

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

Weekend of December 5/6

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

8:00 AM + Zakrzewski Family - Frances & Chester

9:45 AM + Gilbert Yager - Wife

11:30 AM + Rosa Elvia Gonzales - Husband

Monday, December 7

7:15 AM + Emil J. Kurek - Family & Firends

Tuesday, December 8 - Feast of the Immaculate Conception

8:15 AM + Ace Gargas - Family

7:00 PM + Eugene A. Mezydlo - Edna Lucas

Wednesday, December 9

7:15 AM + Olga Pekala - C. Zakrzewski & Family

Thursday, December 10

7:15 AM + Joseph Cygal - Family

Friday, December 11

8:15 AM + Eddie Kosmala - Stanley & Leona Panek

Saturday, December 12

7:30 AM + Walter Rolek - Mary & Sharon Rolek

4:00 PM + Joan Yandura - Zalewski Family

6:00 PM - Our Lady of Guadalupe Liturgy

Sunday, December 13

8:00 AM + Robert & Irene Stevenson - Colleen & Peter Stevenson

9:45 AM + Frank & Frances Hurysz - Sister, Ceil

11:30 AM + Emilia Silva - Family

Week of December 6 - December 12

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

Peter Orzelski - Friends & Family

The Tabernacle Candle will be lit this week in memory of

Vince Brandys - Gerry & Art Beckman

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 12

4:00 PM B. Meyer, R. Meyer, N. Mooney

SUNDAY, December 13

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

9:45 AM C. Haro, V. Velasco, D. Ranos

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,

11:30 AM

M. Gasior, M. Aducci
L. Arellano, A. Arellano,
T. Favela, J. Gonzalez,
S. Gonzalez

Please join us!
St. Florian Church
Saturday, December 12th @ 3:00PM
BLUE NATIVITY
Presented by Quest Theatre Ensemble
 THAT SIMPLE LIGHT MAY RISE OUT OF
 COMPLICATED DARKNESS



Be sure to bring your family and friends to enjoy a highly creative production in church featuring large-scale puppetry, soaring music and the greatest story ever told!

Admission is free!
Donations are greatly appreciated!
Mass follows at 4:00 PM
(for more info visit www.questensemble.org)

Advent Gospels

On the four Sundays of Advent, the Catholic lectionary presents a series of Gospel readings that prepare for the celebration of the birth of Christ. The Sunday Advent readings all rotate on a three-year cycle, but they always follow the same pattern.

The Gospel for the First Sunday of Advent always tells the reign of Christ at the end of time. It echoes the theme of the previous Sunday, the solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ the King. Advent starts with the message that we await the second coming of Christ. This entire season is not just a reminder of a past birth but an anticipation of future glory.

The Second and Third Sundays of Advent always have Gospel readings about John the Baptist. John is an adult in these passages, proclaiming the nearness of the kingdom of God and serving as the prophet who bridges the Old and New Testaments. John's message on these two middle Sundays of this season inspires us to follow Christ.

The Fourth Sunday of Advent always tells part of the story that just precedes the birth of Christ. These familiar episodes set the stage for one of the Bible's best-known passages, the story of Christmas.

The Gospel readings of the four Sundays of Advent come to us in reverse chronology. We start with the end of time. We continue to the period when Jesus was an adult. We end in the days before his birth. Like a funnel, Advent opens with a giant theme, the grandness of Christ the King, and it ends with a specific one, the child lying in a Bethlehem manger.

by Paul Turner
 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 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 Konowski 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 and 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 Konowski Hall following the tree lighting.

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 . . .

Helen Golden, 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, 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.



November Baptisms:

Angel Marie
Daughter of Daniel and Heather Barrera



Come Home to the Catholic Church

One of the many reasons people stay away from the church is because of the burden of sin they carry. Sin, like everything else in life, gets complicated and can build up a lot anxiety and pressure. People sincerely want to rid themselves of the guilt of having hurt themselves or others. "Will God ever forgive me?" is the question that first comes to one's mind. "Is there anyway that I can start over again?" one may ask. We can always tell God that we're sorry. But the best assurance any of us can receive is to open ourselves to the grace found in the sacrament of reconciliation. It is the best way to start over again.

The season of Advent is a great time for people to return not only to the sacrament of reconciliation, but to our faith as well. This very personal encounter with God's mercy gently breaks down the barriers to come home to the faith to uplift the heart and renew the soul.

If you find yourself in this situation, or you know someone who is, this may be the path to come home to St. Florian. Simply check the confession schedule in the bulletin or call the rectory at 1-773-646-4877. As Christmas draws near, this could be the best gift you can give to yourself or someone you love.

— Fr. Jim

Next week: Reason #7 -
Because they need to forgive others.

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.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday - Dec. 7 - St. Ambrose

Reading Ephesians 3:8-12
Gospel John 10:11-16

Tues. Dec. 8 Feast of the Immaculate Conception

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

Wed. - Dec. 9 - St. Juan Diego

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

Thursday - Dec. 10

Reading Isaiah 41:13-20
Gospel Matthew 11:11-15

Friday - Dec. 11 - St. Damasus I

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

Sat. - Dec. 12 - Our Lady of Guadalupe

Reading Zechariah 2:14-17
Gospel Luke 1:26-38

Sunday - Dec. 13 Third Sunday of Advent

Reading I Zephaniah 3:14-18a
Reading II Philippians 4:4-7
Gospel Luke 3:10-18

St. Florian School Happenings . . .

