

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

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

Monday, December 27

- 8:15 AM + Jene Duda - Tessie Lapinski

Tuesday, December 28

- 7:15 AM + Richard C. Serafin - Wife

Wednesday, December 29

- 7:15 AM + Virginia Majewski - Louise Fleming

Thursday, December 30

- 7:15 AM + Leonard Pawlowski - Family

Friday, December 31

- 8:15 AM + Constance Zink - Family
- 4:00 PM + Stella Bulanda - Bill & Linda Bugajski

Saturday, January 1 - Mary, the Mother of God

- 9:00 AM + Albina Wollack - Family
- 4:00 PM + Ed Borowski - Wife & Family

Sunday, January 2 - Epiphany of the Lord

- 8:00 AM + Spila Family - Family
- 9:45 AM + Harry Sosnowski - Mary Ann Segvich
- 11:30 AM + Baldonero, Lilia & Olivio Carabez - Elsa Carabez

Week of December 26 - January 1

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

The Tabernacle Candle will be lit this week in memory of Peter Orzelski - Friends & Family

LECTORS
January, 2011

- 4:00 PM L. Morse
- 8:00 AM L. Wopinski
- 9:45 AM D. Karczewski
- 11:30 AM O. Guajardo

ALTAR SERVERS

SATURDAY, January 1 - Mary, the Mother of God

- 9:00 AM N. Cerva, A. Morales, D. Ranos
- 4:00 PM T. DeCook, J. Snodgrass, A. Villanueva

SUNDAY, January 2

- 8:00 AM B. Echevarria, E. Echevarria, N. Mooney
- 9:45 AM C. Haro, J. O'Keefe, N. Meduga
- 11:30 AM M. Ortiz, S. Zaragoza, X. Gutierrez

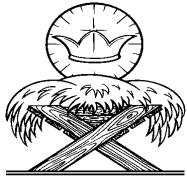
EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

January, 2011

- 4:00 PM
 - J. Gibbons
 - A. Bonczek
 - L. Szefc
 - B. Frjelich
 - C. Motkowicz
 - M. Cowperthwaite
- 8:00 AM
 - S. Jezior
 - C. Michalik
 - E. Podsiadlik
 - N. Moll
 - P. Gadus
 - K. Gibson
- 9:45 AM
 - C. Malone
 - O. Haro
 - P. O'Rourke
 - P. Maccagnano
 - M. Piaskowy
 - P. Haro
- 11:30 AM
 - O. Cruz
 - R. Oseguera

USHERS
January, 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, 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



For unto us a child is born,
to us a son is given ...
Isaiah 9:6

Merry Christmas!

Wesolych Swiat!

Feliz Navidad!

Christmas blessings to all!

**Fr. Jim, Priests & Staff
of St. Florian Parish**

We wish you and your families a most joyous Christmas! May you create warm memories to cherish for a lifetime. Let us welcome in Christ-child with open arms and pray for the glory of heaven to come into the hearts of humanity.

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.

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.

**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.

Please join us . . .

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)

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 calen-



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. 27 - St. John, Apostle

Reading 1 John 1:1-4

Gospel John 20:1a, 2-8

Tuesday - Dec. 28 - Holy Innocents

Reading 1 John 1:5—2:2

Gospel Matthew 2:13-18

Wednesday - Dec. 29 - St. Thomas Becket

Reading I 1 John 2:3-11

Gospel Luke 2:22-35

Thurs.— Dec. 30

Reading 1 John 2:2-17

Gospel Luke 2:36-40

Friday - Dec. 31 - St. Sylvester I

Reading 1 John 2:18-21

Gospel John 1:1-18

Saturday - Jan. 1 - Mary, the Mother of God

Reading I Numbers 6:22-27

Reading II Galatians 4:4-7

Gospel Luke 2:16-21

Sunday Jan. 2 Epiphany of the Lord

Reading I Isaiah 60:1-6

Reading II Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6

Gospel Matthew 2:1-12

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

Christmas, 2010

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

At the beginning of his papacy, Pope Benedict XVI said, "There is nothing more beautiful than to be surprised by the Gospel, by the encounter with Christ. There is nothing more beautiful than to know him and to speak to others of our friendship with him. If we allow Christ into our lives, we lose nothing, absolutely nothing of what makes life free, beautiful and great. Only in this friendship do we experience beauty and liberation."

The experience of beauty transcends time and space and points us to the very experience of God. Adoring the Christ Child, we are drawn by the beauty of what we see in front of us to the God we cannot see, but whom we experience if we allow ourselves to follow the path along which beauty will lead us. Jesus is the standard for all that is beautiful. St. Augustine wrote of "Beauty ever ancient ever new," who makes the human spirit restless until it rests in God forever. Our experiences of created beauty fill us with joy and excitement. Yet, they never fill our capacity for the experience of what is beautiful. We are left empty again, and our search continues. We are disturbed by wanting something more, something which we do not seem able to reach, and that nothing less than God can satisfy.

