious Education Building



Religious Education

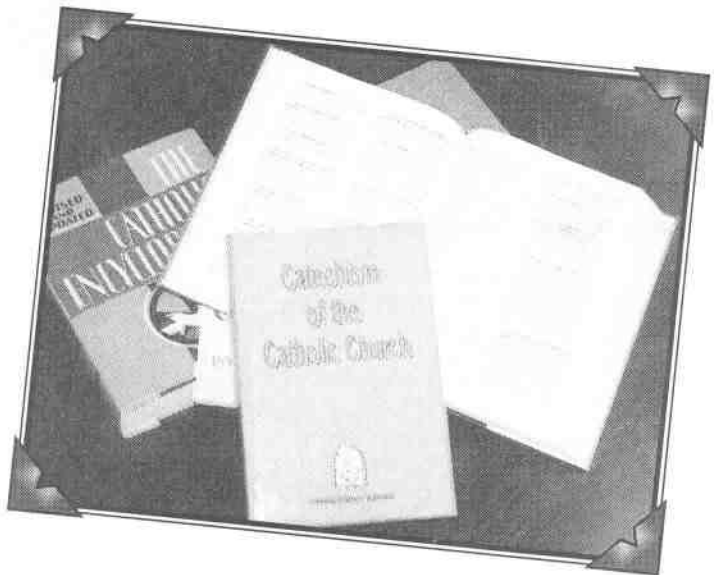
430 N. Center St.
Joliet, IL 60435

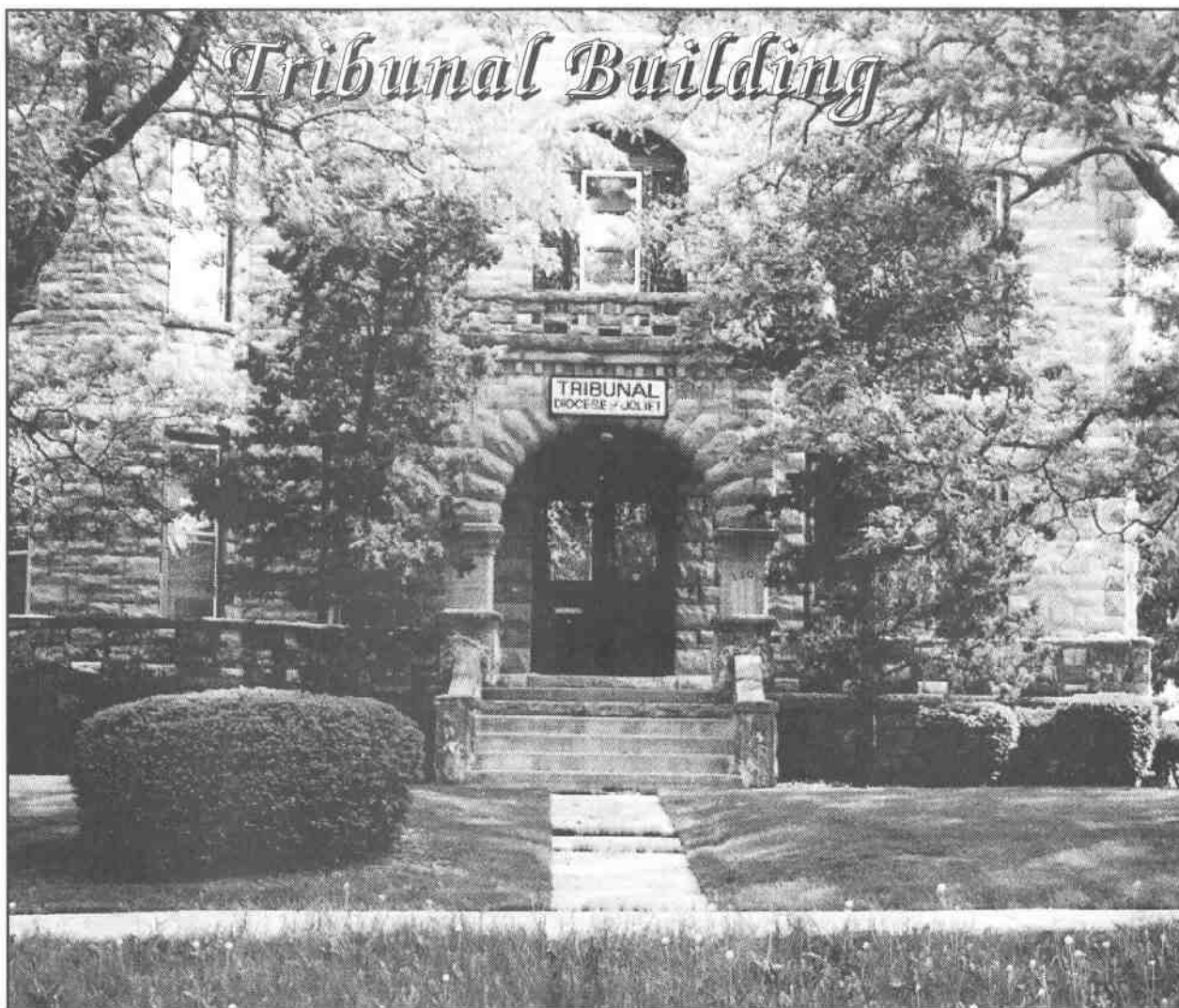
Founded: 1966

Founding Director:
Father James Kinseg

Current Director:
Sister Marilyn Ellert, OSF

Mission Statement: We, the Religious Education Office Staff, commissioned by the bishop, are called to catechetical leadership within the Roman Catholic Church of the Diocese of Joliet-in-Illinois. We recognize, celebrate and affirm God among us, and serve by providing and nurturing life-long catechetical