



St. Catherine of Genoa

340 South Stott Street | Genoa, IL
60135 | 815-784-2355

Mass Schedule

Saturday | 4:30 p.m. & 7:00 p.m. *Español*

Sunday | 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

Daily | 8:30 a.m.

Confession | *Confesiones*

Saturday | 9:00 a.m.

Tuesday | 8:00 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.

Confessions conclude when all have been heard.

En Español | Viernes 8:00 a.m. y Sabado 6:00 p.m

Parish Office

Hours | Mon - Wed | 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Thur - Fri | 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Phone | 815-784-2355 Fax | 815-784-2045

Email | office@stcatherinegenoa.org

Website | www.stcatherinegenoa.org

Flocknote | StCat.flocknote.com

Facebook | [SaintCatherineofGenoaChurch](https://www.facebook.com/SaintCatherineofGenoaChurch)

SACRAMENTAL EMERGENCY | [815-784-4837](tel:815-784-4837)

Clergy

Rev. Max Lasrado | Pastor

maxl@stcatherinegenoa.org

Rev. Jhon Capera | Hispanic Ministry

ministeriohispano@stcatherinegenoa.org

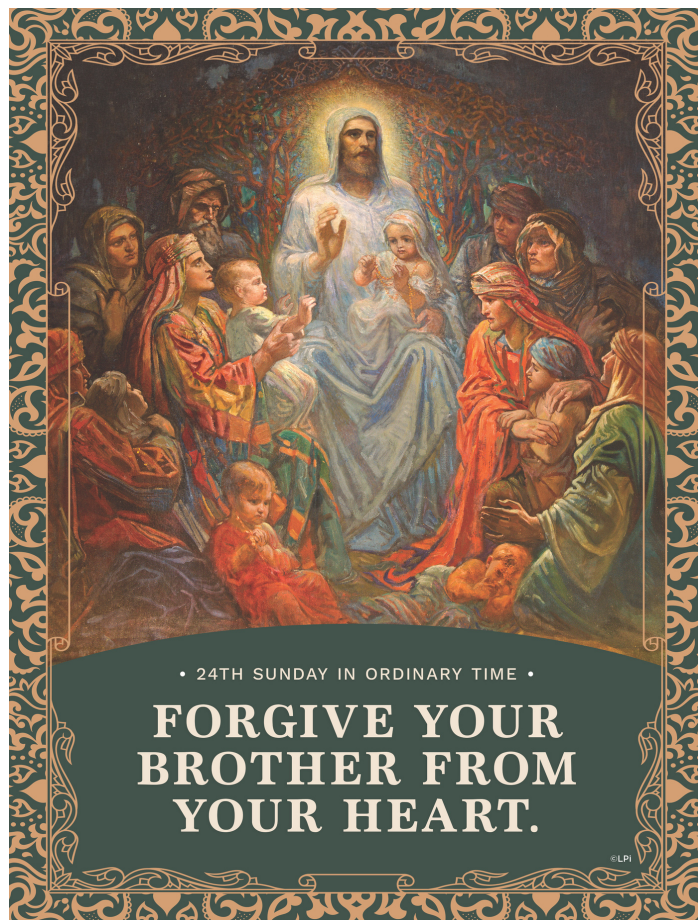
Deacon Bill Stankevitz

bill@mysweethaven.com | 630-886-5363

Deacon Brian Mullins

kenneth.b.mullins@gmail.com | 815-508-3299

September 13, 2026



Parish Staff Directory

Jenny Blais | Secretary

office@stcatherinegenoa.org

Ludyka Mercado | Hispanic Ministry

ministeriohispano@stcatherinegenoa.org

Melissa Darrow | Bookkeeper

finance@stcatherinegenoa.org

Cindy Vincent | Director of Religious Ed.

cvincent@stcatherinegenoa.org

Silvina Viens | Religious Ed. Secretary

habla español - religioused@stcatherinegenoa.org

Darla Tritt | Music Director

2stcatmus@gmail.com

Gerald Bayer | Building Maintenance

Ann Van Son | Receptionist

Tami Barrett | Youth Ministry

tamarabarrett@hotmail.com



For many years, most Catholics knew the process of becoming Catholic by four familiar letters: RCIA — the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults. Today, you will hear us call it OCIA — the Order of Christian Initiation of Adults. At first glance, it may seem like little more than a change in terminology. But sometimes a single word can reveal something beautiful.

