

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

Weekend of January 10/11

- 4:00 PM + Krystyna Abram - Regina Przybyla
 8:00 AM + Mary J. (Tina) Dubiel - Josephine Cap
 9:45 AM + Barney Zielinski - Family
 11:30 AM + Florencia Calderon - Family

Monday, January 12

- 7:15 AM + Bernie Piotrowski (1st Anniv.) - Family

Tuesday, January 13

- 7:15 AM + Mary Mistrz (1st Anniv.) - Son & Grandchildren

Wednesday, January 14

- 7:15 AM + Krystyna Abram - Mom & Dad

Thursday, January 15

- 7:15 AM + Eugene A. Mezydlo - Josephine Cap

Friday, January 16

- 8:15 AM + Sylvia Krupa - Children

Saturday, January 17

- 7:30 AM + William J. Slusarczyk - Josephine Opiola
 4:00 PM + Charles Anderson - Betty Peak

Sunday, January 18

- 8:00 AM + Eugene A. Mezydlo - St. Florian Rosary Sodality
 9:45 AM - Knights of Columbus Memorial Mass
 11:30 AM - For the Parishioners

Week of January 11 - January 17

The Gifts of Bread & Wine are donated this week in memory of
 Joseph Cygal - Richard & Judith Scanlan

The Tabernacle Candle will be lit this week in memory of
 Walter Lenckos - Family

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 17

- 4:00 PM J. Gottardo, B. Meyer, J. Lelo

SUNDAY, January 18

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

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

A Christmas Thank You!

As we bring the Christmas Season to an end with today's feast, The Baptism of the Lord, I am sure we can appreciate the work and preparation that was put into it. It began during Advent with our weekly lighting of the advent wreath, the increasing numbers of people faithfully attending the novena for Our Lady of Guadalupe, and decorating the parish Christmas tree with our favorite ornaments as we heard "O Christmas Tree" on pipe organ, hand bells, and violin. The food and fellowship provided by the hospitality committee afterward brought the celebration to a warm conclusion.

The inside of the church is the first visual experience one has when entering it. The Christmas decorations, the nativity scene, the candles, flowers, and cleanliness of the church are all visual expressions of our joyful faith at Christmas. We wish to thank the liturgy committee for all their preparation to make our church so beautiful for Advent (especially the new advent wreath) and Christmas.

We wish to thank our choirs and cantors for their time and talent and for all the rehearsal work. Many parishioners complemented the St. Florian Choir for their Christmas choral program before Mass as well as the hymn "O Come, O Come, Emanuel" sung in the original Latin. As it was sung in the darkened church, four parishioners processed down the main aisle with large white candles. It was a beautiful way to enter into the Christmas Mass at night.

To all our lectors, ministers of communion, altar servers, ushers, ministers of care, organist, instrumentalists, sacristan, and to all those who put up the Christmas trees and cribs, a heartfelt thanks.

We also would like to acknowledge our rectory staff who worked extra hard as they took care of getting the bulletins out earlier and attending to extra mailings, phone calls, and door bells. Thank to our counters who also took the extra time and care with all of our Christmas collections.

A special thanks to all of you, our parishioners, who prayerfully and joyfully participated in our Christmas celebrations. Thank you also for all your Christmas cards, gifts, and prayers this Christmas.

Peace and good health to all of you in 2009,

Fr. Jim

The Baptism of the Lord

Acts of the Apostles 10:34-38

Something happened at the baptism of Jesus. John had been using baptism as a way of ushering people into a new way of life. They turned down a new path on life's journey and placed themselves completely at the service of God.

When Jesus accepted baptism by John, his public ministry began. He worked wonders. He preached about the reign of God. He acquired disciples. He foretold his death and resurrection. He prayed. He lived for God alone when the evangelists searched out how this ministry began, they all turned back to the same moment: the baptism of John.

In Acts of the Apostles, Peter went to the house of Cornelius the Gentile, because Cornelius wanted to know more about Jesus. Peter began teaching by summarizing the life of Jesus. He did it the same way the evangelists did: God proclaimed peace, "beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John preached," where "God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power."

Many of us can point to a moment when something happened in our lives, too. Perhaps there was one day when we started looking at the world a lot differently. We saw more clearly who we were and what God wanted us to be. We pledged to be faithful to the God who loves us, and ever since, we have striven to live out our commitment. No one did it as perfectly as Jesus, but we are all called by God for some purpose.

*Text by Paul Turner
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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.

We pray for . . .

Helen Golden, John Noworyta, Wanda Podgorny, Ida Fasciana, Debra Mokrzycki, Charlotte Frjelic, 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, Eugene Piekerczyk, 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.



Knight of Columbus - A Family Mass will take place on January 18, 2009, at 9:45 a.m. at St. Florian Church. Refreshment will be served after Mass in Konsowski Hall. All are welcome - please join us.

Thanks for **VOLUNTEERING** Volunteer Appreciation Party!

Saturday - January 31, 2009

5:00 - 8:00 in the gym
(Doors open immediately following
the 4:00 p.m. Mass)

Volunteers are people who are willing to give of themselves — time, talent, treasure—for the good of the whole community. Volunteers do not get paid for what they do. Many people volunteer at St. Florian and for this we are most grateful.

Please come and enjoy dinner by Ace Catering, great music and a fun time as our way of saying thank you for all you do! (Spouses welcome.)

