

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

Weekend of January 3/4

- 4:00 PM + Charles Anderson - Wife
 8:00 AM + Joseph Iwan - Greg & Carol Neushafer
 9:45 AM + William Voss - Jim & Pat O'Rourke
 11:30 AM + For the Parishioners

Monday, January 5

- 7:15 AM + Joseph Cap - S. Urban

Tuesday, January 6

- 7:15 AM + Margaret Dwyer (5th Anniv.) - Friend

Wednesday, January 7

- 7:15 AM + Sally Slavik - Gerry Japchinski

Thursday, January 8

- 7:15 AM + Lorraine Obrakta - Husband

Friday, January 9

- 8:15 AM + Theodore F. Slusarczyk - Friends

Saturday, January 10

- 7:30 AM + Eugene A. Mezydlo - Mr. & Mrs. Vince Ginalski
 4:00 PM + Krystyna Abram - Regina Przybyla

Sunday, January 11 - The Baptism of the Lord

- 8:00 AM + Mary J. (Tina) Dubiel - Josephine Cap
 9:45 AM + Barney Zielinski - Family
 11:30 AM + Florencia Calderon - Family

Week of January 4 - January 10

The Gifts of Bread & Wine are donated this week in memory of
 Joseph Cap - Patty Iwan

The Tabernacle Candle will be lit this week in memory of
 Joseph Cap - Patty Iwan

LECTORS January, 2009

- 4:00 PM V. Maccagnano/ A. Simmons
 8:00 AM L. Wopinski
 9:45 AM K. Gibson
 11:30 AM C. Ramirez

ALTAR SERVERS

SATURDAY, January 10

- 4:00 PM B. Echevarria, E. Echevarria, T. DeCook

SUNDAY, January 11

- 8:00 AM D. Ranos, N. Mooney, B. Meyer
 9:45 AM C. Haro, E. Dejanovich, G. Bonczek
 11:30 AM M. Elizalde, J. Lelo, J. Carlassare

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

January, 2009

4:00 PM

- R. Abram
 B. Frjelich
 E. Boganski
 B. Peak
 M. Cowperthwaite
 A. Bonczek

8:00 AM

- S. Jezior
 J. Gibbons
 M. Piaskowy
 P. Gadus
 N. Moll
 C. Motkowicz

9:45 AM

- C. Malone
 C. Michalik
 P. Maccagnano
 P. O'Rourke
 M. Czarobski
 D. Karczewski

11:30 AM

- R. Oseguera
 O. Cruz

USHERS January, 2009

4:00 PM

- P. Orzelski, C. Cowperthwaite,
 P. Krasinski, E. Pindara,
 A. Lubanowski, T. Zalewski,
 N. Zalewski

8:00 AM

- C. Zakrzewski, A. Wopinski,
 T. Nester, A. Jasek,
 M. Noworyta, J. Shanahan,
 A. Bruder,

9:45 AM

- G. Villalobos, E. Lihota,
 G. Slusarczyk, K. Podgorny,
 R. Furman, J. Turman,
 T. Baker, M. Gasior, M. Aducci



The Epiphany Proclamation

Although calendars now give the date of Easter and the other feasts in the liturgical year for many years in advance, the Epiphany proclamation still has value. It is a reminder of the centrality of the resurrection of the Lord in the liturgical year and the importance of the great mysteries of faith which are celebrated each year.

*Dear brothers and sisters,
The glory of the Lord has shone upon us,
and shall ever be manifest among us,
until the day of his return.*

*Through the rhythms of times and seasons
let us celebrate the mysteries of salvation.
Let us recall the year's culmination,
the Easter Triduum of the Lord:
his last supper, his crucifixion,
his burial, and his rising,
celebrated between the evening of the ninth of April
and the evening of the twelfth of April.*

*Each Easter as on each Sunday
the Holy Church makes present
the great and saving deed by which Christ has
forever conquered sin and death.*

From Easter are reckoned all the days we keep holy.

*Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent,
will occur on the twenty-fifth of February.
The Ascension of the Lord will be commemorated
on the twenty-fourth of May.
Pentecost, the joyful conclusion of the season of Easter,
will be celebrated on the thirty-first of May.
And this year the First Sunday of Advent
will be on the twenty-ninth of November.*

*Likewise the pilgrim Church proclaims
the Passover of Christ in the feasts of the
Holy Mother of God, in the feasts of the Apostles and Saints,
and in the commemoration of the faithful departed.*

*To Jesus Christ, who was, who is, and who is to come,
Lord of time and history,
Be endless praise, for ever and ever.*

Amen.

*Now that so many wishes have been granted with the Christmas gifts we have received, perhaps we should take a moment to treasure what is most important as we resolve to begin the new year with a better perspective. The following article by Kathy Coffey, author of *The Art of Faith*, seems to say it all . . .*

How Much is Enough?

How many of us waste precious time and energy ogling "what we can't have," or figuring out a way to get it? In doing so, we overlook the great goods we do have: the endless reservoir of God's love, the gifts of family and friends, the beauty of creation, a warm pool of memories, individual talents, health, the support of a faith community.

We've all had the experience of yearning for something that we thought would bring happiness: the child's bike, the teenager's car, the adult's antique. Getting the object might thrill us temporarily, and we might even cherish it for some time. But eventually, the bike gets outgrown, the car dies, and the antique, grown dusty and dull, joins the junk pile. No *thing* can provide the long-term happiness for which we were created.

Most people who accumulate find that one thing leads to another. And on it goes, until we don't realize we're caught up in an unending cycle. We work hard to afford storage lockers for stuff we don't even use. Then we wonder why we're not at peace. The ecological footprint left by us is gigantic — we're destroying the planet's resources with our greed.

The trouble with envy is, it never ends. If we use the latest gizmos to shore up a weak ego or impress our friends, we're in big trouble, caught in a long quest for more. Nothing wrong with the gadget — the problem lies within if we can't believe we're enough: fashioned by God, redeemed by Christ, invigorated by the Spirit, intimately loved by the Trinity and precious to some fine human beings. What else do we need?

As the end of life approaches, do we want to cling stubbornly to possessions which probably won't fit into the casket? Or will we be ready to ease joyfully into God's arms because we've been there all along?

Having more is never enough.
Being more is paramount.

— *United States Catholic Catechism for Adults*

We pray for . . .

Helen Golden, John Noworyta, Wanda Podgorny, Ida Fasciana, Debra Mokrzycki, Charlotte Frijelich, Edward Kawa, Grant Joseph Bradtke, Larry Kawa, Stanley Wrona Sr., Austin Cichy, Elaine Antuna, Dale Pelekant, Helen Kasper, John Koza, Harriet Brodzik, Mary Rolek, Eugene Kupiec, Dorita De Cardona, Ed Kosmala, Michael Boston, Steven Schwartz, Marietta Falbo, Linda Stannish, Pam Skowronski, Josephine Opiola, Dolores & Gilbert Diaz, Yesenia Guajardo, Beth Lasseter, Chestine Trzupiek, Patricia Manley, Thomas Frain, Laurie Ferry, Irma Bulatovich, Alicia Davila, Sophie Borowiec, Mark Biel, Leona Krawczyk, Stanley Bonczek, Jesus Manriquez, Kevin Chocholek, Chris Wopinski, Helen Zurawski, Philip Corich, David Donahue, Frank & Yvonne Graczyk, Raquelina Chavez, Ricardo Morales, Helen Slusarczyk, Irene Marszalek, Bob Konecek, Martha Kowalkowski, Paul Sherman, Michael Auld, Virginia Bovino, Salvador Gonzalez, Jr., Rosa Guadalupe Guajardo, Jim Cummings, Dennis Grzyb, Florence Arendt, Lynette Kozlowski, Socorro Elizalde, Asunción Villalpondo, Thomas J. Lohr, Ruben Montemayor, Irma Garcia, Barbara Burnette, Helen Krupinski, Christen White, Katelyn Grabowski, Irma Cardenas, Virginia Majewski, Anthony Gromek, Edward Walczak, Agnes Walczak, Karen Kil, 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.



Light of the World

Today is a feast of light! Images of light surround us in today's liturgy. In fact, the meaning of the word *epiphany* means "revelation" or "illumination." What was once darkness is now light; what was once hidden is now revealed.

