

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

Weekend of December 3/4

- 4:00 PM + Stella Stolarz - Family
- 8:00 AM + Helen Zurawski - Joanie Kowalczyk
- 9:45 AM + Alex & Victoria Kazmierczak - Family
- 11:30 AM + Manuel Ortega & Rosario Ortega - Delia Chavez

Monday, December 5

- 7:15 AM + Raymond Myszynski - The Youngblooms

Tuesday, December 6

- 7:15 AM + Theresa V. Zola - Katie Carow

Wednesday, December 7

- 7:15 AM + John Pilewski - Granddaughters

Thursday, December 8

- 8:15 AM + Daniel Stevens - Mr. & Mrs. Art Jasek
- 7:00 PM - For the Parishioners

Friday, December 9

- 8:15 AM + Helen Slusarczyk - Daughters of Isabella

Saturday, December 10

- 7:30 AM + Helen Slusarczyk - Son-in-Law, Bill
- 3:30 PM - Taizé Prayer Service and Benediction
- 4:00 PM + Theresa & Bruno Milewski - Daughter

Sunday, December 11

- 8:00 AM + Deceased Members of the Zakrzewski Family - Frances & Chester
- 9:45 AM + Gilbert Yager - Wife
- 11:30 AM + Jesús & José Luis Manriquez - Manriquez Family

Week of December 4 - December 10

The Gifts of Bread & Wine are donated this week in memory of
Vincent Ginalski - Friends

The Tabernacle Candle will be lit this week in memory of
Vincent Ginalski - Friends

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS
December 2011

- 4:00 PM
 - K. Gibson
 - B. Frjelic
 - L. Morse
 - M. Cowperthwaite
 - R. Haney
 - D. Karczewski
- 8:00 AM
 - S. Jezior
 - P. Gadus
 - N. Moll
 - J. Gibbons
 - D. Ciciora
 - C. Bozovic
- 9:45 AM
 - C. Malone
 - P. Haro
 - O. Haro
 - P. O'Rourke
 - P. Maccagnano
 - M. Czarobski
- 11:30 AM
 - A. Davila
 - O. Cruz

LECTORS

December 2011

- 4:00 PM A. Bonczek
- 8:00 AM L. Wopinski
- 9:45 AM J. Struzik
- 11:30 AM M. Megallanes

ALTAR SERVERS

SATURDAY, December 10

- 4:00 PM R. Rodriguez, B. Echevarria, D. Gaczowski

SUNDAY, December 11

- 8:00 AM R. Robles, D. Robles, D. Ranos
- 9:45 AM A. Shea, K. Best, A. Villanueva
- 11:30 AM X. Gutierrez, M. Ortiz

USHERS

December 2011

- 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, T. Baker, M. Gasior, M. Aducci
- 11:30 AM R. Manriquez, J. Gonzalez, M. Suarez

Advent Wreath Year B
Paul Turner



If you are setting up an Advent wreath in your home this year, here is a prayer for the first week of Advent you could say while you light its candle. You may set these before or after a meal, when waking up, before going to bed, or whenever you and the members of your household gather for prayer. Before you say the prayer, read and talk over the Gospel reading you heard at Sunday Mass that week.

Week 2: O God, who sent John the Baptist to proclaim a baptism of repentance, let these two candles prepare the way of the Lord within us. Forgive our sins and fill us with your Holy Spirit. Make us ready to celebrate the birth of our Savior. Through Christ our Lord.

Ministry & Liturgy
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*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.

Our Lady of Guadalupe

Our Spanish community will continue their Novena (nine days) to Our Lady of Guadalupe at 6:30 p.m. They will meet each evening in 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 Monday, Dec. 12, at 6:30 p.m. Mass. All are invited to a reception in the Gym after Mass.

“Novena a la Virgen de Guadalupe”

Cordialmente le invitamos a que nos acompañe
Novena: Sábado, 3 de Diciembre a
Domingo 11 de Diciembre, Hors: 6:30 p.m.
Lugar: Konsowski Hall; Primer piso
Misa: Lunes 12 de Diciembre; Hora 6:30 p.m.
Convivio: después de la misa en el gimnasio
de la escuela San Florian, (Houston & 131st St.)

Parish Tree Lighting

Saturday, December 17th

3:30 PM Taizé Prayer Service
4:00 PM Liturgy followed by Tree Lighting

This year we have chosen a “**snowflake**” 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.



