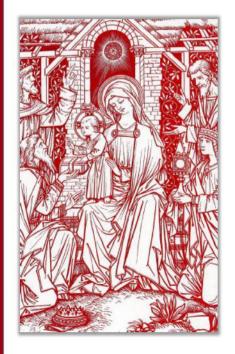


St. Anne Catholic Church

For unto us ... a child is born.



Christmas Masses

Christmas Eve - December 24th

- 4:00 pm
- 6:00 pm
- 10:00 pm

Christmas Day - December 25th

- 8:00 am
- 10:00 am

HAPPY NEW YEAR MERRY CHRISTMAS Christmas PARISH OFFICE **RE OFFICE** CHRISTMAS HOURS **CHRISTMAS HOURS** Monday, Dec. 23 8:30am - 4pm CLOSED Tuesday, Dec. 24 through CLOSED CLOSED Wednesday, Jan.1 Thursday, Jan. 2 8:30am - 4pm 8:30am - 4pm Friday, Jan. 3 8:30am - Noon 8:30am - Noon Monday, Jan. 6 8:30am - 4pm 8:30am - 4pm Sunday, Dec. 22 & 29 No Children's Liturgy HAPPY NEW YEAR **MERRY CHRISTMAS**

A NOTE FROM FATHER EICKHOFF

The final days of preparation for Christmas begin this week. In the Church's liturgy (both the Mass and the daily prayer of the Church – the Liturgy of the Hours) on the 17th of December begin the "O Antiphons" which are short introductory prayers used in the final days leading up to Christmas. For example, this is the "O Antiphon" used on Wednesday, December 18th:

O Leader of the House of Israel, giver of the Law to Moses on Sinai; come to rescue us with your mighty power!

When the "O Antiphons" start to be used in the Mass and in our daily prayers everyone knows that Christmas is near. The "O Antiphons" are also a great focus to your prayer life prior to Christmas. Consider the above antiphon with the line "come to rescue us with your mighty power!" Try spending a few minutes this week praying over this line and recalling how the joy of Christmas comes not from gifts or decorations, but rather from God's saving work of salvation that begins with the birth of Jesus Christ.

If you are looking for a time to pray before Christmas, come and join your fellow parishioners in the parish chapel on Sunday evening (the 15th and the 22nd) at 6pm for an hour of prayer and adoration.

In other news.

If you are seeking to go to the Sacrament of Confession before Christmas these are the last dates for reconciliation at St. Anne Parish:

Sunday, December 15th at 6pm Wednesday, December 18th at 7pm Saturday, December 21st at 3.30pm Sunday, December 22nd at 6pm

You can also check the bulletin for a listing of nearby parishes that have parish confession services this week with a large number of priests present to help hear confessions.

Please do not wait for Sunday, December 22nd to go to the Sacrament of Confession. On that date I will hear confessions until all are heard, but there will only be me hearing confessions and if 50 people show up to go to confession on the last possible day you might be waiting for some time.

There will not be confessions on Wednesday, December 25th or Wednesday, January 1st.

Yours in Christ, Fr. Stephen Eickhoff Pastor

December 15, 2024 Page Three

Mass Intentions

Monday, Dec 16

8:00 AM- Daniel Schedler Rea: Schedler Family

Tuesday, Dec 17

7:00 AM- Russ Johnson Req: Wife and Family

Wednesday, Dec 18

8:00 AM- Sue Buddy Baxter Req: Paul Buddy Family

Thursday, Dec 19

7:00 AM Communion Service

Friday, Dec 20

8:00 AM- Kathleen Gallegos Req: Anne Kelly

Saturday, Dec 21

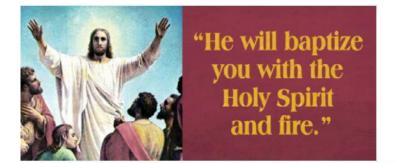
5:00 PM– Deceased members of the Breedlove, Klein & Walzer Families