leadership formation in parishes, so as to insure the presence of lifelong catechesis in this local church.





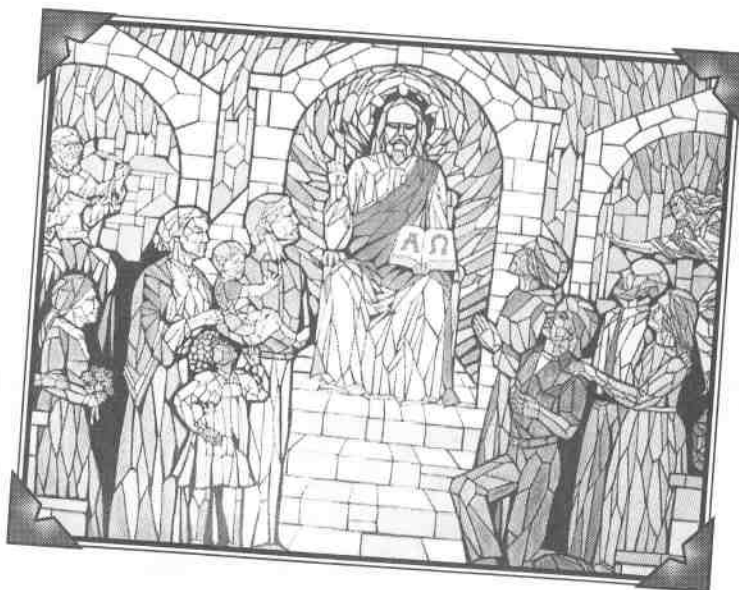
Tribunal Building

Tribunal of the Diocese of Joliet

310 Bridge St.
Joliet, IL 60435

Judicial Vicar: Father Joseph J. Tapella

The Tribunal serves the people of the diocese who have asked us to determine if they are free to marry in the Catholic Church after they have experienced a divorce. The Tribunal assists people through the process of annulment with the hope that it leads to a sense of healing and peace.



