

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

Weekend of December 31/January 1 - Mary, the Mother of God

- 4:00 PM + Marion Vargas - Family & Friends
 8:00 AM + Sally Katalinic - Katalinic Family
 9:45 AM + Ed Borowski - Wife & Family
 11:30 AM + Alfonso Aparicio - Leonardo & Rigoberto Aparicio

Monday, January 2

- 7:15 AM + Christine Michalik - Rita & Carl Abram

Tuesday, January 3

- 7:15 AM + Larry Moll - Mr. & Mrs. Robert Frjelich

Wednesday, January 4

- 7:15 AM + Robert Karczewski - Friends

Thursday, January 5

- 7:15 AM + Sophie Kapera - Family & Friends

Friday, January 6

- 8:15 AM + William Freiberg - Stanley & Mary Kucia

Saturday, January 7

- 7:30 AM + Yvonne Graczyk - Carl & Rita Abram
 4:00 PM + Barney Zielinski - Family

Sunday January 8 - Epiphany of the Lord

- 8:00 AM + Lorraine Obrakta - Husband
 9:45 AM + MaryAnn Piaskowy - Tom & Maryann Nowak
 11:30 AM + Agustin & Bonilla Chavez - Sonia Chavez

Week of January 1 - January 7

The Gifts of Bread & Wine are donated this week in memory of
 Ed Borowski - Wife & Family

The Tabernacle Candle will be lit this week in memory of
 Ed Borowski - Wife & Family

LECTORS

January 2012

- | | |
|----------|----------------|
| 4:00 PM | B. Frederisy |
| 8:00 AM | R. Kopaczewski |
| 9:45 AM | N. Mooney |
| 11:30 AM | R. Oseguera |

ALTAR SERVERS

SATURDAY, January 7

4:00 PM J. Laskowiecki, J. Laskowiecki, R. Rodriguez

SUNDAY, January 8

8:00 AM N. Meduga, M. Bensett, D. Gaczkowski
 9:45 AM A. Villanueva, K. Best, A. Shea
 11:30 AM X. Gutierrez, M. Ortiz

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

January 2012

4:00 PM

B. Peak
 B. Frjelich
 A. Bonczek
 M. Cowperthwaite
 R. Haney
 C. Motkowicz

8:00 AM

S. Jezior
 P. Gadus
 N. Moll
 K. Gibson
 D. Ciciora
 C. Bozovic

9:45 AM

C. Malone
 D. Karczewski
 J. Gibbons
 P. O'Rourke
 L. Morse
 M. Czarobski

11:30 AM

P. Haro
 O. Haro

USHERS

January 2012

4:00 PM

C. Cowperthwaite,
 E. Pindara, A. Lubanowski,
 T. Zalewski, N. Zalewski

8:00 AM

A. Wopinski, T. Nester,
 A. Jasek, M. Noworyta,
 J. Shanahan, J. Young

9:45 AM

E. Lihota, G. Slusarczyk,
 K. Podgorny, R. Furman,

11:30 AM

T. Baker, M. Gasior, M. Aducci
 R. Manriquez, J. Gonzalez
 M. Suarez

Welcome 2012!

*Peace and good health
to all our parishioners
as we begin a new year!*

— Fr. Jim and Priests
and Parish Staff of St. Florian



2012 Calendars



We will distribute calendars the weekend of Dec. 31 and Jan. 1st. There will be a special blessing as we welcome the new calendar year. Our special thanks to Elmwood Chapel for their generosity in sponsoring our 2012 calendars.

The rush is over—the presents are unwrapped. Did you get everything at Christmas that you always wanted? If not—maybe we need to remember the virtue of gifts that are sent without even any pretty paper or bows:

Christmas Gifts
Alberta Dredia

Of all the gifts that Christmas brings,
The best are made of little things:
Melody of carols all the year;
Cheer to friends that you hold dear;
Courage to someone else to start
Some task for which he hasn't heart;
Thoughts for those with less than you;
Faith though the future's not in view;
Fun and laughter to go everywhere;
Kindness to show how much you care;
Strength to begin all over again;
And love to seek the best in every man.
While other seasons come and go
And another year hurries past,
Let's give again the little things—



Epiphany of the Lord

Sat., Jan. 7
4:00 PM (English)
Sun., Jan. 8
8:00 & 9:45 AM (English)
11:30 AM (Spanish)

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

A new year is upon us. This is as good a time as any to look ahead and to see what we need to do to draw closer to God. Much as we make New Year's Resolutions, let us propose that we make resolutions that deal with our practice of our faith. Do you spend time in prayer on a regular basis? If not, resolve to do so. If you spend time in prayer on a somewhat regular basis, resolve to increase that time to a daily basis.

