

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

Weekend of December 19/20

- 4:00 PM + John Gabrys - Family
 8:00 AM + Frank & Mary Hurysz - Daughter, Ceil
 9:45 AM + Rina Rigoni (Anniv.) - Family
 11:30 AM - For the Good Health of Amanda Montemayor - Family

Monday, December 21

- 7:15 AM + Chester Bieniek - Jean Bajer

Tuesday, December 22

- 7:15 AM + Fr. Joe Pachorek (13th Anniv.) -Friends

Wednesday, December 23

- 7:15 AM + Andrew & Stacy Motkowicz - Daughter-in-law, Ceil

Thursday, December 24

- 7:15 AM + Mary Ann Moll - Family

Christmas Masses - December 24/25

- 4:00 PM + Mary J. Tina Dubiel - Ron & Nancy Alaspa
 10:00 PM - For the Parishioners
 8:00 AM + Paul & Stella Jasek and Catherine Maccagnano - Family
 9:45 AM + Stanley Klimczak (Anniv.) - Son & Daughter

Saturday, December 26

- 8:15 AM + Joseph & Freda Ciciora - Family
 4:00 PM + Tony Segvich Jr. - Wife & Children

Sunday, December 27

- 8:00 AM + Andrew Motkowicz - Wife, Ceil
 9:45 AM + Walter Krawczyk - Wife, Leona Krawczyk
 11:30 AM + Jose Jesus Reyes - Reyes Family

Week of December 20 - December 26

The Gifts of Bread & Wine are donated this week in memory of
 Sandra Blaszak - Family

The Tabernacle Candle will be lit this week in memory of
 Sandra Blaszak - Family

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 26

- 4:00 PM G. Bonczek, T. DeCook, D. Ranos

SUNDAY, December 27

- 8:00 AM E. Echevarria, B. Echevarria, J. O'Keefe
 9:45 AM C. Haro, V. Valasco, H., Walsh
 11:30 AM M. Ortiz, S. Zaragoza, N. Mooney

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 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

Merry Christmas!

Wesolych Swiat!

Feliz Navidad!

Mass Schedule for Christmas

Vigil Mass - Thursday, December 24
4:00 PM Mass

Christmas Eve
Christmas Carols and
Mass at Night - 10:00 PM

Christmas Day - Friday, 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
Thursday, Dec. 31 4:00 p.m.
Friday, Jan. 1 9:00 a.m.

Epiphany of the Lord
Saturday, Jan. 2 4:00 PM (English)
Sunday, Jan. 3 8:00 & 9:45 AM (English)
11:30 AM (Spanish)



Oplatki

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

LET'S KEEP THE "MASS" IN CHRISTMAS

The medieval origins of the very word we use to name this feast and season refers to the fundamental spiritual opportunity that's here for all of us: "Christ's Mass."

At Christmas, we celebrate God's gift of Jesus to the world. When we celebrate "Christ's Mass," this gift is offered to us through Jesus' Real Presence in the Eucharist. This is the moment toward which all of our preparations—including the celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation, or Confession—have brought us.

These are the most important and powerful themes we'll encounter in the Scripture, prayer, and celebrations of the Church during the Christmas season,

- ◇ We celebrate the mystery of the Incarnation: God meeting us, coming to us as one of us, humbly and full of love.
- ◇ We recall the faith-filled reception of this miraculous good news by Mary, Joseph, the shepherds, and the Magi.
- ◇ We allow ourselves to be formed by all that this teaches us about gifts and giving, God's solidarity with all of us—especially the poor and sinners—the sacredness of human life, the peace of God promises, and the hope for the fullness of God's presence among us.

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.

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 Frellich, 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.



Come Home to the Catholic Church

Take A New Look....

- ♦ Rediscover Jesus
- ♦ Find a new hope in this confusing world
- ♦ Give your family the opportunity to learn about faith in a loving community
- ♦ Come to understand the ways of forgiveness and acceptance
- ♦ Through the Bible, hear the Word of God speaking to us today
- ♦ Reconnect with our Lord through our Church's Sacraments

A series of TV commercials will continue to be aired on all major networks through Jan. 24th to invite Catholics to return to the practice of the faith. The commercials will air in English, Spanish and Polish. For more info visit www.CatholicsComeHomeCHICAGO.org.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday - Dec. 21 St. Peter Canisius

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

Tuesday—Dec. 22

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

Wed. - Dec. 23 St. John of Kanty

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

Thursday - Dec. 24

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

Friday - Dec. 25 Nativity of the Lord

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

Sat. - Dec. 26 St. Stephen

Reading Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59
Gospel Matthew 10:17-22

Sunday Dec. 27 - Feast of the Holy Family

Reading I Sirach 3:2-7, 12-14
Reading II Colossians 3:12-21
Gospel Luke 2:41-52

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.

That simple light may rise out of complicated darkness . . .

We hope you enjoyed the Quest Theatre Ensemble's presentation of The Blue Nativity last weekend. Many of you said how enjoyable the presentation was. We also received favorable comments about the group's talent, creativity and imagination and how it put everyone in the Christmas spirit. If you did not have the opportunity to offer a donation in support the Quest Ensemble, they may be contacted at 6056 North Broadway, #2, Chicago, IL 60660 or visit them online at www.questensemble.org for any information about obtaining their CD or DVD.