Christianity begins with a relationship barely understood but beautifully attractive and ends with that relationship fulfilled. The beauty of Jesus Christ — this dynamic, inviting, perfect, transcendent Christ — disturbs us, for we cannot fit him into our present way of life or our usual categories of understanding. He changes us, converts us, empties us, sends us to places and situations unknown. He leaves us always wanting more, because he is always more. He invites us to silence, as he would have us listen. The contemplation of Christ in our lives forms us for speaking about him to others, for we will be unable to resist sharing the beauty we have found in Christ.

May the beauty of Christ fill your heart with love and your life with joy. You will be remembered in my Christmas Masses and prayers. God bless you and Merry Christmas!

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Francis Cardinal George, O.M.I.
Archbishop of Chicago

Good words are worth much and cost little.

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.

"The heat is on . . . Finally !!!"

KONSOWSKI HALL BOILER REPLACEMENT UPDATE:

We can probably all agree that it's much too early in the season to be hit with bitter cold and snow. The warmth of our homes is quite a blessing. Here at St. Florian we recently experienced what it is like to have a building without heat.

The condition of our 50+ year-old boiler was beyond the state of any further repairs. We were unexpectedly faced with the only choice of installing a new boiler. Meetings for many of our parish organizations including our Rosary Ladies, St. Vincent de Paul, Young at Heart, Holy Name, Parish Council, Parents Club, Scouts, Faith Sharing Groups and Evangelization all needed to be relocated to other areas. We are grateful for everyone's cooperation and understanding while we worked with contractors to obtain bids and start the process of having the boiler replaced. Needless to say, with the early cold snap, the heating contractors were extremely busy with many other customers needing repairs to their heating systems which added to the delay in getting our work completed.

Our members of St. Vincent de Paul braved the chilly temperatures not only outside while unloading trucks for the Thanksgiving food pantry; but also worked inside a very cold Konsowski Hall while wearing hats, coats and mittens while serving those in need. Fortunately before the worst of the cold snap and the fear of frozen pipes bursting from the cold, we were finally able to get the new boiler up and running. It was just in time for the nine-day Novena to Our Lady of Guadalupe as well as our Christmas gathering for the Rosary Ladies. Everyone welcomed not only the warmth of each others presence — but most certainly a warm and toasty meeting space!

Some of you have expressed a desire to help contribute funds to offset the expense of replacing the boiler. We are grateful for this and invite others to share in this as well. For those parishioners and organizations who are able, we ask that you please make use of your Maintenance envelopes with a generous donation. You may also use a plain envelope marked "Maintenance" or "Boiler Fund" and place it in the Sunday collection basket or drop it off at the rectory.

We thank you in advance for the "warmth" of your generosity!

WEEKLY OFFERINGS	
December 18/19, 2010	
Sunday Envelopes	\$3,463.00
Loose	\$ 364.98
Energy Assistance	\$ 63.00
Actual Received vs.	\$3,890.98
Budgeted Goal	\$5,250.00
Bldg. Improvement	\$ 130.00
Maintenance	\$ 63.00
Children's Offering	\$ 73.05

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- Dec. 24 & 27 Rectory Office Closed
- Dec. 31 Rectory Office Closed
- Jan. 5 Daisies (KH) 4:30
- Jan. 9 Bingo (Gym) Doors open 1:30
- Jan. 10 Parish Council (KH) 7:00
- Faith Sharing (Rectory) 7:00

St. Vincent de Paul Poor Box \$58.00`
Thanks! Because you are concerned... This is a note of appreciation. Our thank you is a simple but sincere statement. You are being thanked by the poor and the needy for food, clothing, medicine and other needs you are supplying. "The Poor Boxes are the Bread Boxes of the Needy."

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

Getting to know your Parish Pastoral Council . . .

St. Florian's Parish Pastoral Council is a group of volunteers who work collaboratively under the direction of the pastor. The council is responsible for assessing the needs of the parish by formulating long-range plans, establishing goals, and implementing action steps for the parish as a whole. The council is committed to promoting the Word of God and creating a welcoming, prayerful environment for all so that the faith will continue to grow at St. Florian Parish.

Members of the Parish Pastoral Council:

- Fr. Jim Mezydlo, Pastor
- Mr. Terry McKenna, Principal
- Adrienne Bonczek
- Peg Gadus
- Toby Gibson
- Sandy Jezior
- Kathy Keene
- Shirley Konecek
- Pam Krasinski
- Chris Michalik
- Linda Minogue
- Rosa Oseguera
- Betty Peak

Mission Statement

St. Florian Parish Pastoral Council is a group of parishioners who work together with the pastor to act as a consultative body for the parish. Our mission is to build a prayerful, evangelizing and welcoming spirit for the benefit of the faith community.

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. 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, - 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.