Do you celebrate your faith by attending Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation? If not, consider resolving to do so. If you already do, consider adding a weekday Mass or two to your regular schedule.

There are other resolutions you can make in this New Year:

- Pray the rosary daily.
- Volunteer to help in our food pantry
- Visit the sick or a shut in
- Become a lector or Eucharistic Minister
- Have your family pray together on a regular basis
- Join a Faith Sharing Group in our Parish

The list could go on and on. This would be a wonderful way to begin a new year. That way, we will ensure ourselves that we will be on a different spiritual level next year. Drawing closer to God and to one another, we can do the work that Jesus asks of each and every one of us. Happy New Year to all!

Vocation Thoughts

**JANUARY 1 –
MARY THE MOTHER OF GOD**

Mary, our Blessed Mother, is the greatest example of someone who placed all her trust in the Lord, despite not comprehending God's plan for her. Will you place your trust in God, and consider a vocation to the priesthood? Men of college-age and older are invited to an **Exploring Priesthood Weekend** retreat to learn about, pray, and reflect on the possibilities of diocesan priesthood in Chicago. The next **EPW** is **January 13-15, 2012**. To register contact Fr. Brian Welter at 312-534-8298 or bwelter@archchicago.org See www.ChicagoPriest.com for more details.

"We become saints not by violently overcoming our own weakness, but by letting the Lord give us the strength and purity of God's Spirit in exchange for our weakness and misery"

Thomas Merton

We pray for . . .



Debra Mokrzycki, Charlotte Frjelic, Edward Kawa, Grant Joseph Bradtke, Larry Kawa, Stanley Wrona Sr., Austin Cichy, Elaine Antuna, Dale Pelekant, John Koza, Harriet Brodzik, Mary Rolek, Dorita De Cardona, Michael Boston, Steven Schwartz, Marietta Falbo, Linda Stannish, Yesenia Guajardo, Beth Lasseter, Chestine Trzuppek, Thomas Frain, Laurie Ferry, Irma Bulatovich, Alicia Davila, Leona Krawczyk, Stanley Bonczek, Kevin Chocholek, Chris Wopinski, Philip Corich, David Donahue, Ricardo Morales, Bob Konecek, Martha Kowalkowski, Paul Sherman, Michael Auld, Rosa Guadalupe Guajardo, Jim & Ann Cummings, Dennis Grzyb, Asunción Villalpondo, Thomas J. Lohr, Irma Garcia, Irma Cardenas, Karen Kil, Bertha Soto, Martin Covarrubias, Joseph B. Mistarz, Jr., Policarpo Naya, Genoveva Nateras, Peter Ladowski, Barry Piotrowski, Melissa Young, Judy Prokapeka, Rosie Dunmore, Carl Abram, Felicia Pancer, Helen & John Larson, Irene Stincic, Michelle Kendra, Shirley Ostrowski, Marlene Kubiak, Maryann Henney, Paul & Pat Pirowski, Joe Moncada, Alfonso Soto, Dianne Williams, Allysa Garcia, Helen Hennessy, Residents of Hammond-Whiting Care Center and Residents of Dolton Health Care Center and Residents of Burnham Terrace.

We pray for the homebound, sick and hospitalized. If your name appears in the above list and you no longer wish to be included due to recovery, please contact the Rectory at 773/646-4877.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday - Jan. 2 - St. Basil & St. Gregory Nazianzen

Reading 1 John 2:22-28

Gospel John 1:19-28

Tuesday - Jan. 3 - The Most Holy Name of Jesus

Reading 1 John 2:29—3:6

Gospel John 1:29-34

Wednesday - Jan. 4 - St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

Reading 1 John 3:7-10

Gospel John 1:35-42

Thurs.— Jan. 5 - St. John Neumann

Reading 1 John 3:11-21

Gospel John 1:43-51

Friday - Jan. 6 - St. André Bessette

Reading 1 John 5:5-13

Gospel Mark 1:7-11

Saturday - Jan. 7 - St. Raymond of Penyafort

Reading 1 John 5:14-21

Gospel John 2:1-11

Sunday Jan. 8 - Epiphany of the Lord

Reading I Isaiah 60:1-6

Reading II Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6

Gospel Matthew 2:1-12

In Remembrance

Josephine Premetz

December 24, 2011

Baptized in the Lord

December, 2011

We joyfully welcome the newest member of God's Family to the Family of St. Florian Parish.