The Blue Nativity

St. Florian School Happenings . . .

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

INSERT
LOGO

PLEASE NOTE:

During the holiday season, there will be no BINGO on
Sunday, Dec. 27th and
Sunday, Jan. 3rd.

Bingo will resume on Sunday, Jan. 10th.

Save General Mills, Tyson, & Campbell Soup Labels !

The school continues to save:
General Mills "Box Tops for Education" coupons

Tyson Project A+ "Support Your School" labels

Campbell's soup labels - Submit the UPC code with the Campbell Kid Logo next to the UPC located on back of label. Other Campbell products include Franco American, V8, Swanson, Prego and Pepperidge Farm.

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 - Orders due Friday, Jan. 15th and pick up is on Friday, Jan. 22nd from 2-3PM. Profits earned last month: \$106.70. Free PB & J Grahamwiches with \$40 purchase. Thank you for your support!

Aluminum Can Recycling - Please bring your aluminum cans to the school parking lot on Wednesday, January 6th, by 8 AM.

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.

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.

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 - Master Sgt. Christopher Saberniak, U.S. Air Force



If you wish to have a family member added to this prayer list, please contact the Rectory at 646-4877.

WEEKLY OFFERINGS	
Dec. 12/13 2009	
Sunday Envelopes	\$3,326.00
Loose	\$ 293.90
Energy Assistance	\$ 113.00
Actual Received vs.	\$3,732.90
Budgeted Goal	\$5,250.00
Bldg. Improvement	\$ 135.00
Maintenance	\$ 86.00
Children's Offering	\$ 61.75
Votives	\$ 132.00

St Vincent de Paul Poor Box - \$85.37

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 2009. Our plans for the New Year include continuing the outreach to parishioners who need spiritual and material assistance.

SENIOR SUITES OPEN HOUSE! - On Sunday, December 27th there will be an open house at the Senior Suites from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm located at 13550 S. Avenue O, Chicago. Senior suites offers affordable, high quality apartment homes with specially-designed amenities to meet the needs of Chicago's older adults. For more information, please call 773-646-1333.

December 2009 Book Rack Selections

(Our book rack is located in the back of church. Please take a moment and browse. Prices are indicated on each book.)

Bible Diary 2010

Counsels of Light and Love

*by St. John of the Cross,
with an introduction by Thomas Merton.*

The Heart of Catholic Spirituality

by Thomas Lane, CM.

Imitation of Mary *by Thomas à Kempis*

Radical Love *by Adolfo Quezada*

St. Joseph Sunday Missal 2010

Sundays with Jesus Cycle C, Luke

by James DiGiacomo, S.J.

Word and Worship Pocket Calendar 2010

**The Fourth Wiseman. Teenage Insight
Classic Movies**

The Story of Christmas



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- Dec. 20 Bingo (Gym) Doors open at 1:30
- Dec. 24/25 Rectory Closed
- Dec. 31/Jan. 1 Happy New Year! (Rectory Closed)
- Jan. 4 School resumes
- Parish Council Mtg (KH) 7:00
- Jan. 6 Scouts (KH) 5:30
- Jan. 8 Holy Name (PMR) Officers 6:30
Members 8:00
- Jan. 9/10 Latin America Collection
- Jan. 11 Ministers of Care (Rectory) 7:00
- Jan. 12 Parent/Teacher Club (KH) 6:30
- Faith Sharing (Rectory) 7:00
- Jan. 13 Athletic Mtg. (School) 3:00
- Evangelization Mtg. (KH) 6:00
- Jan. 14 Faith Sharing (PMR) 6:00
- Scouts (KH) 6:00

Knights of Columbus

Pancake Breakfast - The General Pulaski Council #3323 of the Knights of Columbus will host a Pancake Breakfast with Santa Claus on Sunday, December 20th at the St. Columba Social Center 13323 S. Greenbay. Free gift and photo with Santa Claus for all the kids. The Breakfast is an "All You Can Eat" Pancakes, Eggs cooked to order, French Toast, Sausage, Milk, Coffee and Orange juice. Breakfast will be served from 8-12:30. Adults \$7.00 Children 10 and under \$3.00.



Worldwide Marriage Encounter

(www.wmchicago-gary-org) - "Then the peace of God that surpasses all understanding will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus." Let Worldwide Marriage Encounter help your marriage/holy orders remain Christ-centered. The next dates are Feb. 12-14, Apr. 23-25, and June 11-13, 2010. For info or reservations, please consult our website or call Kris and Jim at 1-800-442.3554. For Spanish weekends (other dates) call Oscar & Luz at 847-675-2119.

Liturgy is not an option nor merely an obligation, not a bonus, but a need — like food and drink, like sleep and work, like friends. We need to gather, listen, give praise and thanks, and share communion. Otherwise we forget who we are and whose we are; and we can have neither the strength nor the joy to be Christ's body - present in the world today."

— Joseph Cardinal Bernardin