Sunday, Dec 22

7:30 AM— Deceased members of the Mastalir Family Reg: Andrew and Mary Klug

9:15 AM- For the Parishioners

11:00 AM– Peter Nielsen Req: Marilyn Nielsen & Family



Events

Mon, Dec 16

8:30 AM Rosary

4:45 & 6:00 PM RE K-8 Program

4:45 & 6:15 PM Parent Book Discussion

7:30 PM Celebration Ringers

7:30 PM OCIA Catechumenate

Tues, Dec 17

4:45 PM RE K-8 Program

7:30 PM Chancel Choir

Wed, Dec 18

8:30 AM Rosary

9:30 AM AFF: Transfigured-Scripture Study

5:15 & 5:30 PM RE K-8 Program

5:45 PM Youth Choir

7:00 - 8:00 PM Confessions

7:00 - 8:00 PM Eucharistic Adoration in Chapel

7:00 PM Cursillo

7:30 PM Men's Spirituality

7:30 PM Heart of Worship

Thurs, Dec 19

6:30 PM Knights of Columbus Council

6:30 PM Blue Army

Fri, Dec 20

8:30 AM Eucharistic Adoration in the

6:00 PM RE K-8 Program JH Youth Group

Sat Dec 21

3:30-4:30 PM Confessions

5:00 PM P.A.D.S.— Shift help at Hesed House

Sun, Dec 22

12:00 PM Art & Environment

6:00 PM Advent Vespers in Chapel

6:00 PM Confessions

Readings for the Week

Scripture Readings-For the Week of December 15, 2024

Sunday-Third Sunday of Advent

Zep 3:14-18a; Is 12:2-3, 4, 5-6; Phil 4:4-7; Lk 3:10-18

Monday

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

Tuesday

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

Wednesday

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

Thursday

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

Friday

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

Saturday

Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a; Ps 33-2-3, 11-12, 20-21; Lk 1:39-45

Sunday-Fourth Sunday of Advent

Mi 5:1-4a; Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19; Heb 10:5-10; Lk 1:39-45

Page Four December 15, 2024

Please Pray For

Karen Alesch Lenny Altop Ken Assell

Maximiliano Ballesteros

Trica Barron Mary Connelly Anne Rangel-Croker Jim De Vos Paula Dohonge

Karleigh Drebes Robert Duprey StephanieDuprey Anna Duy

James Feeley Lorraine Fischer Deane Goldstein Kelly Gosett Carolyn Gray

Glenn Grimm Dan Gutierrez Liam Harkins Ken Harkins

J. J. Heinemann Dean Hermance Martha Hettinger David Hoffman Dean Knott Joan Kubicki Andrea Lorenz Mva Mananlad Ramiro Martinez Albert Mata Jr. Pam McCusker Carole McNair

Charles Nieldlinger Adriana Padilla Kathryn Pasholk Victoria Russo Rudy Sanchez

Lorraine Schleitwiler John Schultz Barbara Shields MaryAnn Smolucha Father Dan Stempora

Lee Toutant

Marianne Troscinski

Ray Vanagas Jay Vidmar Tom Wicklund Debby Winograd John Wossner

And all who are experiencing illness and are not listed by name. Names will be kept on listing for six weeks

COMMUNION TO THE HOMEBOUND

Ronald Morman

Carol Nieldlinger

† Are you or do you know someone unable to attend Mass regularly due to age or illness?





Do you wish to receive Communion at home?

Pastoral Care Ministers are available to bring the Eucharist to you.

PARISH BULLETIN EMAIL NOTIFICATION

Stay up to date with what is happening at St. Anne Parish.

Each week Discover Mass will send you an email update with a link to the current week's bulletin. https://discovermass.com/church/st-anne-oswego-il/#bulletins



December 15, 2024 **Page Five**

God's Share

All of us are recipients of many blessings from God. In return, He expects that we praise Him for His goodness and thank Him for His generous 1 gifts. Thanking, however, is not done in word only, but in deed, also.

Total Parish Offering December 1, 2024	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budgeted</u>
Sunday Offering	\$ 19,325.51	\$20,000.00
E-Giving	\$ 7,388.50	125 Transactions

Total Offering \$ 26,714.01

Thank you to those who are able to continue to support us through EGIVING or mailing in your contribution!

