

**MASSES FOR THE WEEK**

**Weekend of December 18/19**

- 4:00 PM + Olga Pekala - Joan Dutka
- 8:00 AM + Chester Debski - Violet Yager
- 9:45 AM + John Gabrys - Family
- 11:30 AM + Jose Jesus Reyes - Family

**Monday, December 20**

- 7:15 AM - Mary Jane Draus - Joe & Adeline Novak

**Tuesday, December 21**

- 7:15 AM + Stella Bulanda - Polish Legion of American Veterans Ch. 44

**Wednesday, December 22**

- 7:15 AM + Fr. Joe Pachorek - Drosos Family

**Thursday, December 23**

- 7:15 AM + Stephanie Duszynski - Mr. & Mrs. C. Pienkowski

**Friday, December 24**

- 7:15 AM + Helen Lesniewski - John Nowakowski

**Christmas Masses - December 24/25**

- 4:00 PM + Paul Jasek - Family
- 10:00 PM - For the Parishioners
- 8:00 AM + Chester Debski - Wieslawa Zak-Radzik & Son
- 9:45 AM + Edward Borowski - Wife

**Sunday, December 26**

- 8:00 AM + Sophia Lewandowski - Carl & Rita Abram
- 9:45 AM + Tony Segvich Jr. - Wife & Children
- 11:30 AM + Anita Cruz - Family

**Week of December 19 - December 25**

The Gifts of Bread & Wine are donated this week in memory of Edward Borowski - Wife

The Tabernacle Candle will be lit this week in memory of Edward Borowski - Wife

**LECTORS**

**December, 2010**

- 4:00 PM A. Bonczek
- 8:00 AM R. Kopaczewski
- 9:45 AM L. Morse
- 11:30 AM R. Oseguera

**ALTAR SERVERS**

**SATURDAY, December 25 - Christmas Day**

- 8:00 AM A. Villanueva, N. Meduga, D. Ranos
- 9:45 AM C. Haro, A. Shea, R. Robles

**SUNDAY, December 26**

- 8:00 AM J. O'Keefe, A. Morales, N. Cervera
- 9:45 AM C. Haro, A. Shea, N. Mooney
- 11:30 AM M. Ortiz, S. Zaragoza, X. Gutierrez

**EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS**

**December, 2010**

- 4:00 PM
  - J. Gibbons
  - R. Abram
  - D. Karczewski
  - B. Frjelich
  - C. Motkowicz
  - M. Cowperthwaite
- 8:00 AM
  - S. Jezior
  - B. Peak
  - E. Podsiadlik
  - N. Moll
  - P. Gadus
  - K. Gibson
- 9:45 AM
  - C. Malone
  - M. Czarobski
  - P. O'Rourke
  - P. Maccagnano
  - M. Piaskowy
  - C. Michalik
- 11:30 AM
  - L. Jimenez
  - A. Davila

**USHERS**

**December, 2010**

- 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, A. Bruder,
- 9:45 AM E. Lihota, G. Slusarczyk, K. Podgorny, R. Furman, T. Baker, M. Gasior, M. Aducci
- 11:30 AM F. Favela, J. Gonzalez

***Merry Christmas!***

***Wesolych Swiat!***

***Feliz Navidad!***

**Mass Schedule for Christmas**

**Vigil Mass - Friday, December 24**  
4:00 PM Mass

**Christmas Eve - 10:00 PM**  
Christmas Carols followed by  
Mass at Night

**Christmas Day - Saturday, December 25**  
8:00 AM - Mass at Dawn with traditional  
Polish Christmas Carols  
9:45 AM - Mass during the Day

**Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God**  
Friday, Dec. 31           4:00 p.m.  
Saturday, Jan. 1         9:00 a.m.

**Epiphany of the Lord**  
Saturday, Jan. 1 4:00 PM (English)  
Sunday, Jan. 2 8:00 & 9:45 AM (English)  
11:30 AM (Spanish)



**Advent Wreath Year A**

Paul Turner

Here is a prayer for the fourth week of Advent you could say while you light your Advent wreath candles. 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 4:** O God, who sent an angel to comfort Joseph in his dream, comfort us when we are afraid. Turn our darkness into light. Let these four candles warm our hearts as we await the coming of Emmanuel, God-with-us. Through Christ our Lord.

Ministry & Liturgy  
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**Christmas Offerings:**

We encourage everyone to use their special Christmas envelope for their family's Christmas gift to the Parish. As you have given so generously in the past, we hope you are able to continue to do so this Christmas.



Also, please remember to use your Christmas Flower envelope to help with the cost of our flowers and decorations used in Church throughout the Christmas season.