A rite is a particular liturgical action, a sacred moment in which the Church prays and acts. But the journey toward Christ is not contained in a single moment. Perhaps we might think of a rite as one stanza of a love sonnet. Beautiful and complete in itself,

Ocertainly — but meant to belong to something larger. One stanza leads to another, each revealing more of the mystery of the beloved. That is why Order is such a fitting word.

CIA is not simply one rite someone completes before becoming Catholic. It is an ordered journey composed of many rites, prayers, teachings, blessings, scrutinies, anointings, conversations, questions, discoveries, and encounters. Together, these sacred moments form something like an order of rites, gently leading a person deeper and deeper into love with Jesus Christ. And love is really what OCIA is about.

Certainly, there is much to learn. We speak about Scripture and Tradition, the Sacraments, the Commandments, prayer, morality, the saints, the Blessed Mother, and the teachings of the Church. But OCIA is not merely a classroom in which information about Catholicism is transferred from one person to another. The teachings of the Church are more like swimming lessons given at the shore of an unfathomable ocean.

We learn the movements. We learn where it is safe to step. We learn how to breathe, how to trust, how to surrender ourselves to something greater than ourselves. The Catechism, Sacred Scripture, the Sacraments, and the wisdom handed down through the centuries teach us how to enter the water. But eventually we discover that the ocean has no shore on the other side, for what we are entering is the grace and mercy of God.

No class can exhaust it. No book can contain it. No lifetime can reach its depths. We can spend eighty years following Christ and still find ourselves standing before mysteries that leave us silent with wonder. OCIA does not teach someone everything there is to know about God. It teaches us how to begin swimming.

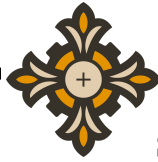
And perhaps that is important for all of us to remember. Those entering OCIA are not simply preparing to “join our Church.” They are responding to Someone who has called their name. Christ has begun drawing them toward Himself, sometimes through circumstances they never expected, questions they cannot shake, or a quiet longing they cannot quite explain. That makes their journey something sacred.

Over the coming months, men and women throughout the Church will begin walking this path. Some will become catechumens preparing for Baptism. Others, already baptized, will prepare to enter into full communion with the Catholic Church. There will be rites along the way — those beautiful stanzas in the sonnet — until, God willing, they are brought to the waters of Baptism, sealed with the Holy Spirit, and fed at the altar with the Body and Blood of Christ. But they should not make that journey alone.

Please pray for those entering OCIA. Pray for their families, who may not always understand what is drawing them toward the Church. Pray for their sponsors and catechists. Pray when questions arise, when enthusiasm fades, when old habits pull at them, and when following Christ begins to ask something difficult of them. And perhaps pray for ourselves as well.

Because in the end, none of us graduates from the mystery of Christ. Whether we have been Catholic for six months or sixty years, we are all still standing before that same immeasurable ocean of grace and mercy — still learning to trust, still learning to surrender, still learning to swim, and still being called, one sacred stanza at a time, deeper into love with Him.

Mass Intentions



Announcements

This Weekend September 12 & 13

Twenty Fourth Sunday of Ordinary Time

4:30 p.m. †Julia Caise (Dorothy Crackel)

7:00 p.m. †Adelia Serrato

8:00 a.m. †Dorothy Halze (Ann Van Son)

10:30 a.m. Parishioners of St. Catherine of Genoa

Monday, September 14

8:30 a.m. †Cheryl Korth (Ken Korth)

Tuesday, September 15

8:30 a.m. †Roger Miller (daily Mass group)

Wednesday, September 16

8:30 a.m. †Bruce Renz (Jane Francis)

Thursday, September 17

8:30 a.m. †Joann Lichthardt (Jenny Neisdendorf)

Friday, September 18

8:30 a.m. †Patrick Lancaster (Nancy Burmeister)