Drago Martinez

Son of Armando & Marina Martinez

A Blessed New Year

Numbers 6:22-27

“The LORD bless you and keep you!”

We begin the new year with hope. It is filled with possibility. Our calendars may look empty, but they will soon be filled with activity and events. We already have plans for some of them. Other events will surprise us. We realize this year will bring a measure of sorrow, but we trust it to also bring a measure of joy.

Let this day and this year be a blessing. Today we hear the words of blessing spoken by God to Moses. “The Lord bless you and keep you.” They are words of favor. “The Lord give you peace!” They are words that wish the finest blessing, the gift of peace.

This new year, with all its promise, gives us the possibility of blessing. Perhaps you have withheld blessing from someone you know. Perhaps you especially need God's gift of peace. Perhaps you fear the absence of God's protection. Let this blessing calm your heart. Let it inspire you to breath God's gift of peace to all you meet this day and this new year.

In early January we're still enjoying the season of Christmas. We have many more days to sing carols, to invites, guests over, to share the peace of the season. In this bright new year let the blessing of God, first spoken to Moses, echoing throughout the ages, enter your home and warm your heart.

Written by Paul Turner
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St. Florian School Happenings . . .

visit us at our website!
<http://florian.hegewisch.net>



State of the School - Meeting on Tues., Jan. 10, 2012

All school parents are asked to attend a special meeting with members of our Board of Specified Jurisdiction and Action Committees in Konsowski Hall on Tuesday, Jan. 10 at 6:30 PM

BINGO

Doors open at 1:30 Games at 2:30
(Note: No bingo Jan. 1st)



St. Florian Parent Teacher Club Entertainment Card

Cardholder benefits include a variety of discounts with local retailers listed on the Entertainment Card. Cards cost \$10 and you receive continuous savings until November 1, 2012. Retailers include: Chicago Pita, Los Cantaritos Restaurant, Don Pedro's, Subway (118th St .), Olympia Lanes Bowling, Palalano's, Pudgy's Pizza, Doreen's Pizza, Steve's Lounge, Club 81 II, and Jason's Bar and Grill. Patronize these business and save money every time you shop. All funds support the school music program. For more information contact Kathy Fox at 773.608.2813 or kfox@uchicago.edu

Market Day - Orders due Friday, Jan. 13. Pick up on Friday, Jan. 20 from 2-3PM.

Mission Statement of St. Florian School

Our mission is to provide each student with a Catholic education in all areas. The faculty and school families join the parish staff and fellow parishioners to form a living Catholic faith community. Our school population is multicultural and fosters sensitivity to the needs of all. We promote the students' burning desire for learning. Through education, service, support, formation and challenge, the students are called realize their potential spiritually, socially, and intellectually. For one hundred years our school has been committed to carry out the Gospel values of Jesus Christ on a daily basis.

USING MEDIA TO EVANGELIZE

Evangelization has always been the mission of the Catholic Church. The call to evangelize first given to us by Christ requires that we proclaim the word of God using every means of communication. In the Church today using the media has become indispensable in bringing the Gospel message into the world through the internet, radio, and television.

Continuing through January 8th, there will be an evangelization initiative reaching people across the nation, using advertisement that invite Catholics to come home. The Archdiocese of Chicago is not funding this initiative; it is funded by **Catholics Come Home, INC** of Atlanta, GA. All parishioners are encouraged to take advantage of this part in this evangelization effort in three simple ways:



- When you see someone new or unfamiliar at Mass, introduce yourself and welcome them to the parish.
- The ads on TV may result in unexpected conversations about the Catholic faith. When someone talks about the ads listen carefully to their interests in the Catholic faith. You might invite them to join you for Mass if they don't have a home parish.
- If you know someone who is Catholic and no longer attends Mass, invite them to come home for the 'holidays'.
- If you are at work or on the bus and you hear people talking about something even remotely related to faith, tell them about Catholics Come Home and invite them to your parish.