St. Charles Borromeo Pastoral Center



College Campus Ministry

St. Charles Borromeo Pastoral
Center
402 S. Independence Blvd.
Romeoville, IL 60446-2264

Director: Brother John E. Dornbos, CFC

Assoc. Director: Sister Mary Catherine Gagliano, OP

Number Enrolled: Approximately 50,000

Mission Statement: We, the College Campus Ministry Office of the Catholic Diocese of Joliet, are developing faith communities on each of the college campuses of this diocese, allowing students to feel support and encouragement in the practice of their faith. We adhere to the teachings of Jesus Christ in the traditions of the Roman Catholic Church. We gather together welcoming in spirit, united in diversity, committed to peace through justice and urging our students to make the gift of faith their own. Newman therefore promotes discussions, retreats, socialization, service and worship as a means to these ends.



Catholic Cemeteries

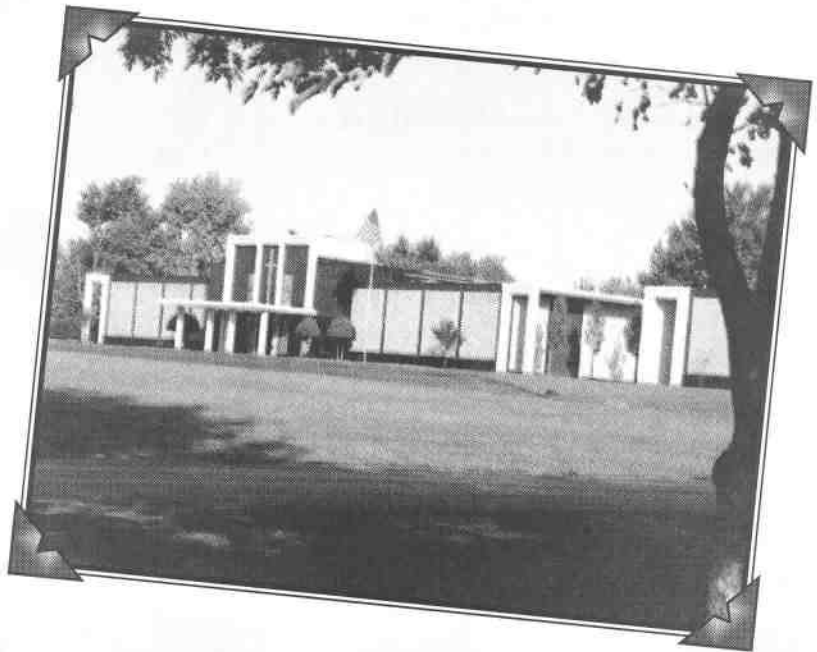
St. Charles Borromeo Pastoral Center
402 S. Independence Blvd.
Romeoville, IL 60446-2264

Founded: 1949

Director: Norman J. Schall

There are 20 cemeteries in the care of the Catholic Cemeteries in three counties (Will, DuPage and Kankakee). There are 13 office staff members and 25 grounds-men employed by the cemeteries in the three counties.

The Catholic Cemeteries provides a service to the church and the families who have lost a loved one. We provide comfort and compassion with a sense of dedication to a task that is essentially spiritual, thus honoring the dead while providing consolation for the living...death is not extinguishing the lamp...it is putting out the light because dawn has come.



Joliet Diocesan Council of Catholic Women



St. Charles Borromeo Pastoral Center
402 S. Independence Blvd.
Romeoville, IL 60446-2264

Founded: 1949

Current Number Enrolled:
122 parishes, approximately
75,000 women

Current President: Joan Dillon

Mission Statement: The Joliet Diocesan Council of Catholic Women, through its affiliated organizations, acts to support, empower and educate all Catholic women in spirituality, leadership and service.