Next Weekend September 19 & 20

Twenty Fifth Sunday of Ordinary Time

4:30 p.m. poor souls in purgatory

7:00 p.m. poor souls in purgatory

8:00 a.m. Parishioners of St. Catherine of Genoa

10:30 a.m. †Alvie Tucker

Prayer Intentions

Jerry Grenier, Frank and Carol Engel,
Beau Norris, Brian O'Grady, Mary Kae O'Grady,
Priscilla Pisarski, Doris Seyller, Pat Stankevitz,
Dawn Varacalli, Virginia Makovec,
Jessica Garrett, Wayne Campbell, Joaquin Alanis,
Mike Riedy, Eileen Bosshart, Elaine Dietrick,
Shirley Nelson, Sandi Schmidt, Janet Deverell,
Sean Clancy, Carol Barnes



For the Fallen of 9-11

Pope Leo XIV's prayer intention for September: **For the care of water**

Let us pray for a just and sustainable management of water, a vital resource, so that everyone may have equal access to it.

St. Catherine of Genoa Feast Day Picnic

This Sunday, September 13th following 10:30 Mass.
Stop by for food and fellowship!

OCIA Classes Beginning Soon

(Order of Christian Initiation for Adults)

For anyone age 17 and older who is interested in exploring the Catholic faith or has not received all of their sacraments. Contact the parish office or Deacon Brian Mullins. Registration forms are also available at the entrances of the church.

Religious Education



Welcome to an exciting year as we begin the 2026/27 year of faith formation for the young children of our parish. Here are the wonderful volunteers who will be assisting you in your family's faith formation.

Kindergarten and 1st grades:

Mariana Osorio and Cathy Ogden

2nd grade/sacramental preparation:

Hannah Davekos and Viva Villafuerte

3rd and 4th grades:

Melissa Darrow and Karol Cortes Gomez

5th and 6th grades:

Paul Ortman, Adam Striker, and Mercedes Oviedo

Confirmation 1 and 2:

Tami Barrett and Abby Villagran

Floating Aide: Karina Galicia

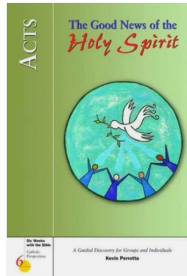
We look forward to meeting you at 9:00am this Sunday morning in the church!



Fall Bible Study with Father Max

September 30th - November 4th

Wednesdays 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. in Divine Mercy Hall
Sign up by September 20th. Which is when we will be purchasing books. Book cost is \$11 each, due at pick-up. Latecomers are welcome but must purchased their own book (available through Amazon).



You Will Be My Witnesses Campaign *Your Support, Your Decision*

Soon, Bishop Malloy will invite everyone to be a part of the historic You Will Be My Witnesses Campaign. The campaign is a wonderful opportunity to address the needs of our parishes and broader diocesan-family goals and projects. Bishop Malloy's invitation will request each family to consider making a meaningful gift with a suggested pledge amount over a three-year pledge period.

Remember, the requested pledge amounts for households to consider are simply an invitation and never an expectation. We don't know anyone's financial situation but hope that each and every family will prayerfully consider making a meaningful and sacrificial gift in support of our parish and the Church across our region.

There are many ways of giving which can accommodate your current circumstances. The campaign offers flexible arrangements for when and how to pay. Each family is asked to pray about what an appropriate sacrifice would be to provide meaningful support to the campaign and then complete and return a pledge card.

Our parish will have a team of volunteers who are helping with the campaign. They will be available to provide information, answer questions and assist you in completing your pledge card.

Your charitable gift will help us to answer the call to live as Witnesses!

Sunday, September 13

7:30 am & 9:30 am - Rosary | Church
9:00 am - Religious Ed. Classes | Church & Classrooms
12:00 p.m. - Parish Picnic | Outdoor Church Grounds

Monday, September 14

9:00 am - Legion of Mary | OLG Room
6:00 pm - Estudio Bíblico | OLG Room
6:30 pm - K of C Rosary | Church
7:00 pm - K of C Meeting | Meeting Room

Tuesday, September 15

9:00 am - Rosary | Church
8:00 am & 7:00 pm | Confessions
9:00 am - Stitching Together | K of C Meeting Room

Wednesday, September 16

9:00 am - Rosary | Church
6:00 pm - Legion of Mary | K of C Room

Thursday, September 17

9:00 am - Rosary | Church

Friday, September 18

9:00 am - Rosary | Church

Saturday, September 19

9:00 am - Confessions
4:00pm - Rosary | Church

Sunday, September 20

7:30 am & 10:00 am - Rosary | Church
8:00 am - Noon - K of C Coffee and Donuts | DMH
9:00 am srooms