E-Giving: If you would like to participate in E-Giving https://giving.ncsservices.org/App/Giving/ncs-1474

For those signed up for EGIVING, please continue this practice to aide in the processing of the collection.

"Recent Federal Tax changes may make it advantageous for parishioners receiving RMDs (Required Minimum Distributions) to <u>transfer funds</u> from their IRA (Individual Retirement Accounts) to St. Anne Parish. Please consult your financial planner or tax advisor before making any tax or contribution decision."

OPENING OF THE JUBILEE YEAR 2025



On Sunday, December 29, throughout the world Catholics will gather at their Cathedral Churches to celebrate the opening of the Jubilee Year 2025.

The Diocese of Joliet will celebrate the opening of this Jubilee Year at the 10:30 am Mass on December 29, at the Cathedral of St. Raymond Nonnatus in Joliet. Everyone is invited to this very special Mass as a worldwide celebration of the Jubilee Year 2025 begins. This will be a very special time for the Church and plans have been made to celebrate this Jubilee Year throughout the Diocese. In the coming weeks, we will be sharing with you these important days, times and places where we will gather to continue our celebration of the Jubilee Year.

Page Six December 15, 2024

Catholic Charities Counseling Services Available

Catholic Charities provides outpatient counseling in DuPage, Will, Grundy, Kendall, Kankakee, Ford, and Iroquois counties. We offer individual, group, family, and couples therapy, including specialized services like anger management and preventative education programs.

Our services are available to those in financial need, and we accept most major insurance. If you or a loved one are struggling with anxiety, depression, substance use, or relationship issues, we are here to help.

Call 815-723-0331 for more information, to verify insurance coverage, or to schedule an appointment. We're now accepting new clients!

For more information about the programs and services provided by Catholic Charities, visit <u>catholiccharitiesjoliet.org</u>.



4th to 8th Graders

Would you like to learn how to knit or crochet?

Do you already know how to knit or crochet?

Do you want to share your creations to a worthy cause?

Learn the basics to make hats, scarves, baby washcloths, booties or small squares to be made into baby blankets.

Yarn and supplies will be provided to start your first project

- · Meet one Saturday per month
- 1st meeting will be January 11, 2025
- Time: 10:30am 11:30am

Register by December 15th

https://stanneparish.org/KidzforaCause-registration/ Make sure to save as a PDF, and then fill in form, resave and send to **Cathy Gillooly** at: reo@stanneparish.org

For questions, please email **Chris Wozek** at: goofymom_3@hotmail.com (Please put "Kidz for a Cause" in the subject line.)



Week of December 15, 2024



30 Minutes BC

30 Minutes BC creatively explores the profound emotions and intimate struggles of Mary and Joseph during the final 30 minutes before the birth of Jesus. As the clock ticks down, the couple navigates a whirlwind of hope, joy, and uncertainty, turning to God amidst it all.



Adventus: A Spiritual Pilgrimage

This Advent, make a spiritual pilgrimage to the Holy Land. Uncover the beauty of the place where Christ was born, preparing your heart for Christ's coming so you can enter more deeply into this season.



Christmas (Part 2) | What Catholics Believe

Join Dr. Michael Barber as he answers some of the Internet's most popular questions about Christmas. What are the 12 days of Christmas? Was Santa Claus a real person? What is Advent?

Our parish has a FORMED subscription.

Visit signup.formed.org and select our parish name.

An offering from the AUGUSTINE INSTITUTE and I Ignatios press



January 9, 2025, 1:00pm Regular Monthly Meeting

A program for the January meeting is still under discussion. Watch future bulletin announcements for further information. Visitors are welcome.

St. Anne Seniors is a social organization for parishioners over 55. The seniors often participate in parish service-and-outreach programs. Monthly meetings, treats, current parish happenings, followed by an educational topic or entertainment.

For information contact Mary Robinson at (630) 608-9668.

St. Anne Parishioners, God's People

I would like to invite you, your family, relatives, and friends to one hour of prayer to Our Blessed Mother

We say the Rosary, Fatima Prayers and Spiritual Readings Come join The Blue Army in the chapel every Thursday evening at 6:30 PM.

In addition, come join us on Monday and Wednesday to recite the Rosary in the church after the 8:00 AM Mass.