The Christmas Custom of Oplatki



Oplatki “The Bread of Love”
Before sitting down at the table, everyone receives a piece of wafer, called oplatki (Oh-pwa-ki). It is similar to the communion wafer but rectangular with religious nativity scenes stamped into it. Each person breaks off a small piece of the other person’s wafer and eats it, while hugging and exchanging good wishes for the coming year. All transgressions are forgiven and family members start over with a clean slate in their relationships with one another. It is still strongly believed that whatever happens on Christmas Eve will impact the upcoming year. Oplatki, called the “bread of love” is mailed to family members who can’t attend Christmas in person.

Feast of the Immaculate Conception

Holy Day of Obligation
Thursday, December 8th
Masses at 8:15 AM & 7:00 PM

Advent Confessions

All Saturdays in Advent 3:00 - 3:30 PM

Oplatki

(Christmas Wafers)
Available in Church after all masses
and at the Rectory and School Office
\$2.00 per package or 3 for \$5.00

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 - Dec. 5

Reading Isaiah 35:1-10
Gospel Luke 5:17-26

Tuesday - Dec. 6 - St. Nicholas

Reading Isaiah 40:1-11
Gospel Matthew 18:12-14

Wednesday - Dec. 7 - St. Ambrose

Reading Isaiah 40:25-31
Gospel Matthew 11:28-30

Thurs.- Dec. 8 Feast of the Immaculate Conception

Reading I Genesis 3:9-15, 20
Reading II Ephesians 1:3-6, 11-12
Gospel Luke 1:26-38

Friday - Dec. 9 - St. Juan Diego

Reading Isaiah 48:17-19
Gospel Matthew 11:16-19

Saturday - Dec. 10

Reading Sirach 48:1-4, 9-11
Gospel Matthew 17:9a, 10-13

Sunday Dec. 11 Third Sunday of Advent

Reading I Isaiah 61:1-2a, 10-11
Reading II 1 Thessalonians 5:6-24
Gospel John 1:6-8, 19-28

In Remembrance

Anthony Gromek - Nov. 23, 2011

Retirement Fund for Religious Appeal Dec. 10-11 2011

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

On the weekend of December 10th & 11th the annual collection for the **Retirement Fund for Religious**, an opportunity to honor and thank retired Catholic sisters, brothers and religious order priests for their generous service to our Church and our world.

Whether we realize it or not, we are all beneficiaries of the tremendous contributions these women and men have made. Through hard work, prayer and sacrifice, they established schools and hospitals, initiated programs to promote social justice and ministered to the neediest among us. I remain grateful for the ways they have shaped my own faith and for the outstanding service they have given to our archdiocese.

I realize there are numerous worthy causes in need of assistance and that many individuals and families continue to struggle financially. I ask you simply to offer what you can for the care of women and men who have made such enormous contributions to our Church.

Thank you for your support of this appeal. During the upcoming Advent season, you and those you love will be in my prayers in a special way; please keep me in yours.

Sincerely yours in Christ,
Francis Cardinal George, O.M.I.

Archbishop of Chicago

Vocation Thoughts

December 4 - 2nd Sunday of Advent

Are you being called to help "prepare the way of the Lord?" for today's people as a priest, religious, or deacon? For information about priesthood contact Fr. Brian Welter at bwelter@archchicago.org, and go to www.facebook.com/chicagopriest For info on religious life contact Sr. Elyse Ramirez, OP at 312-534-5240 or eramirez@archchicago.org, and for the Permanent Diaconate program contact Deacon Bob Puhala at 847-837-4562 or bpuhala@usml.edu.

St. Florian School Happenings . . .

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



BINGO

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



Market Day - Pick up on Friday, Dec. 9 from 2-3PM. Profits earned last month: \$161.30. Thank you for your support!

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

Congratulations Alumni - Honor Roll!

Marian Catholic : Brittany Maloney, Bryan McDonald, Megan McDonald, Adrianna Varela

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, Papalano'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

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.

The Third Edition of the Roman Missal

Are you looking for more information about the changes to the Mass? Visit the St. Florian website and view the short video, "The New Roman Missal for High School Teens." This short video gives a terrific overview of why the New Translation is taking place as well as a brief history of how it came about. See it at <http://florian.hegewisch.net>.