**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

***For Catholics, December 25 is only the beginning of the Christmas season.***

- ◇ **The Feast of the Holy Family.** This feast is celebrated on the Sunday in the Christmas "octave" - an eight-day period after Christmas. It is a fitting day to thank God for our own families and pray for a deepening of mutual love, in imitation of the Holy Family.
- ◇ **The Feast of the Holy Innocents, December 28.** On this day, we remember the children killed by Herod in his determination to end the life of the Messiah. This can be a day of prayer for the innocents of today who are exploited and abused—many people now pray on this day for the victims of abortion—and an opportunity to think about bringing the compassion of Christ to those in need.
- ◇ **The Feast of Mary, the Mother of God, January 1.** The octave day of Christmas is both a feast honoring Mary, the Mother of God, and a day of Prayer for World Peace. Our celebration of the New Year can be deepened by prayer that our world will be open to the peace Jesus offers.

*God is our Creator and in him all living things have their existence. He enlightens our minds, so that we may come to know and worship him. He has sent his faithful witness, Jesus Christ, to announce to us what he has seen and heard, the mysteries of heaven and earth.*

*Since you acknowledge with joy that Christ has come, now is the time to hear his word, so that you might possess eternal life.*

## We pray for . . .



Ida Fasciana, Debra Mokrzycki, Charlotte Frijelich, 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, Josephine Opiola, Yesenia Guajardo, Beth Lasseter, Christine Trzupek, Thomas Frain, Laurie Ferry, Irma Bulatovich, Alicia Davila, Leona Krawczyk, Stanley Bonczek, Jesus Manriquez, Kevin Chocholek, Chris Wopinski, Helen Zurawski, Philip Corich, David Donahue, Frank & Yvonne Graczyk, 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, Asunción Villalpondo, Thomas J. Lohr, Irma Garcia, Irma Cardenas, Anthony Gromek, Karen Kil, Bertha Soto, Martin Covarubias, Joseph B. Mistarz, Jr., Policarpo Naya, Raquel Chavez, Genoveva Nateras, Peter Ladowski, Barry Piotrowski, Melissa Young, Judy Prokapeka, Rosie Dunmore, Carl Abram, Felicia Pancer, Sophie Kapera, Helen & John Larson, Irene Stincic, Eleanor Wiencek, Michelle Kendra, Loretta Wopinski, Shirley Ostrowski, Marlene Kubiak, Maryann Henney, 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. 20

Reading Isaiah 7:10-14  
Gospel Luke 1:26-38

### Tuesday - Dec. 21 - St. Peter Canisius

Reading Songs of Songs 2:8-14  
Gospel Luke 1:39-45

### Wednesday - Dec. 22

Reading I 1 Samuel 1:24-28  
Gospel Luke 1:46-56

### Thurs.- Dec. 23 - St. John of Kanty

Reading Malachi 3:1-4, 23-24  
Gospel Luke 1:57-66

### Friday - Dec. 24

Reading 2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a-16  
Gospel Luke 1:67-79

### Saturday - Dec. 25 - Nativity of the Lord

Reading I Isaiah 52:7-10  
Reading II Hebrews 1:1-6  
Gospel John 1:1-18

### Sunday Dec. 26 Feast of the Holy Family

Reading I Sirach 3:2-7, 12-14  
Reading II Colossians 3:12-21  
Gospel Matthew 2:13-15

## Welcome!

*A warm welcome to all who have come to worship with us this Christmas season. We hope that it is a time for all to renew friendships, to celebrate with family and to give thanks to our God who has blessed us so richly.*

*If you are visiting our parish with friends or family or perhaps reacquainting yourself with our parish family after some time has passed, please know that we are honored by your presence.*

*May the new year bless you abundantly with the richness of friends, good health to sustain you, and an open heart to feel the presence of God.*

## CATHOLICS COME HOME . . .

During Advent and Christmas the Archdiocese of Chicago has partnered with the Dioceses of Joliet and Rockford on an evangelization initiative called Catholics Come Home. This effort will use TV commercials that will air through January 2011 on most networks in English, Spanish and Polish. We encourage our parishioners to pray for those who have left the Church and invite them to join us at St. Florian. Parishioners can pick up a brochure to be used as an invitation for those who have drifted from the practice of the faith.

If you are at St. Florian for the first time, we lovingly welcome you home. We have been praying for you. Please contact the rectory if you need to find healing, answers or support.



You can find out more about this evangelization effort and how you can participate by going to our website at [www.CatholicsComeHomeCHICAGO.org](http://www.CatholicsComeHomeCHICAGO.org)

## 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



**(Please Note:** There will no bingo on  
Dec. 26th, and Jan. 2nd)

**Market Day** - Orders due Friday, Jan. 14, 2011.  
Pick up on Friday, Jan. 21, 2011 from 2-3PM.  
Profits earned last month: \$124.87. Thank you  
for your support!

