

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

Weekend of November 28/29

4:00 PM + Verna Waicunas (26th Anniv.) - Daughter-in-Law, Dolores

8:00 AM + Pauline Pedersen - Ceil Motkowicz

9:45 AM + Tony & Nellie Segvich - Family

11:30 AM - Good Health for Martin Covarrubias - Family

Monday, November 30

7:15 AM + Fr. Leonard Mezydlo - Rosemary Mezydlo

Tuesday, December 1

7:15 AM + Sylvia Krupa - Matt & Ann Marie Gornick

Wednesday, December 2

7:15 AM - In Thanksgiving for the Mosser Family

Thursday, December 3

7:15 AM + Sally Slavik - Chicago Police 6th District

Friday, December 4

8:15 AM + Sally Cegielski - Family & Friends

Saturday, December 5

7:30 AM + Edward Pala - Pat & Joe Stef

4:00 PM - Thanksgiving for Florence's Successful Surgery -
Mr. & Mrs. Ted Dereziński

Sunday, December 6

8:00 AM + Zakrzewski Family - Frances & Chester

9:45 AM + Gilbert Yager - Wife

11:30 AM + Rosa Elvia Gonzales - Husband

Week of November 29 - December 5

The Gifts of Bread & Wine are donated this week in memory of

Henry Abram - Carl & Rita Abram

The Tabernacle Candle will be lit this week in memory of

Henry Abram - Carl & Rita Abram

LECTORS

December, 2009

4:00 PM	L. Morse
8:00 AM	P. Gadus
9:45 AM	A. Simmons
11:30 AM	C. Ramirez

ALTAR SERVERS

SATURDAY, December 5

4:00 PM G. Bonczek, T. DeCook, K. Mallee

SUNDAY, December 6

8:00 AM B. Echevarria, E. Echevarria, J. O'Keefe

9:45 AM C. Haro, V. Velasco, N. Mooney

11:30 AM M. Ortiz, S. Zaragoza, X. Gutierrez

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

December, 2009

4:00 PM

A. Bonczek
B. Frjelich
B. Peak
M. Cowperthwaite
M. Piaskowy
C. Motkowicz

8:00 AM

S. Jezior
K. Gibson
J. Gibbons
C. Jankiewicz
N. Moll
E. Podsiadlik

9:45 AM

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

11:30 AM

R. Oseguera
A. Davila

USHERS

December, 2009

4:00 PM

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

E. Lihota, G. Slusarczyk,
K. Podgorny, R. Furman,
T. Baker,
M. Gasior, M. Aducci

11:30 AM

L. Arellano, A. Arellano,
T. Favela, J. Gonzalez,
S. Gonzalez



Advent Wreath and Blessing

Lord God, your Church joyfully awaits the coming of its Savior, who enlightens our hearts and dispels the darkness of ignorance and sin . . .

Pour forth your blessings upon us as we light the candles of this wreath; may their light reflect the splendor of Christ, who is Lord for ever and ever.

—Prayer of Blessing of an Advent Wreath

With these words, the Church hallows the circle of greenery and candles that often marks our liturgical space during Advent. Formed in a circle, an ancient symbol of God who has neither beginning nor end, the wreath proclaims life in the midst of the seeming death of winter. Its candles proclaim that Christ, who is to come again, is the light that no darkness can extinguish. With each week of Advent we light one more candle and the darkness retreats just a bit further.

All of this is to help the Church recall just what and who it is for which we wait during this season: the kingdom of God in its fullness and the coming of the one who will banish *all* darkness forever.

The above prayer of blessing can be used in your home. As the family gathers on this first Sunday of Advent, bless the Advent wreath. The *Book of Blessings*, chapter 47, contains a complete Order of Service for Blessing the Advent wreath. It includes an Opening Song, an introduction, the proclamation of an Advent scripture, the blessing prayer, Intercessions, the Lord's Prayer and a Closing Prayer.

*Written by Todd Williamson
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Reflection for the First Sunday of Advent

By Rev. Daren J. Zehnle

Through this holy season of Advent we look for the coming of the Lord. We await his coming among us when we open the scriptures and celebrate the sacraments. We look forward to the celebration of his birth in Bethlehem. Perhaps most importantly, we long and yearn for his coming again in glory at the end of time. Let us ask the Lord, then, to keep us always expectant of his coming, that he might not find us unaware.

Let Us Pray

*Father in heaven,
your son told us to be watchful
and ready for his coming.
Keep us always faithful to his calling
until he comes in glory.*

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, 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, Dorita De Cardona, Michael Boston, Steven Schwartz, Marietta Falbo, Linda Stannish, Pam Skowronski, Josephine Opiola, Yesenia Guajardo, Beth Lasseter, Chestine Trzupiek, Patricia Manley, Thomas Frain, Laurie Ferry, Irma Bulatovich, Alicia Davila, Sophie Borowiec, 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, Christen White, Irma Cardenas, Anthony Gromek, Karen Kil, Bertha Soto, Irene Stincic, Marion Vargas, Martin Covarubias, Joseph B. Mistarz, Jr., Amanda Montemayor, Ed Ronczy, 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.