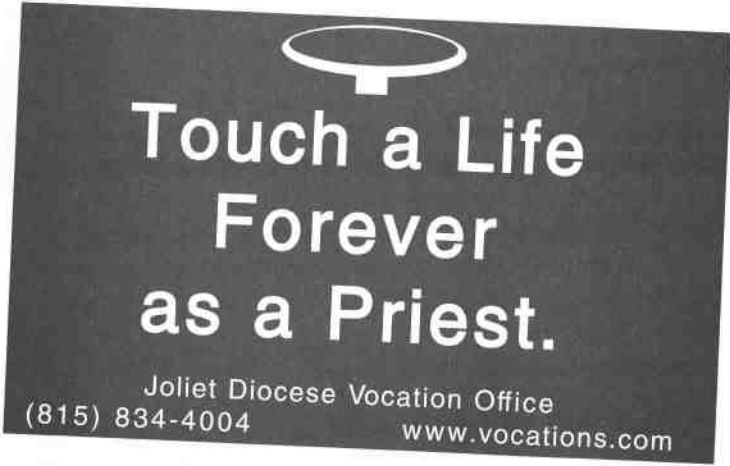
Vocation Office

St. Charles Borromeo Pastoral Center
402 S. Independence Blvd.
Romeoville, IL 60446-2264

Director: Father John Regan

Number of Seminarians:

23 (1998-99 school year)



**Touch a Life
Forever
as a Priest.**

Joliet Diocese Vocation Office
(815) 834-4004 www.vocations.com

Vocations arise from baptism. Throughout life each person is blessed and gifted by God. We each have a responsibility to reflect upon the specific talents and gifts we have been given so that we might offer ourselves generously in service to others.

The ministry of the Vocation Office focuses on three areas: (1) awareness and recruitment for church vocations; (2) vocational discernment for church vocations and screening of candidates for diocesan priesthood; and (3) support of seminarians in their formation for diocesan priesthood.

In 1996 the diocese began a campaign for priestly vocations called "After the Heart of Jesus" to highlight the great need for priests and new priestly vocations. Priests must profoundly image Christ himself within the church and world. Men who feel called to follow after the heart of Jesus as a diocesan priest are invited to contact the Vocation Office.



Renew 2000

St. Charles Borromeo Pastoral Center
402 S. Independence Blvd.
Romeoville, IL 60446-2264

Founded: 1997

Director: Rosemary Bleuher

RENEW 2000 was adopted by the Presbyteral Council of the Joliet Diocese in September 1997 as a pastoral plan for parishes to prepare the Church of Joliet for the Third Millennium. Rosemary Bleuher, director of Adult Education, was appointed by Bishop Joseph L. Imesch to direct RENEW 2000 for the diocese. RENEW 2000, which develops a solid and long-lasting foundation for the establishment of small communities, is the adult formational plan for the 21st century.

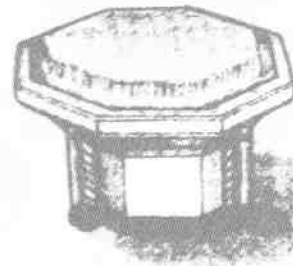
RENEW 2000 uses a pastoral methodology suited for parish life today and for years to come. It meets the challenge of secularism with strong spiritual renewal, emphasizing conversion and community. Ninety of our parishes in the Joliet Diocese are engaged in the RENEW 2000 process for the next two and a half years. More than 12,000 persons have committed to membership in a small community for Season 1 which began in October 1998.

Office of Divine Worship/Catechumenate

St. Charles Borromeo Pastoral Center
402 S. Independence Blvd.
Romeoville, IL 60446-2264

Founded: 1976 by Bishop Romeo
Blanchette

Director: Sister Sharon Marie Stola, OSB
Catechumenate Director:
Father Christopher Groh



The Office of Divine Worship functions as a diocesan agency whose goal is to enable an effective pastoral-liturgical worship life throughout the Diocese of Joliet. This is done as reflective of the call of the Second Vatican Council for "full, active and conscious participation" of all in the worship life of the church. Its work is also reflective of the mission statement of the diocese and the goals of the 1989 Diocese of Joliet Synod.