We appreciate you!

Please respond by Monday, January 26th.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday - Jan. 12

Reading Hebrews 1:1-6
Gospel Mark 1:14-20

Tuesday - Jan. 13

Reading Hebrews 2:5-12
Gospel Mark 1:21-28

Wed. - Jan. 14

Reading Hebrews 2:14-18
Gospel Mark 1:29-39

Thursday - Jan. 15

Reading Hebrews 3:7-14
Gospel Mark 1:40-45

Friday - Jan. 16

Reading Hebrews 4:1-5, 11
Gospel Mark 2:1-12

Sat. - Jan. 17 - St. Anthony

Reading Hebrews 4:12-16
Gospel Mark 2:13-17

Sunday Jan. 18 - 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Reading I 1 Samuel 3:3b-10, 19
Reading II 1 Corinthians 6:13c-15a, 17-20
Gospel John 1:35-42

St. Florian Parish Volunteer Appreciation Party Saturday, January 31, 2009

Yes, I have volunteered my time and talent and will attend the celebration!

Name(s): _____

Number of Adults attending: _____

(Please reply via the collection basket
or at the rectory.)

St. Florian School Happenings . . .

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

INSERT
 LOGO

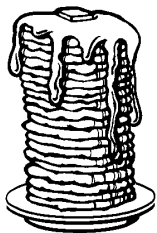
BINGO
 Every Sunday
 Doors open at 1:30
 Games begin at 2:30
 in the gym at 131st & Houston

Market Day - Orders due Fri., Jan. 16th and pick-up is on Fri. Jan. 23rd, 2-3 PM in the School Gym. Profits earned last month was \$196.80. Thank you for all your support!

Catholic Schools Week
St. Florian School

Pancake Breakfast
Sunday, January 25th
9:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
13110 S. Baltimore
School Gym


Adults:	\$6.00
Kids (4-11)	\$3.00
3 and under:	FREE



All School Family Mass at 9:45 a.m.
 School Open House at 10:45 a.m. to 12 noon
Book Fair in the Gym, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

We welcome all volunteers - Any parishioners interested in helping please call the school office at 646-2868

St. Florian School Book Fair
Lights, Camera, Books



As part of Catholic Schools Week, the School Library will sponsor a Scholastic Book Fair From Sunday, January 25 until Wednesday January 28 in the School Gym.

Sunday, January 25, 9:00 am - 1:00 pm is Family day and the public is welcome. There will be books for all ages, computer games, and craft activities. A Family Day Raffle will be held with the drawing taking place at 12:00 noon.

The Book Fair will continue until Wednesday, January 28. Hours Monday- Wednesday are 8:30 am - 4:00 pm. This is a major fund raiser for the School's Library. For more details see the St. Florian Website.

CHURCH IN LATIN AMERICA
Jan. 17/18, 2009 Collection
ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

The Church in Latin America, while diverse in culture, is grounded in a deep faith that we all share as children of God. This lived faith invites all believers in this part of the world to action—to be disciples of Christ, sent by His Spirit as missionaries and leaders in their communities and beyond.

For the past 45 years, the faithful of the United States have supported the **Collection for the Church in Latin America** as a visible sign of their compassion and solidarity with the faithful of Latin America and the Caribbean. Proceeds from this annual collection assist in the formation of seminarians, lay ministers, catechists, and youth ministers in more than 200 dioceses throughout our southern hemisphere.

On behalf of those who, while lacking financial resources, are blessed in faith and love for Our Lord Jesus Christ, please accept my gratitude for your generous support of this collection. May God continue to bless you and your loved ones.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Francis Cardinal George, O.M.I.
 Archbishop of Chicago

Christmas Offerings: If you have not had the opportunity to complete your Christmas offering to the parish, please do so within the next two weeks.

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	
January 3/4, 2009	
Sunday Envelopes	\$3,006.00
Loose	\$ 392.82
Energy Assistance	\$ 629.00
Actual Received	\$4,027.82
(vs. Budgeted Goal)	\$5,250.00)
Bldg. Improvement	\$ 147.00
Maintenance	\$ 254.00
Children's Offering	\$ 83.65
Votives	\$ 213.00

St Vincent de Paul Poor Box - \$98.47

We Are Listening The St. Vincent de Paul Society exists to assist those in need. We can help those we know about. We hear of their need from people like you. Do you know of a parishioner in need of temporary assistance? Please call the rectory and leave a message.

Thank You! The members of the St. Vincent de Paul Society here at St. Florian, on behalf of those we serve, wish to thank everyone for all their kind support during the past year. Your generosity makes our Society a loving ministry for God's people. Without your food and monetary donations, we wouldn't be able to serve so may. May God bless each of you with a healthy and happy year.

PLEASE NOTE: In order to receive proper credit, please complete all 2008 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. 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) 6:30
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
- Jan. 17/18 Latin America Collection
- Jan. 18 Bingo (Gym) Doors open at 1:30
- Jan. 19 Young at Heart (KH) 1:00
- Jan. 20 School Advisory Board (Rectory) 6:30
Youth Group (KH) 7:00
- Jan. 21 Brownies/Daisies (KH) 2:30
- Jan. 22 Scouts (KH) 6:00
RCIA (Rectory) 6:00
- Jan. 23 Market Day (Gym) 2:00

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. Commdr. 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.