In Remembrance . . .

Noemi Quintero

November 19, 2009

*During our Advent season,
please be sure to join together as a parish family
on the following days:*

Advent Taizé Prayer Service

Saturdays at 3:30 PM

As we patiently wait to welcome the Christ-Child we offer an Advent Taizé Prayer Service at 3:30 p.m. before the 4:00 p.m. Saturday Mass. We invite all of you to begin each week of Advent with our Taizé Prayer Service in which we sing psalms, hear scripture, reflect, all in the context of Adoration before the Blessed Sacrament. Each Taizé Prayer Service ends with Benediction. Please join us and pray in the quiet stillness of Advent.

The Blue Nativity

Saturday, December 12th

3:00 PM in Church

A theatrical performance about the birth of Christ followed by Mass at 4:00 PM

Our Lady of Guadalupe

Our Spanish community will begin their Novena (nine days) to Our Lady of Guadalupe on Thursday, Dec. 3, at 6:30 PM. They will meet each evening in the Parish Meeting Room (2nd floor above Konsowski Hall) and say the rosary and special prayers to Our Lady. All are invited to join them for as many days as you are able. A Mass in celebration of the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe will be held on Sat., Dec. 12, at 6 PM followed by a reception in the gymnasium. All are invited to attend.

Feast of the Immaculate Conception

Holy Day of Obligation

Tuesday, December 8th

Masses at 8:15 AM & 7:00 PM

Advent Confessions

All Saturdays in Advent	3:00 - 3:30 PM
Wednesday, Dec. 16th	7PM Reconciliation Service
Saturday, Dec. 19th	2:30 - 3:30 & after 4PM Mass
Tuesday, Dec. 22nd	7:00 - 8:00 PM

Parish Tree Lighting

Saturday, December 19th

3:30 PM Taizé Prayer Service

4:00 PM Liturgy followed by Tree Lighting

This year we have chosen a "wooden" ornament as our theme. All families are asked to help decorate the tree with ornaments (either purchased or homemade). Refreshments will be available in Konsowski Hall following the tree lighting.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday - Nov. 30 - St. Andrew

Reading Romans 10:9-18

Gospel Matthew 4:18-22

Tuesday - Dec. 1 -

Reading Isaiah 11:1-10

Gospel Luke 10:21-24

Wed. - Dec. 2 -

Reading Isaiah 25:6-10a

Gospel Matthew 15:29-37

Thursday - Dec. 3 - St. Francis Xavier

Reading Isaiah 26:1-6

Gospel Matthew 7:21, 24-27

Friday - Dec. 4 - St. John of Damacus

Reading Isaiah 29:17-24

Gospel Matthew 9:27-31

Sat. - Dec. 5

Reading Isaiah 30:19-21, 23-26

Gospel Matthew 9:35—10:1, 5a, 6-8

Sunday - Dec. 6 Second Sunday of Advent

Reading I Baruch 5:1-9

Reading II Philippians 1:4-6, 8-11

Gospel Luke 3:1-6

St. Florian School Happenings . . .

INSERT

LOGO

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

BINGO! – Doors open at 1:30
and games begin at 2:30!

Market Day - Orders due Friday, December 4th.
Pick up on Friday, December 11th, from 2-3PM.
Profits earned last month: \$143.07. Free pizza
with a \$40 purchase. Thank you for your support!

Aluminum Can Recycling - Please bring your
aluminum cans to the school parking lot on Wed.,
Dec. 2, by 8 AM.

Monthly Tuition Raffle!!!

Buy a ticket for \$10 - win a month of tuition. Each month we will have a brand new raffle and everyone will have a new chance to win. You can buy as many tickets as you'd like. If you would like to sponsor a monthly raffle, or know of someone that would like to sponsor a month, please notify the school office.

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 to 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.



Come Home to the Catholic Church

Sometimes it is our childhood memories that help us reconnect to God later in life. "Is it possible to recapture that simplicity of faith? Can I ever really believe that God is watching over me?" These are common questions that are asked. And it is the secularization of our society that leads people away from their spiritual yearnings. The Catholic Church offers both religious and mystical experiences that open the heart, the mind, and the soul. Today, we begin not only the season of Advent but also a new church year. The Advent season prepares our hearts and souls for the birth of Christ, also known as the Incarnation of Christ. This is where the Word became flesh and where the Son of God reveals a Father's love: the love of an only Son come down from heaven. These are good mystical experiences to return to and to build up some memories that can touch our hearts and souls for the years to come. Don't be afraid to invite someone who has been away. Welcome them back to Christ and His Church.