In these four simple ways you continue the mission that Jesus gave to all his followers, "Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations" (Matthew 28:19). If you need more information, please call 312-534-3855.

WEEKLY OFFERINGS

Due to the advanced holiday printing schedule, we will publish our offering collection next week.

Christmas Offerings: Thank you to those who have responded so generously with your Christmas envelopes. If you have not yet had the opportunity to complete your Christmas offering to the parish, you may continue to do so throughout the month of January. We will then make a final report of all Christmas offerings received.

Initial Offering Envelopes: Please remember to use your Initial Offering Envelope in the January packet. A suggested donation of \$10.00 will help defray the cost of printing and mailing contribution envelopes.

St. Vincent de Paul Poor Box - \$266.00

St. Vincent de Paul During the past year, you have brought comfort and peace to many of our parishioners by your support of the St. Vincent de Paul Society. May the peace and joy of this Holy Season be yours. "The Poor Boxes are the bread boxes of the poor."

Please pray for our
Service Members:



- Chief Dennis Zmija, U.S. Navy - Eugene Zmija, U.S. Air Force - SSgt David Burks, U.S. Army - SSgt Eric L. Abram, U.S. Air Force - Cpl Christopher Abram, U.S. Marine Corps - Lt. Comdr. Nicholas Garcia, U.S. Navy Pilot - SPC Waylon Bader, U.S. Army - SPC Mark J. Dancer, U.S. Army - PVT Joshua Garza, U.S. Army - PVT Adam Garza, U.S. Army - Aaron Alvarez, U.S. Navy - MSgt James Ritchie, U.S. Air Force - Capt. Christopher Conner, U.S. Marine Corps - Sgt. Michael Marszalek, U.S. Army - Robert A. Islas, Jr., U.S. Navy - Sgt. Matthew R. McGivney, U.S. Army - Cpl Kristin Pala, U.S. Marine Corps - Capt. Lisa Klekowski, U.S. Army - PFC Patrick Paskiewicz - U.S. Army - PVT David Cook, U.S. Army - Seaman Laura A. Tomaczak, U.S. Navy - LTC Peter Allen Kubas - U.S. Army - A1C Kelly Shanahan - U.S. Air Force, - Master Sgt. Christopher Saberniak, U.S. Air Force - A1C Nicolaos Hofbauer, U.S. Air Force

If you wish to have a family member added to this prayer list, please contact the Rectory at 646-4877.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- Jan. 2 Rectory Office Closed
- Jan. 4 School Resumes
- Jan. 8 Bingo (Gym) Doors open 1:30
- Jan. 9 Parish Council (KH) 7:00
Faith Sharing (Rectory) 7:00
- Jan. 10 Daisies (KH) 4:30
State of the School Mtg. (KH) 6:30
Faith Sharing (Rectory) 7:00
- Jan. 11 Evangelization Mtg. (KH) 6:00
- Jan. 12 Faith Sharing (KH) 6:00
Scouts (PMR) 6:00
- Jan. 13 Confirmation Sponsor Night (KH) 7PM
Holy Name Meeting (PMR)
Officers 7PM Members 8PM
- Jan. 14 Zumba/Health & Fitness (Gym)
(more details to follow)
- Jan. 15 Bingo (Gym) Doors open 1:30
- Jan. 16 Young at Heart (KH) 1:00

Join the Holy Name Society! - Men of the parish, ages 21 years and older, are cordially invited to join the St. Florian Holy Name Society. We meet on the second Friday of every month in Konsowski Hall at 8pm. Dues are \$5 per year. We are a parish organization that raises funds to assist St. Florian, St. Columba and various community organizations in honor of Jesus' name.

Daughter of Isabella General Pulaski Circle 854 will meet on January 3rd at 1PM at St. Columba Social Center. Snacks will be served after the meeting. Next meeting will be held February 7th.

2010-2011 Annual Report - Copies of our fiscal year 2010-2011 Annual Report are available at the church entrances. Please take a moment to review the financial status of our parish and school.

2011 Charitable Contributions - Statements for the 2011 tax year will be processed by request only. Please fill out the form below and return it to the rectory by January 23rd. We will mail requested statements by the end of the month.

Please send a 2011 contribution statement to me:

Name: _____

Address: _____

(return form via collection basket or at the rectory)