**Aluminum Can Recycling** - Wednesday,  
Jan. 12th, 2011 at 8AM in the parking lot.

### **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.

## *Advent Activity*

### **Travel Tips from the Magi**



Christmas seems to come earlier each year, with parties scheduled, music played and even presents exchanged long before December 25. But if modern scholars are right, the Magi must have set out long before Jesus was born in order to find him at his birth. These wise travelers have something to say to us about how we go through Advent on our way to Christmas.

**KEEP A LARGE FOCUS** - The Magi were led by a heavenly phenomenon, and by keeping their eyes on it, they found Jesus. Our focus this Advent also has to be something greater than can be found in any mall or website or video. It has to be something like God in our midst.

**TRIM DOWN FOR THE TRIP** - The Magi could only take what would fit on their camels, so most of what they had was left behind. Advent is the time to leave behind anything that could slow us down: grudges, unrealistic expectations, unfair demands and, most of all, sins—leave them with God in the confessional, and you'll speed along toward Christmas.

**TRAVEL TOGETHER** - One of the Magi traveling alone would never have made it. They needed each other for support and encouragement while they puzzled out the best way to go. Together with the whole Church, especially in the weekly liturgy, we encounter God concretely in our lives.

**BE PEOPLE OF HOPE** - Hope kept the Magi going. Many had seen the star, but only these risked everything to find the king. To overcome discouragement, the skepticism of others and uncertainty, Christians need hope to make their Advent journey to Christmas and beyond.

<b>WEEKLY OFFERINGS</b>	
<b>December 11/12, 2010</b>	
Sunday Envelopes	\$3,083.83
Loose	\$ 695.57
Energy Assistance	\$ 109.00
Actual Received vs.	\$3,888.40
Budgeted Goal	\$5,250.00
Bldg. Improvement	\$ 157.00
Maintenance	\$ 141.00
Children's Offering	\$ 50.00
Votives	\$ 125.00

**St. Vincent de Paul Poor Box \$71.00**  
**St. Vincent de Paul Society** - Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to our membership, their families and friends. We wish to thank the people of the parish for making it possible to meet some of the needs of our neighbors during 2010. Our plans for the New Year include continuing the outreach to parishioners who need spiritual and material assistance.

**Retirement Fund for Religious Appeal**  
**Religious give thanks.** Women and men religious throughout the country offer heartfelt thanks for your donation to the Retirement Fund for Religious. Your gift makes a tangible difference in the lives of thousands of senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests.

**DID YOU KNOW?**  
 The birthplace of Jesus, "Bethlehem," means "house of bread." Many ancient commentators interpret this as prefiguring the Eucharist. Jesus came to earth in the "house of bread," and comes to us in the form of Living Bread, every time we receive him under the forms of bread and wine in the Blessed Sacrament.

**HOW TO HAVE A MERRY CHRISTMAS**  
 Our modern observance of the Christmas season seems to begin in the fall, as stores are filled with holiday displays, and end on Dec. 26th, when Christmas trees start peeking out from the trash. However, celebrating Christmas as a Catholic means that, as much as we can, we follow a radically different calendar—one given to us through the ancient wisdom and tradition of the Church - before, during, and even after Dec. 25th.

**2011 Calendars**  
 We will distribute calendars the weekend of Jan. 1st and 2nd. There will be a special blessing as we welcome the new calendar year. Our special thanks to Elmwood Chapel for their generosity in sponsoring our 2011 calendars.

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

- Dec. 19           Bingo (Gym) Doors open at 1:30
- Dec. 20           Young at Heart (KH) 1:00
- Dec. 21           School Dismissal at Noon  
                    (School resumes Jan. 5)
- Dec. 22           Choir Practice (Church) 6:30
- Dec. 24 & 27      Rectory Office Closed
- Dec. 31           Rectory Office Closed

**Vocation Thoughts** - Mary, our Blessed Mother, is the greatest example of someone who placed all her trust in the Lord, despite not comprehending God's plan for her. Will you place your trust in God, and consider a vocation to the priesthood or religious life? For more information about the priesthood contact Fr. Brian Welter at 312-534-8298 or at [bwelter@archchicago.org](mailto:bwelter@archchicago.org). For more information contact about religious life call Sr. Elyse Ramirez, OP at 312-534-5240 or at [erami-rez@archchicago.org](mailto:erami-rez@archchicago.org).

**Prayer for Priestly Vocations**

*Lord, Jesus Christ, Shepherd of the souls, who called the apostles to be fishers of men, raise up new apostles in your holy church. Teach them that to serve you is to reign: to possess you is to possess all things. Kindle in the hearts of our people the fire of zeal for souls. Make them eager to spread your kingdom upon earth. Grant them courage to follow you, who are the Way, the Truth, and the Life; who lives and reigns for ever and ever. Amen.*

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 - 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. Mat-  
 thew 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, - PFC Anthony Baracco,  
 U.S. Army - 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.*