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

INSERT
LOGO

Congratulations Students! 1st Quarter Honor Roll

- Grade 8** - "B" Honor Roll: Olivia Bensett, Leonard Chocholek, Mark Del Real, Marilyn Echevarria, Hector Macias, Bryan McDonald
- Grade 7** - "B" Honor Roll: Hally Hunter, Kristyanna Mallee, Noah Mooney, Joseph Noworyta, Gabriel Rivera-Sklarenko
- Grade 6** - "B" Honor Roll: Jessica Andrade, Angela Martinez, Raven Robles
- Grade 5** - "A" Honor Roll: Chrisovalanti Katsaros "B" Honor Roll: Lewis Bensett, Katie Blanco, Lillian Hunter, Renata Meyer, Matthew Michelin, Justin Powell
- Grade 4** - "A" Honor Roll: Nicole Cervera, Janina Laskowiecki
"B" Honor Roll: Emily Aducci, Nirvana Alcantar, Emily Kreger, Kyle Nazimek, Aidan Varela, Alfonso Villanueva
- Grade 3** - "A" Honor Roll: Jennifer Dejanovich, Danille Gaczowski
"B" Honor Roll: Jozef Laskowiecki, Sebastian Meyer, Tybolt Meyer, Karli Miller, Kiley O'Keefe, Thomas Repass, David Robles, Petra Sweis, Cortney Zbinden

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

Congratulations Alumni - Honor Roll!

Mother McAuley : Kaila Morin and Natalia Szyller
Marian Catholic: Christopher Czarobski, Robert Lyons, Brittany Maloney, Megan McDonald, Justine Meyer, Troy Meyer and Adrianna Varela

Sponsors Needed for our Monthly Tuition Raffle!!!

Each month school families are offered an opportunity to win a free month's tuition by purchasing raffle tickets for \$10 each. 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 at 773/646-2868.



Santa's Workshop is Coming to Town!

Come shop with us at
St. Florian School's annual
Santa's Workshop!
Monday - Dec. 7 8AM—2:30PM
Tuesday - Dec. 8 8AM—2:30 PM
(please enter through school office)

Students are giving an opportunity to shop for their loved ones in a familiar, fun and safe environment. Please feel free to join us to shop for yourself OR with a student. Parent Teacher Club is also in need of volunteers to help our little ones "shop". If you are available to help please contact the school office at 773/646-2868. Santa's Workshop will be held in the school library.

SAVE THE DATE FOR FUTURE EVENTS!

Sun., Jan. 17 6:30 PM Family Fun Night at Lynwood Bowl
Sun., Jan 31 Pancake Breakfast / Catholic Schools Week
Wed., Feb. 3 Grandparents/Special Persons Day Luncheon
Fri., Feb. 5 Teacher Appreciation Day!

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

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.

WEEKLY OFFERINGS	
Nov. 28/29, 2009	
Sunday Envelopes	\$3,170.76
Loose	\$ 358.84
Energy Assistance	\$ 67.00
Actual Received vs.	\$3,596.60
Budgeted Goal	\$5,250.00
Bldg. Improvement	\$ 44.00
Maintenance	\$ 36.00
Children's Offering	\$ 55.50
Votives	\$ 124.00

St Vincent de Paul - Poor Box \$214.36

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.

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.

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. 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, 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

- Dec. 6 Bingo (Gym) Doors open at 1:30
Ladies Rosary Sodality (KH) 1:30
- Dec. 7 Faith Sharing (KH) 1:00
Faith Sharing (Rectory) 7:00
- Dec. 10 Scouts (PMR) 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
- Dec. 13 Bingo (Gym) Doors open at 1:30
- Dec. 14 Young at Heart (KH) 1:00
Faith Sharing (Rectory) 7:00
- Dec. 15 Faith Sharing (Rectory) 7:00
- Dec. 16 SVDP Pantry (3:30)
- Dec. 17 Scouts (KH) 6:00
- Dec. 19 Tree Lighting - 4PM Mass and reception in Konsowski Hall

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

Vocation Thoughts - As the Liturgical season of Advent continues, we are reminded to always be on guard for Christ's second coming. The Priesthood and Religious Life serves to remind all people that the "Kingdom of God is at hand!" Is God calling you to the priesthood or religious? For more information about the priesthood contact Fr. Joe Noonan, Vocation Director, at 312/ 751-8298 or jnoonan@archchicago.org. For more information about religious life contact Sr. Elyse Ramirez at 312-534-5240.

Retirement Fund for Religious Appeal
Dec. 12-13 2009
Share in the Care

Retirement Fund helps senior religious.
"As expenses continue to increase and economic difficulties tighten our income, we appreciate more and more the help of the Retirement Fund," notes a woman religious. Your tax-deductible donation supports the care of elderly and frail religious and helps to provide such basic necessities as prescription drugs and medical services. Please give generously to next week's second collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious.

www.retirereligious.org