The office has three consultative boards—Diocesan Liturgical Commission, Environment and Art Committee and Catechumenate Steering Committee.

Two formational training programs are sponsored by the office and Catholic Theological Union—Liturgy Certification Program and Catechumenate Ministry Certification.



Office of Hispanic Ministry

St. Charles Borromeo Pastoral Center
402 S. Independence Blvd.
Romeoville, IL 60446-2264

Founded: 1970

Director: Sister Judy Callahan, BVM



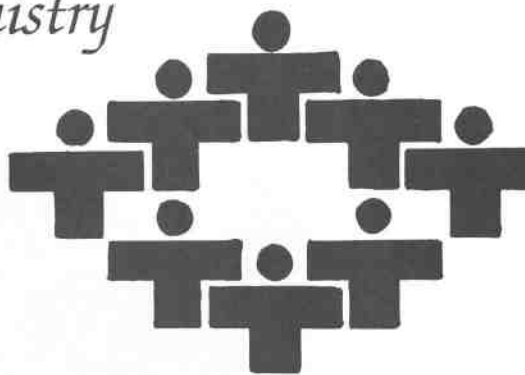
Mission Statement: To promote greater participation by Hispanic Catholics in the Church of Joliet on all levels and to communicate the needs of Hispanic Catholics to all their brothers and sisters in the Church of Joliet so that the church and those charged with leadership will welcome and invite the full participation of Hispanics within the local church as well as the Church Universal. Direct resource to any Hispanics in the diocese, and especially to parishes where active ministry is established.

The Center for Family Ministry

St. Charles Borromeo Pastoral Center
402 S. Independence Blvd.
Romeoville, IL 60446-2264

Founded: 1978

Director: Dr. James Healy



The center depends on literally thousands of volunteers in a wide range of family ministries at the parish and diocesan level. Its primary mission is to make family and family life a more important part of church. It does this by offering resources, services and programs to parishes and individual families to enrich, affirm and nurture the many kinds of families who make up our diocesan church. Its areas of involvement include the following:

Marriage preparation: including training and enriching parish marriage preparation programs, offering Engaged Encounter, responding to the needs of individual couples and consulting with parish staff on particular cases.

Marriage, family and relationship enrichment: including anniversary celebrations, supporting a variety of family movements and groups such as Marriage Encounter and *Movimiento Familiar Cristiano*, developing materials and experiences related to family spirituality, parenting resources, special programs regarding men and family roles, Elizabeth Ministry for women and child-bearing issues, referrals for specialized family services and cooperative efforts aimed at bringing a family perspective to all ministries.

Hurting and healing families: including ministry to the divorced and the bereaved through support groups, conferences and consultations, Retrouvaille weekends for troubled marriages, annulment support ministry, the Rainbows program for grieving children and the Joyful Again! Weekends for the widowed.

Life Office: under the direction of Fran Fortier since 1975, including education and advocacy related to abortion, euthanasia and other life issues and Natural Family Planning classes and chastity programs.

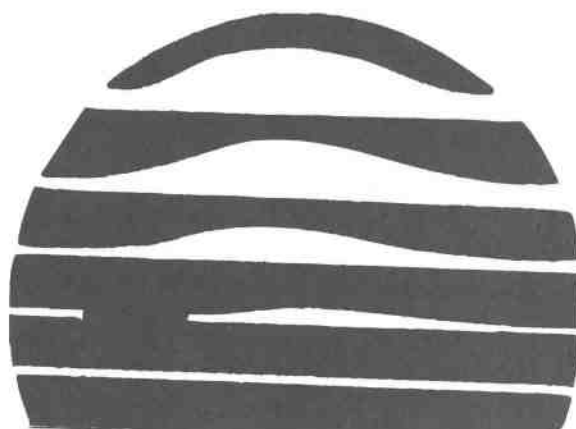
Office of Ministry Formation

St. Charles Borromeo Pastoral Center
402 S. Independence Blvd.
Romeoville, IL 60446-2264

Founded: 1984

Current Director: Dr. Jean Bohr

Mission Statement: The Office of Ministry Formation is grounded in the belief that God calls baptized members of the church to public service on behalf of the local faith community. This vocational call needs to be nurtured and supported to remain vital and effective. This office strives to provide quality pastoral education and formation for volunteer, paraprofessional and professional ministers so that they can acquire the theological knowledge, pastoral skills and spiritual formation necessary to minister to the people of God, in this time and in this place.