Advent Symbols

One of the most enduring symbols of the season, the **Advent Wreath** brings together several powerful images:

- The circular wreath reminds us that's God's love for us has no beginning and no end.
- The **evergreen sprigs** often added to the wreath call to mind the eternal life God offers us in Jesus.
- The four **candles** mark the four weeks of Advent. Three candles are **purple**, the color of repentance, reminding us why we need a Savior in the first place. The one **pink** candle is a sign of joy, even in the midst of waiting. As we light another candle each week, **light** increasing dispels darkness, just as the Light of Christ overcomes the darkness of sin and death in our lives.

Advent Calendars mark the passage of time in a concrete way.

WEEKLY OFFERINGS November 26/27, 2011	
Sunday Envelopes	\$2896.50
Loose	\$ 443.41
Energy	\$ 40.00
Children's Offering	\$ 61.90
Maintenance	\$ 20.00
Bldg. Improvement	\$ 37.50
Votives	\$ 91.00

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- Dec. 4 Bingo (Gym) Doors open 1:30
Rosary Sodality (KH) 1:30
- Dec. 5 Faith Sharing (KH) 1:00
Parents Club (PMR) 6:30
Faith Sharing (Rectory) 7:00
- Dec. 6 VFW Mtg. - (PMR) 5:00
- Dec. 8 Choir Practice (Church)
- Dec. 9 Market Day (Gym) 2:00
Holy Name (PMR) Officers 7:00
Members 8:00
- Dec. 9/10 Religious Retirement Collection
- Dec. 11 Bingo (Gym) Doors open 1:30
- Dec. 12 Faith Sharing (KH) 1:00
Faith Sharing (Rectory) 7:00
Guadalupe Mass 6:30 followed by
reception in gymnasium

St. Vincent de Paul Poor Box - \$49.00
You Are Great - Yes, we mean you. You seem surprised. You are great because you are doing great things. They may appear to be little things, but your consistent concern, week after week, as you contribute your coins in the Poor Boxes is a great thing. Thank you.

Our Lady of Knock - The next Our Lady of Knock "Focus on the Positive" Adult Enrichment Program will be presented on Thursday, December 1st from 7PM to 8PM. The program will take place at the parish hall located at 497-163rd Street in Calumet City. Speaker for the evening will be Deacon Tom Knetl. Deacon Tom's topic will be "Advent." All are invited to join us for an inspiring presentation. Refreshments will be served. There is no fee. All are welcome. For more information, please call the rectory at 708-862-3011.


St. Andrew the Apostle Parish will host Advent Festival of Lessons and Carols on Sunday, December 11th at 5PM. During the season of Advent, a form of worship known as "The Festival of Lessons and Carols" finds its way into the liturgies of our churches in preparations for the coming of the Lord at Christmas. Hospitality and fellowship follow the service.

Daughters of Isabella - For reservations to the Daughters of Isabella Christmas Party on December 6th at 1:00 p.m. at St. Columba Social Center please call Bernice at 773-677-7580 or Shirley at 773-646-4690 by December 4th. Remember to bring a gift.

Ladies Rosary Sodality - The Ladies Rosary Sodality will meet on Sunday, December 4th at 1:30 p.m. in Konsowski Hall. We will have a Christmas luncheon and a White Elephant gift exchange will be held.

The Archdiocese of Chicago needs your opinion!
 We are engaged in a process to understand how the needs of parishes and educational priorities within the Archdiocese may be addressed. You are invited to take a brief and anonymous online survey which will be available until Dec. 18. Just follow this link: <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/HSP8GN7>

Please pray for our Service Members:



Sgt. 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 - Cpl Christopher Abram, U.S. Marine Corps - Lt. Commdr. 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.

**University of Saint Mary of the Lake/
 Mundelein Seminary
 2011 "Sounds of Christmas" Concert**

The University of Saint Mary of the Lake/
 Mundelein Seminary announces the 2011 Annual "Sounds of Christmas" Concert on Sunday, December 4th at 2:00PM in the Chapel of the Immaculate Conception (1000 E. Maple Avenue—Mundelein, IL
 Once again they will be featuring **Mr. Rich Daniels and the City Lights Orchestra** and our own Seminarian Christmas Choir. Seating is on a first come first seated basis, no tickets are needed. Doors open at 1:30PM.
 Free will donations graciously accepted.