Let us go to Mary; there is no more direct route to Our Lord.

Any questions, please feel free to call:

Charlotte A Sartain 630-723-9005 Cas27buell@att.net





PRAYER SHAWLS AVAILABLE



- Know a parishioner, family member or friend going through a difficult time?
- Prayer Shawls are available. Please contact the parish office to arrange a time to pick one up to take to them: 630-554-3331 or stanne@stanneparish.org
- Shawls have been knitted or crocheted, blessed and bagged with an enclosed prayer ready to be given to someone in need



PRAYER TREE

The prayer tree is a small group of people quietly serving in a special ministry and is known for its long-time commitment to the needs of others. These individuals quietly pray behind the scenes for their fellow parishioners, their families and our community

There are no meetings, no minutes and no reports. All are welcome to open their hearts to reach out and join the ranks of those praying.

Contact: Jackie Johnson, 630-554-1591

COMMITTER

Seeking New Members

The St. Anne Finance Committee is seeking new members. The committee currently has 2 volunteer positions open. The general role of the committee is as follows:

- Review of monthly financial reports
- Bi-monthly in-person committee meetings
- Advise on the budget and spending of St. Anne Parish
- Advise on capital projects for the Parish

If interested, please reach out to the Parish office at (630) 554-3331.



TREASURER NEEDED

Are you looking for a way to serve the poor in our area? The St. Vincent de Paul Society at St. Anne is in need of a treasurer. Our treasurer works with our members on the financial aspect of cases and keeps our financial records. The position requires record-keeping and spreadsheet skills. If you have talent in these areas and wish to serve those in need, this is a great opportunity. Our present treasurer will be available to help with the transition.

If you're interested and wish to learn more, please call Laura Woelke at (630) 207-1817



A St. Vincent de Paul Society Gospel Reflection

In today's Gospel, John the Baptist says, "Whoever has two cloaks should share with the person who has none. And whoever has food should do likewise..."

Christmas is a time of love and gift giving. Please share your abundance by giving a gift to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul so that those who do not have clothes and food can share in the blessings of Christmas.

Do you know of someone who needs help? Our contact information is: Hotline: 630-383-2322 Email: stvincentdp@stanneparish.org.

Page Ten December 15, 2024

Bishop Hicks' Column December 2024



Sacred Steps: Exploring Pilgrimages Near and Far



Have you ever made or wanted to make a pilgrimage to a holy site? Before answering that, let's establish the difference between a vacation and a pilgrimage. A vacation is a leisure trip for a "getaway," usually focused on relaxation, entertainment, and exploration. A Catholic pilgrimage, on the other hand, is a spiritual journey to a sacred site with the purpose of deepening one's faith, seeking divine grace, or fulfilling a religious vow. While vacations prioritize personal enjoyment, pilgrimages emphasize not only some personal enjoyment but also spiritual growth and devotion.

The foundation of a pilgrimage is found throughout both the Old and New Testaments. Examples include Abraham's journey of faith and St. Paul's missionary journeys with and for our Lord. Even the Gospels provide accounts of pilgrimage: each year, Jesus' parents traveled to Jerusalem for the Feast of Passover. In His adult life, Jesus continued this tradition, journeying throughout the Holy Land and ultimately returning to Jerusalem to face His suffering, death, and resurrection.

One of my favorite pilgrimage sites is the Sanctuary of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Mexico. Because I worked in Mexico and lived in close proximity to the sanctuary, I have visited many times and have brought friends and family to this holy site. The basilica and grounds are stunning and reflect vibrant cultural expressions of faith and devotion. This inspirational site is where countless people bring their hopes, struggles, and gratitude. Standing before the image of the Virgin, you can palpably feel the love and trust people have placed in her for centuries.

As we approach the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe on December 12, I am certain that many of you would love to travel on a pilgrimage to Mexico to visit her. However, because of distance, time, expense, or other constraints, that possibility may be out of reach. Let me offer some ideas for making a more local pilgrimage, particularly to Our Lady of Guadalupe.