Programs: Pastoral Leadership Program; Institute of Spiritual Companionship; Institute for Peace and Justice Ministry; Master's in Pastoral Studies Degree; Annual Ministry Convocation; Parish Pastoral Council Ministry; Pastoral Care Ministry; Theology Update Series; Ministry to Pastoral Associate Ministers.

Catholic Explorer

St. Charles Borromeo Pastoral Center
402 S. Independence Blvd.
Romeoville, IL 60446-2264

Founded: 1975

Editor/General Manager: Mary Breslin

Mission Statement: The mission of the *Catholic Explorer*, newspaper of the Diocese of Joliet, is to bring to print the Word as it takes life through our people. We are a voice for the unborn, the elderly, the impoverished; for those who seek justice and cry out for peace. Our intent is to report truthfully and objectively the events of the global church as well as news from within our diocese. We will continue to inform, motivate, enlighten, inspire and give cause for thoughtful reflection.

Catholic Explorer



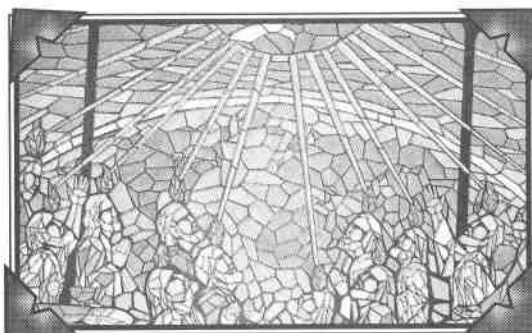
Peace and Social Justice

St. Charles Borromeo Pastoral Center
402 S. Independence Blvd.
Romeoville, IL 60446-2264

Director: Thomas L. Garlitz

Mission Statement: "Fostering and encouraging the Gospel of Peace and Social Justice, locally, nationally and globally."

IF
YOU
WANT
PEACE
WORK
FOR
JUSTICE
PAUL 6



Presbyteral Council

Meet at: St. Charles Borromeo Pastoral Center
402 S. Independence Blvd.
Romeoville, IL 60446-2264

Mission Statement: The Presbyteral Council represents the body of priests of the diocese and assists the bishop in the service of the pastoral needs of the people of the diocese.

Office for the Diaconate

St. Charles Borromeo Pastoral Center
402 S. Independence Blvd.
Romeoville, IL 60446-2264

Founded: 1971

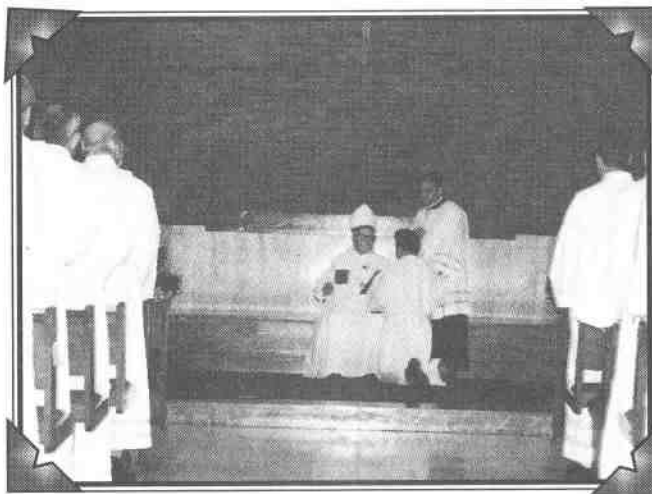
Current number enrolled:

140 ordained deacons

42 men in formation

Director: Deacon Will Worden

Assoc. Director: Deacon Bart Federici



Mission Statement: To enrich and strengthen the many and various diaconal ministries at work in this diocese with the sacramental grace of the diaconate. To aid in extending needed liturgical and charitable services to the faithful in the diocese. To maintain a diaconal formation program including doctrinal, pastoral and spiritual aspects of training. To guide, nurture, sustain and affirm ministries of the deacons of this diocese.