Parish Financials

Stewardship/Contribution Report

538 registered families

Weekend Collection September 4 & 5

Envelopes: 3,622
Loose offerings: \$1,012
Building: \$469
Given Online: \$790
Total: \$5,893



Online Giving

Diocesan Appeal 2026

Parish Goal: \$31,030
Pledges: \$26,514
Amount needed to meet goal: \$4,516

Please help us reach our stewardship goal.

No donation is too small. If we fall short, our parish must pay that remaining balance from our operating account.



Meditación del Evangelio

Mateo 18:21-35

Creo que en algún momento de nuestra vida hemos sido traicionados y también hemos traicionado. Por lo tanto, todos hemos luchado por perdonar y por ser perdonados. La Palabra de Dios, este domingo, nos invita a experimentar el amor misericordioso de Dios por medio del perdón. Para habitar en su Reino no debemos guardar rencor alguno; por el contrario, el corazón debe estar abierto al perdón. El Papa León XIV, en sus catequesis sobre el perdón, nos dice lo siguiente: “Ha comprendido que la libertad del otro, incluso cuando se extravía en el mal, todavía puede alcanzarse con la luz de un gesto manso. Porque sabe que el verdadero perdón no espera el arrepentimiento, sino que se ofrece primero, como un don gratuito, incluso antes de ser acogido”. Así, de esta manera, se manifiesta el amor de Dios a cada persona.

“Comprender la misericordia de Dios es un misterio; pero el misterio más grande y más bello es el corazón de Dios. Si quieres ir directo al corazón de Dios, toma el camino de la misericordia y déjate tratar con misericordia” (Papa Francisco, 21-09-2018). Esto significa que el perdón del cristiano debe asemejarse al perdón que Dios nos concede. ¿A quién debo perdonar? ¿De qué debo ser perdonado en mi familia? Señor, sana mis heridas; son muchas y a veces amargan mi alma, pero con tu ayuda sanarán, y así podré ofrecer a otros el mismo perdón.

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Eventos y anuncios

Picnic de la fiesta patronal de Santa Catalina de Génova Este domingo 13 de septiembre, después de la misa de las 10:30 a. m.; Venga a disfrutar de comida y convivencia!

Próximo inicio de las clases de OCIA
(Orden de Iniciación Cristiana para Adultos)

Para personas de 17 años en adelante interesadas en conocer la fe católica o que no hayan recibido todos los sacramentos. Comuníquese con la oficina parroquial o con el diácono Brian Mullins. También encontrará formularios de inscripción en las entradas de la iglesia.

Campaña «Seréis mis testigos»
Su apoyo, su decisión

Pronto, el obispo Malloy invitará a todos a formar parte de la histórica campaña «Seréis mis testigos». Esta campaña representa una oportunidad maravillosa para atender las necesidades de nuestras parroquias, así como los objetivos y proyectos de toda la familia diocesana. La invitación del obispo Malloy pedirá a cada familia que considere realizar una contribución significativa, con un monto sugerido para ser aportado a lo largo de un periodo de tres años.

Camp Recuerde que los montos sugeridos para las familias son simplemente una invitación y nunca una imposición. Aunque desconocemos la situación económica de cada persona, esperamos que todas las familias consideren en oración realizar una contribución significativa —que implique un sacrificio — para apoyar a nuestra parroquia y a la Iglesia en toda nuestra región.

Existen diversas formas de contribuir que pueden adaptarse a sus circunstancias actuales; la campaña ofrece opciones flexibles en cuanto a los plazos y métodos de pago. Se invita a cada familia a reflexionar y orar sobre cuál sería un sacrificio adecuado para brindar un apoyo significativo a la campaña, y posteriormente a completar y devolver la tarjeta de compromiso.

Nuestra parroquia contará con un equipo de voluntarios que colaborarán en la campaña. Ellos estarán disponibles para ofrecer información, responder preguntas y ayudarlo a completar su tarjeta de compromiso.

¡Su generosa contribución nos ayudará a responder al llamado de vivir como testigos!