Christ, the Light of God, has come into the world. John's Gospel tells us that "the darkness has not overcome [the light] (1:5). Indeed, that is what today's solemnity acknowledges and celebrates: that God's Light has come into the world and has overpowered the darkness; that God, through Christ, has literally *transformed* the darkness into light!

Today's celebration gives us hope! The darkness that exists in the world is all too real: darkness of war, of terrorism; darkness of an increasing disregard for human life; darkness of oppression and of violence. Sometimes the darkness is strong and it threatens to actually overcome the Light that is Christ, the Light that is his Gospel, the Light that is God's love. *But*, we have a promise from God and today we remember that promise: The darkness will *never* overcome the Light! Today we proclaim that God shines upon us and, in his love, his glory will always appear over us (see Isaiah 60:2)!

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday - Jan. 5 - St. John Neumann

Reading 1 John 3:22 - 4:6
Gospel Matthew 4:12-17, 23-25

Tuesday - Jan. 6 - Blessed André Bessette

Reading 1 John 4:7-10
Gospel Mark 6:34-44

Wed. - Jan. 7 - St. Raymond of Peñafort

Reading 1 John 4:11-18
Gospel Mark 6:45-52

Thursday - Jan. 8

Reading 1 John 4:19 - 5:4
Gospel Luke 4: 14-22

Friday - Jan. 9

Reading 1 John 5:5-13
Gospel Luke 5:12-16

Sat. - Jan. 10

Reading 1 John 5:14-21
Gospel John 3:22-30

Sunday Jan. 11 - Baptism of the Lord

Reading I Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7
Reading II Acts 10:34-38
Gospel Mark 1:7-11

ST. FLORIAN'S MISSION STATEMENT

We are Roman Catholics of prayer, service and long-standing tradition guided by the spirit to meet the direct needs of our parishioners and neighboring communities in a demanding social environment.

We strive to achieve a sense of justice, responsibility, prayerfulness, communication and unity by providing:

- All individuals the opportunity of receiving Sacraments;
- The proper educational environment—spiritually, morally, academically;
- A channel for corporal works of mercy; and
- A time and place for social gathering and fellowship.

Our goals and objectives will be accomplished through encouraging active participation in dialogue, evangelization, stewardship, prayer and love.

St. Florian School Happenings . . .

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

INSERT

LOGO

PLEASE NOTE:

During the holiday season, there will be no BINGO on Sunday, Jan. 4th.
Bingo will resume on Sunday, Jan. 11th.

Market Day - Orders due Fri., Jan. 16 and pick-up is on Fri. Jan. 23rd, 2-3 PM in the School Gym.

Aluminum Can Recycling - Please bring your aluminum cans to the school parking lot on Wed., Jan. 7th by 8 AM.

Save General Mills, Tyson, & Campbell Soup Labels !

The school continues to save:
General Mills "Box Tops for Education" coupons
Tyson Project A+ "Support Your School" labels
Campbell's soup labels - Submit the UPC code with the Campbell Kid Logo next to the UPC located on back of label. Other Campbell products include Franco American, Prego, Nestle Pure Water labels and Pepperidge Farm.

HIGH SCHOOL ENTRANCE EXAM

Saturday, January 10, 2009

8:00 AM

Students taking the exam should bring:
two #2 pencils
\$25.00 test fee

MOUNT CARMEL HIGH SCHOOL

6410 S. Dante Avenue; Chicago
773-324-1020; ext. 265

MARIAN CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

700 Ashland Avenue; Chicago Heights, IL
708-755-7565

ST. FRANCIS de SALES HIGH SCHOOL

10155 S. Ewing Avenue; Chicago
773-731-7272; ext. 239

ST. RITA of CASCIA HIGH SCHOOL

7740 S. Western Avenue; Chicago
773-925-RITA

MARIA HIGH SCHOOL

The Epiphany of the Lord

Ephesians 3:2—3a, 5-6

The birth of Jesus became the worst kept secret in the history of the world. All along, people knew God had a plan. God had told everyone from Adam and Eve, to Abraham and Sara, to Moses and Miriam, to David and Bathsheba, to Hosea and Gomer, to Mary and Joseph that there was a plan. Nobody fully understood it. Nobody knew how God would bring the plan to fulfillment, but they all believed. They had seen God work mighty deeds in their lives, and they believed that one day the promise of redemption would be fulfilled.