Office of Vicar for Religious

St. Charles Borromeo Pastoral Center
402 S. Independence Blvd.
Romeoville, IL 60446-2264

Director: Sister Jean Okroi, IBVM

Number: 765 Religious Women
90 Religious Brothers
106 Religious Priests
2 Consecrated Virgins
7 Sisters of Christian
Community

Mission Statement: Realizing the need for collaboration among all members of the church in bringing about the Reign of God on earth, the Office of Vicar for Religious exists in order to enhance collaboration between the diocesan church, religious institutes and individual members of the consecrated life. The Vicar for Religious serves as a liaison between the ordinary for the Diocese of Joliet and men and women religious as well as members of the Order of Consecrated Virgins. Respecting the diversity of charisms, the vicar responds to the individual and collective needs of those living and/or serving in the diocese and encourages spiritual and professional growth. Collaboration between the Office of Vicar for Religious and other diocesan agencies is fostered.

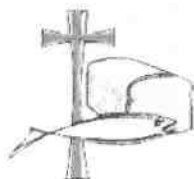
Goals and objectives: (1) To serve as a liaison between Bishop Joseph L. Imesch/diocese and the men and women religious in the diocese through the Vicar's Advisory Board; Celebration of Religious Life and Jubilee; chairing the National Religious Retirement Appeal and assuming related responsibilities; attending national, regional and local meetings; preparing the meeting of religious leaders with the Joliet bishops; membership on committees/boards; canonical visitation of the Poor Clares and the Consecrated Virgins; preparing women for the Order of Consecrated Virgins. (2) To respond to the individual and collective needs of religious in the diocese and encourage their spiritual and professional growth by: writing quarterly newsletter; advertising ministry openings; chairing the compensation committee; doing spiritual direction and counseling; doing vocational counseling; addressing canonical issues; assisting religious in the transfer process, job transition and acting as an advocate when necessary; responding to new/revised forms of religious life; providing programs as needed; continuing on the Taking Care Advisory Board. (3) To foster collaboration between the Office of Vicar for Religious and other diocesan agencies by: preparing Church Ministry Convocation XVI in collaboration with the Presbyteral Council and the offices of Ministry Formation and Diaconate; continuing as a member of the Diaconate Advisory Board; co-sponsoring with the offices of Ministry Formation, Diaconate and Continuing Education of Priests, the Theology Update Series; facilitating the appointment of a religious to the Joliet Diocesan Board of Conciliation; advertising parish openings in the Vicar's newsletter; continuing communication between the Vicar's Advisory Board and the Diocesan Pastoral Council; by inviting retired religious to pray for one of several human rights issues suggested by the Peace and Justice Office; serving as Secretary for Personnel and Leadership; serving on the Diocesan Budget Committee; chairing the Religious Compensation Committee.

Development Office

St. Charles Borromeo Pastoral Center
402 S. Independence Blvd.
Romeoville, IL 60446-2264

Founded: 1986

Director: Kevin M. Delabre



Mission Statement: The mission of the Office of Development/Stewardship in the Diocese of Joliet is to foster an environment which encourages Christian disciples to recognize and share their gifts, both spiritual and material, in support of the ministries of the parish, diocese and Universal Church.

This agency is divided into three major areas of concern with three directors:

Annual Appeal/Planned Giving: Kevin Delabre, Director. This office handles the Annual Diocesan Appeal which provides 65 percent of the diocesan budget. It also serves as a resource to parishes in the area of planned giving, including estate planning workshops.