This past October, I had the opportunity to join the Knights and Dames of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulcher. Their investiture Mass took place at the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe in La Crosse, Wisconsin. It is just a short four-hour drive from the Joliet area. Completed in 2008, this Marian shrine invites pilgrims and visitors to an extraordinarily beautiful place of prayer and devotion. With a variety of chapels and gardens, the 70-acre site evokes similar feelings of love for Our Lady and her Son, Jesus, as I have felt while visiting the shrine in Mexico.

If La Crosse still feels too far to travel, consider "El Cerrito" in Des Plaines, IL. This Sanctuary of Our Lady of Guadalupe includes life-sized statues depicting the apparitions of the Virgin Mary to Saint Juan Diego. These statues are part of a dedicated space within the sanctuary, offering visitors a chance to pray and reflect on this sacred moment.

Perhaps your holiday travels this season unexpectedly bring you close to a shrine. It's convenient to locate various shrines on-line at sites such as www.catholicshrines.org or www.catholicpilgrimagesites.wordpress.com/sites-by-state.

If you prefer staying closer to home for your pilgrimage, consider doing a Visitation of the Seven Churches in your local community during Holy Week. In this Catholic tradition, pilgrims visit multiple churches on the evening of Holy Thursday to reflect, pray, and meditate on Christ's Passion and sacrifice. It may not be a pilgrimage of long distance, yet it certainly embodies the spiritual journey of faith and devotion.

Several priests in the Diocese of Joliet from time to time offer Catholic pilgrimages to various sacred sites around the world. One priest recently shared with me his motivation for leading pilgrimages: "Pilgrimages provide an opportunity to broaden our horizons as the past comes into contact with the present, and we are changed by this interaction. Every pilgrim is called by Jesus to go on a journey of encounter where He introduces us to our larger family as we meet the saints who wait for us at each holy site."

As we prepare to celebrate Christmas, remember that shepherds, kings, and even angels made their pilgrimage to worship and adore our Savior at His birth. As we walk our own journeys of faith and life, may God bless you abundantly as, together, we as a Church continue to make our pilgrimage to our final destination: the heavenly lerusalem.

Page Eleven December 15, 2024

NEWLY BAPTIZED

We want to warmly welcome and congratulate the following children who were recently Baptized at St. Anne Parish by Deacon Duane Wozek

Levi Daniel Landeros



Advent Vespers and Benediction

You are invited to participate in Vespers, the evening prayer of the Church, in the Chapel at 6:00 P.M. on the four Sundays in Advent, December 1, 8, 15, and 22. A psalm arrangement will be used, a time for Adoration, and the hour of prayer will end with Benediction.

(Father will be available to hear confessions on December 15th and 22nd during this time).

Prayer booklets will be provided.
All are welcome.



Advent Penance Services in the North-Will Kendall Deanery

- Holy Spirit in Naperville- Sunday, December 15 from 12:30-2:30pm
- Holy Family Parish in Shorewood- Thursday, December 19th at 6:00pm
- St. Mary Immaculate in Plainfield- December 22nd at 1:30pm (in English, Spanish, and Polish)



HIGH SCHOOL CONFIRMATION CLASS

If you are a high school student and want to take personal responsibility of your faith, then it's time to say **YES** to God.

Any high school student who has not yet received the Sacrament of Confirmation is invited to take the journey into adult Christianity.

Classes to prepare for the Sacrament of Confirmation will begin January 11, 2025, at 10am in the Joachim Center.

To sign up or for more information, please call Deacon Duane Wozek, Youth Ministry, 630-383-2316.



Who Is Jesus?

Do you want to get to know Him better?

What does it mean to follow Him?