Jesus was God's secret. When Jesus was born in humble surroundings outside of royalty and pageantry, only a handful of people even began to realize what God had done.

But the secret got out. Angels appeared in the sky. Shepherds showed up. Magi traveled from faraway land. Everyone was finding out God's two great surprises: Jesus was born as the promised Messiah, and he came not just for his own race, but for all the people of the world.

The letter to the Ephesians says, God's mystery "was not made known to people in other generations as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit." Jesus was born, and he came to save each of us, no matter what family we came from, what we believed, or how we behaved. The mystery of God's love is open now to the whole world. That is the epiphany, the revelation of God's secret.

Text by Paul Turner © 2003 Liturgy Training Publications

How do you stuff a tree into a garbage can? YOU DON'T

Recycle it instead! Drop off at a location below from Saturday, January 3 through Friday, January 16 to be chipped and turned into mulch. Free mulch will be available to residents for pick up beginning Friday, January 9.

Bessemer Park
8930 S. Muskegon

Rowan Park
11546 Ave. L

THE ONLY NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION YOU NEED What is your 2009 resolution? Husbands and wives, consider making the enrichment of your marriage a priority and register for a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend! The next dates are Feb. 27 - March 1 or May 1-3, or June 5-7 2009. For information or reservations, please consult our website at www.wmchicago-gary.org or call Kris and Jim at 1-800-442.3554.

Christmas Offerings: If you have not had the opportunity to complete your Christmas offering to the parish, please do so at your earliest convenience.

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.

WEEKLY OFFERINGS December 27/28, 2008	
Sunday Envelopes	\$2,976.00
Loose	\$ 491.09
Energy Assistance	\$ 97.00
Actual Received	\$3,564.09
(vs. Budgeted Goal)	\$5,250.00)
Bldg. Improvement	\$ 93.00
Maintenance	\$ 73.00
Children's Offering	\$ 34.44
Votives	\$ 203.00

St Vincent de Paul Poor Box - \$173.27
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 NOTE: In order to receive proper credit, please be sure to complete all 2008 church contributions by Jan. 23.

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2008 Charitable Contributions - Statements for the 2008 tax year will be processed by request only. Please fill out the form below and return it to the rectory by January 23. We will mail requested statements by the end of the month.

Please send a 2008 contribution statement to me:

Name: _____

Address: _____

(return request via collection basket or at the rectory)

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MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- Jan. 5 School resumes
Parish Council mtg. (KH) 7:00
- Jan. 6 Faith Sharing (Rectory) 7:00
- Jan. 7 Holy Name Officers (PMR) 7:00
- Jan. 8 Scouts (KH) 6:00
Faith Sharing (PMR) 6:00
RCIA (Rectory) 6:00
- Jan. 9 Holy Name (PMR) 7:30
- Jan. 11 Bingo (Gym) Doors open at 1:30
- Jan. 12 Music Mtg. (Rectory) 9:00
Faith Sharing (Rectory) 7:00
- Jan. 13 Parents Club (PMR) 8AM & 5:30PM
Golden Agers (KH) 1:00
Evangelization (KH) 6:30
- Jan. 14 Athletic Mtg. (School) 9:00
Brownies/Daisies (KH) 2:30
Liturgy Mtg. (Rectory) 6:00
- Jan. 16 Sponsor/Candidate Mtg. (KH) 7:00

Maintenance and Energy Costs:
We've certainly had our share of winter weather this past month. We ask you to be as generous as you are able in using your "Maintenance Envelope" so that we may keep up with the costs of snow removal, plowing, and salting our walks and parking lot.
We also thank you for using your Energy envelopes to help with our heating costs. Please continue to do so throughout the winter heating season.

Please pray for our
Service Members:



Cpl Ryan Keene, U.S. Marine Corps -
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 - LCpl Christopher Abram, U.S. Marine Corps - Lt. Comdr. Nicholas Garcia, U.S. Navy Pilot - SPC Waylon Bader, U.S. Army - Chief Jim Pope, U.S. Navy - 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. Kathryn Diaz, U.S. Marine Corps - 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 - PFC Kristin Pala, U.S. Marine Corps, 1st Lt. 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, PVT David Cook - U.S. Army, PFC Kelly Shanahan - U.S. Air Force

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