Stewardship: Marianne Murphy, Director. The objective of this office is to integrate the concept of stewardship into areas of formation, education and leadership in the diocese and in its parishes.

School Development/Education Foundation: Mame Byrne, Director. This office provides counsel and support to the schools of the Joliet Diocese in the area of development. The Catholic Education Foundation Diocese of Joliet was founded in 1991 and incorporated in 1996. The foundation, by raising, investing and distributing endowment monies, seeks to secure perpetual funding for the educational ministries of the Church of Joliet.



Catholic Charities

203 N. Ottawa St.
Joliet, IL 60432

Founded: 1963 as a licensed child welfare agency and not-for-profit organization

Number of clients served: Approx. 15,000 annually

Executive Director: Kathleen McGowan

Mission Statement: Catholic Charities, Diocese of Joliet, translates God's reconciling love into professional human services, advocates for a just and compassionate society and brings together members of the community, church, business, health care and government to develop effective responses to human needs. We commit to define these needs, seek solutions and call forth other resources so that those we serve are empowered to achieve for themselves productive and satisfying lives.

*Award-Winning Newspaper
for the Diocese of Joliet*

Catholic Explorer



Bringing together Families & Faith

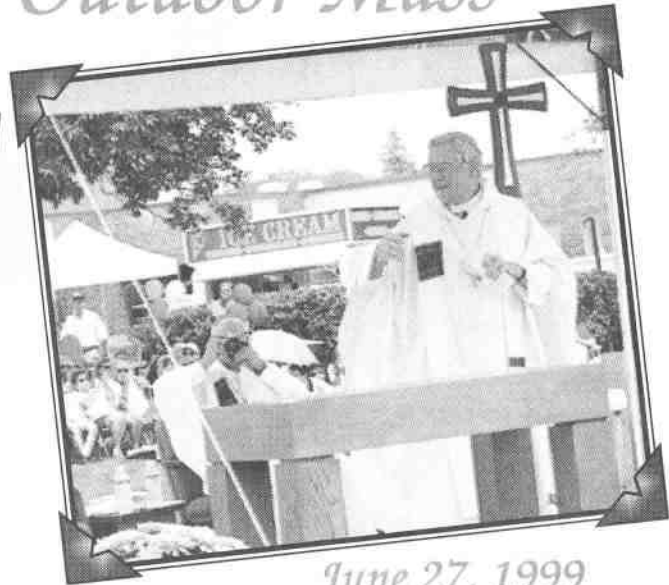
Jubilee Picnic



and



Outdoor Mass



June 27, 1999



St. Raymond Nonnatus

The Cathedral of St. Raymond Nonnatus is named for the saint who was born in the early 1200's in Portella, Catalonia, Spain. He was called Raymond Nonnatus because he was delivered by cesarean operation when his mother died in childbirth; hence non natus (not born).

He joined the order of Our Lady of Ransom (the Mercedarians), which was founded by Peter Nolasco about 1223 in Barcelona. Peter Nolasco had inherited a fortune when his father died, and the order was dedicated to ransoming Christian slaves from the Moors, who regularly abducted Christians to work as slaves. Raymond succeeded Peter as chief ransomer and went to Algeria to free the slaves in that African country.

When his ransom money ran out, Raymond remained as a hostage for several slaves. While in Algeria, he preached a message of hope among his brethren, attracting a following. Although Raymond escaped the death sentence, he was tortured for his faith, but was eventually rescued by Peter Nolasco.

Upon returning to Barcelona, as a reward for his zeal, Raymond Nonnatus was appointed cardinal by Pope Gregory IX in 1239, but never received the honor because he died Aug. 31, 1240, on his way to Rome.

Raymond Nonnatus was canonized in 1657 and is the patron saint of those assisting in childbirth, women in childbirth and of cesarean deliveries.

The feast of St. Raymond Nonnatus is celebrated Aug. 31.