Let's find out the answers to these questions together

WHO: all high school students are invited

WHAT: 6 week bible study

WHERE: Teen Center (lower level of Joachim Center)

WHEN: starting January 5th after the 11:00 am mass

Contact Deacon Duane at 630-383-2316



551 Boulder Hill Pass P. O. Box 670 (mailing address) Oswego, IL 60543

www.stanneparish.org

Parish Office		
Phone	(630) 554-3331	
Fax	(630) 554 0530	
Emailstanr		
Monday-Thursday	8:30 AM-4:00 PM	
Friday	8:30 AM-Noon	
Religious Education Office		
Phone	(630) 554-1425	
Fax	` '	
Hours	, ,	
Mon, Tues, Wed	11:00 AM-7:00 PM	
Thur	9:30 AM-4:00 PM	

MISSION STATEMENT Learn, Live and Nurture — Learn the Faith, Live the Faith and

Nurture the Faith

As a welcoming Catholic community, we strive to be disciples of Jesus glorifying His true presence in the Eucharist. Just as St. Anne was called by God, we are called as faithful witnesses to celebrate the Sacraments, honor traditions and nurture the family by studying, praying and proclaiming the Good News through service and evangelization.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Baptisms are generally held the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month (some months this may vary) at 12:30 PM. Expectant parents are to call the Parish Office, six months before the birth of their child for preparation information. Please do not choose Godparents until you receive the established Church guidelines for Godparents.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

Couples seeking the Sacrament of Marriage should call the parish office at least six months before the date of marriage. A wedding date may not be secured until meeting with the parish Deacon or Priest. At that time, the couple will be secured a date and begin the process of preparation for the Sacrament of Marriage.

PARISH STAFF

PARISH STAFF		
Pastor	v. Stephen Eickhoff (630) 383-2319	
Director of O.C.I.A. Deaco	on David Brockman (630) 383-2331	
High School Youth Minister	acon Duane Wozek (630) 554-1425	
Deacon	acon Gary Wooley (630) 383-2327	
Pastor Emeritus	Daniel F. Stempora	
Director of Music Ministry. music@stanneparish.org	Richard Jurevich (630) 383-2317	
Business Manager businessmgr@stanneparish.org	Maureen Kipfer (630) 383-2310	
Director of Religious Education, K-5reo@stanneparish.org	Cathy Gillooly (630) 554-1425	
Director of Religious Education, 6-8 jhdre@stanneparish.org	Julie Krakora (630) 554-1425	
Administrative Assistant stanne@stanneparish.org	Lori Sparkman (630) 554-3331	
Parish Council President parishcouncil@stanneparish.org	Glenn Weir	
EUCHARISTIC LITURGY		
Saturday	:30, 9:15 & 11:00 AM	

EUCHARISTIC LITUR	RGY
Saturday	5:00 PM
Sunday	
Monday-Wednesday-Friday	
Tuesday	7:00 AM
Thursday Communion Service	7:00 AM
SACRAMENT OF RECONCI	LIATION
Saturday	3:30-4:30 PM
Wednesday	
EUCHARISTIC ADORA	TION
Wednesday	7:00-8:00 PM

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK

If there is anyone at home who cannot get to Mass and the Sacraments because of illness or age, please call the parish office at anytime to request the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick.

O.C.I.A. (Order of Christian Initiation of Adults)

Those interested in becoming Catholic or in learning more about the Catholic faith meet weekly. Call the parish office or e-mail rcia@stanneparish.org for more information.

STEWARDSHIP PARISH

We are a stewardship parish. This means that every parishioner with an income is asked to use a Sunday envelope, since we expect to meet our needs from the one collection at the Presentation of the Gifts.

NEW PARISHIONERS

All new families are warmly welcomed to Saint Anne Parish and we ask that you register your family through our website at http://stanneparish.org/registration-form/.

BULLETIN DEADLINE

Bulletin articles are due into the parish office by 10:00 AM Thursday, 10 days before the Sunday you wish the article to appear. Please email your copy to stanne@stanneparish.org using Microsoft WORD.

AUTOMATED EXTERNAL DIFIBRILLATOR AED

Located Across from Parish Offices and On Outside Wall of Gathering Room of Church.

PARISH MAILING ADDRESS

Reminder: anything **mailed** to parish offices must be addressed to: P. O. Box 670, Oswego, IL 60543-0670





630-892-5612

ken.brummel@heitkotter.com

1700 Industrial Drive Montgomery

heitkotter.com









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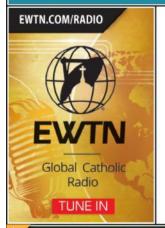


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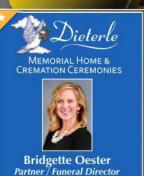
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