— Fr. Jim

Next week: Reason #8 -
Because mistakes are made.

A series of TV commercials will be aired to invite Catholics to return to the practice of the faith starting December 16, 2009 through January 24, 2010 on all major networks. The commercials will air in English, Spanish and Polish.

Make a first contact by calling
Catholics Come Home Chicago
at 312-534-5100 or visit our website
www.CatholicsComeHomeCHICAGO.org.

NEW TELEVISED SUNDAY MASS!

Beginning on Sunday, November 29th, a televised Sunday Mass will begin airing on CBS Channel 2 from 5:30 to 6:00 a.m. each Sunday morning. **THE SUNDAY MASS** is produced by the Passionist Fathers and Brothers out of New York City and is available nationally on local affiliates. Too early for you? Tape or Tivo it! For more information consult the website at www.TheSundayMass.org.

WEEKLY OFFERINGS	
Nov. 21/22, 2009	
Sunday Envelopes	\$2,955.00
Loose	\$ 342.70
Energy Assistance	<u>\$ 41.00</u>
Actual Received vs.	\$3,338.70
Budgeted Goal	\$5,250.00
Bldg. Improvement	\$ 30.00
Maintenance	\$ 3.00
Children's Offering	\$ 51.50
Campaign for Human Develop.	\$ 673.00

St Vincent de Paul - Poor Box \$105.51

On The Street Where You Live Wherever you may live in our parish, there are poor families within walking distance of your home. When in need, they ring the rectory bell. They are, in effect, ringing your doorbell. Your coins in the St. Vincent de Paul Boxes assist these

St. Casimir's Cookie & Novelty Sale and Pancake Breakfast with Santa! All are invited to the Cookie and Novelty Sale from 2-6PM on Saturday, Dec. 5 and 8:30-3:00 on Sunday, Dec. 6 in the Blue Room of the school, located at 4329 Cameron Ave. in Hammond. There will also be a pancake breakfast complete with photos with Santa (for purchase) on Sunday, Dec. 6, from 8:00-Noon. Adults \$5, Children 12 under \$3.00.

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 Christo-
pher 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. Christopher Conner,
U.S. Marine Corps - Sgt. Michael Marszalek, U.S.
Army - Robert A. Islas, Jr., U.S. Navy - Sgt. Mat-
thew 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, A1C Kelly
Shanahan - U.S. Air Force, - PFC Anthony Baracco,
U.S. Army
*If you wish to have a family member added to this prayer list,
please contact the Rectory at 646-4877.*

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- Nov. 29 Bingo (Gym) Doors open at 1:30
- Nov. 30 Faith Sharing (KH) 1:00
Faith Sharing (Rectory) 7:00
- Dec. 1 Parent/Teacher Club (KH) 6:30
Faith Sharing (Rectory) 7:00
- Dec. 2 Scouts (KH) 5:30
Liturgy (Rectory) 6:00
- Dec. 3 Novena begins (PMR) 6:30
- Dec. 6 Bingo (Gym) Doors open at 1:30
Ladies Rosary Sodality (KH) 1:30
- Dec. 7 Faith Sharing (Rectory) 7:00
- Dec. 9 Evangelization Mtg. (KH) 6:00
- Dec. 10 Scouts (KH) 6:00
- Dec. 11 Market Day (Gym) 2:00
Holy Name (PMR) Officers 6:30
Members 8:00
- Dec. 12 The Blue Nativity (Church) 3:00
Our Lady of Guadalupe Mass 6PM
- Dec. 12/13 Religious Retirement Collection

Ladies Rosary Sodality - The next meeting will take place on Sunday, December 6th in Konsowski Hall at 1:30PM. Member are encouraged to attend.

Lebanon Lutheran Church hosts "What's in Your Bowl?" - Come fill a bowl with soups, stews, salads and more on Wednesday, Dec. 9, from 5:00-7:00 PM at Lebanon Lutheran Church, 13100 S. Manistee. All proceeds will support Lebanon's Turnaround Initiative furthering ministry in the community featuring the culinary skills of the "Hegewisch Community After School Matters Culinary Apprenticeship". \$7.00 adults and \$4.00 children under 12. Call 773/646-1747 for more information.

Novenas

A novena is a nine-day prayer asking a saint for prayers and intercessions. Nine days passed between Christ's ascension and the Holy Spirit's descent on the apostles; nine days spent by the disciples in prayer and fasting in an upper room, higher and separate from the bustling and noisy city around them. Today, even in our own busy lives, we can take a few minutes a day to commune with God, to speak to our older brothers and sisters in the faith. May we remember that if the first novena brought about the birth of the Church then novenas today can work miracles as well.