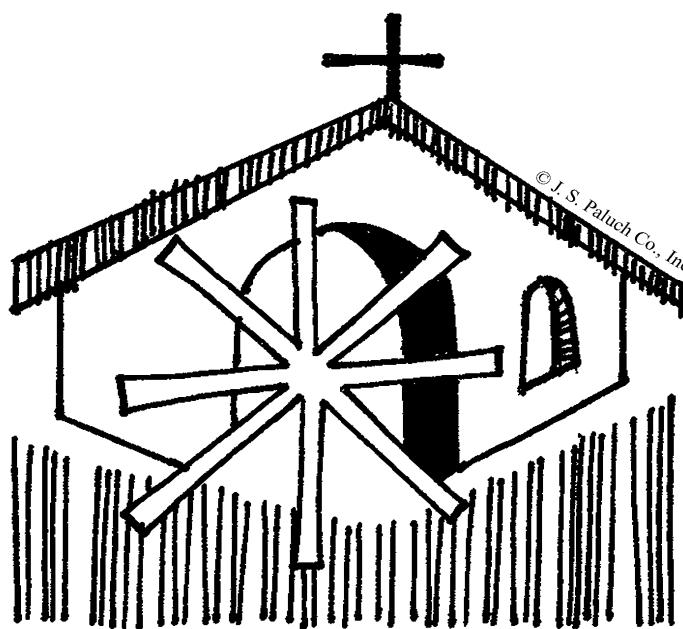
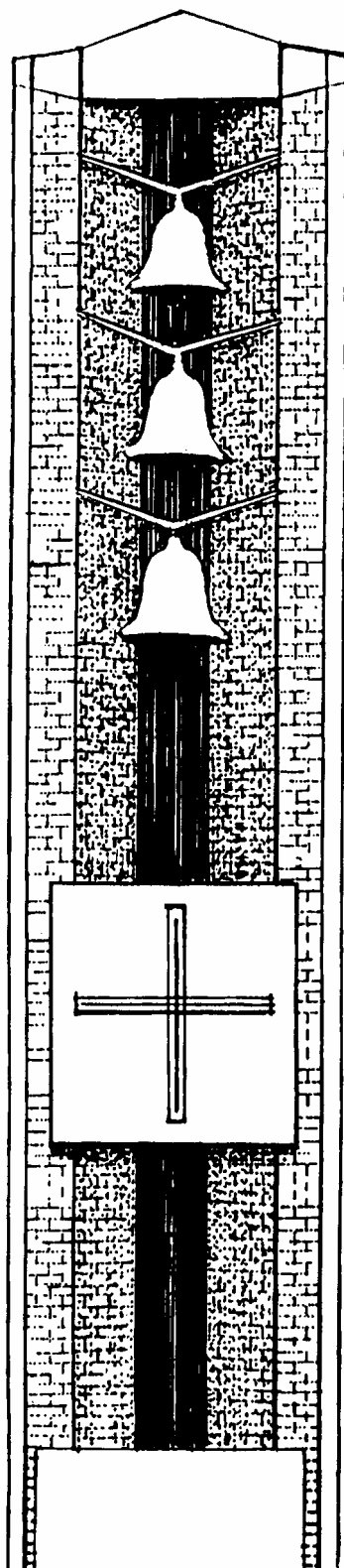


Saint John Fisher Parish

December 6, 2009
Second Sunday of Advent



The Lord has
done great things.

Rectory: 10234 S. Washtenaw Avenue, Chicago, IL 60655

Phone: (773) 445-6565 Fax: (773) 445-1644

SJF Parish website: www.stjohnfisher.org

School: 10200 S. Washtenaw Avenue, Chicago, IL 60655

Phone: (773) 445-4737 Fax: (773) 233-3012

SJF School Home Page: www.sjfschool.net

Office of Religious Education: (773) 238-1851

Weekend Liturgies

4:00 P.M. Saturday

8:00, 10:00 A.M., and 12:00 Noon Sundays

Weekday Morning Liturgies

Monday through Friday 6:30 A.M. Communion Service

Monday through Saturday 8:15 A.M. Daily Mass

ST. JOHN FISHER PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

We, the Catholic Community of St. John Fisher, formed by the gospel, nourished by the Eucharist, and united by love, are called to celebrate the kingdom of God and proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ in word and action.

BAPTISM

We welcome the following children into God's family:

Finley Caillin Egan
Nora Beatrice Hardesty

PRAYER SUPPORT FOR OUR MILITARY PERSONNEL

We would like to keep parishioners and all those who are serving in the military in our prayers, especially: MSG Kevin Daley; Sp4 James Garrity; Sp4 Kevin Garrity CPL Thomas Leonard, USMC; Recruit Raymond Doran; Daniel Wagner; Pvt 1st Class Michael Carroll, USMC; PFC Lane Kreisl, 82nd Airborne; Major Eric Dougherty, USMC; Lance Cpl Kevin Butler, USMC; Lt.jg Meghan Ryan; Pvt. Christopher Dinaso; PFC Ryan Hensley; AW2 Devin E. Williams, USN; PFC Steven Folliard; Sgt. John T. LaGiglia; Captain Michael McCann, US Army; Kevin Roche; Steve Ayon; Pvt. Anthony Schmidt; PFC Terrance Wilson, US Army; Lance Cpl. Robert Brennan Carroll, USMC; Lt. Patrick F. McInerney, USN.; Captain Patrick Tierney, USMC; Kyle Sellers, USAF; Lance Cpl Brennan C. McDonald, Jr., USMC; LCPL Jack Fitzpatrick, USMC; AN Joseph L. Boyce, USN; Darin Oberhart, USN-MA1; Sgt. Thomas Hopman, USMC; CA Christopher Chirillo, USA.

GIVE THE GIFT OF MUSIC THIS CHRISTMAS



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Seasons of Hope is a twelve-track CD featuring the talents of St. John Fisher's amazing music ministry program. The St. John Fisher Adult Choir and Ensemble join their voices to the Teen Choir along with a talented group of instrumentalists, including Music Directors Mike Carso and Alan Bukowiecki. Included in this eclectic CD are instrumental renditions of *Taste and See* and *Amazing Grace*, along with choir favorites *All Are Welcome*, *We Give You Thanks* and *Wood of the Cradle*. Top it off with Alan's stirring rendition of *Lady of Knock* and this CD makes a perfect and economical gift for a donation of just \$10.00.

Just call the Rectory to place your order, then stop by to pick it up. If you need a copy mailed to you, there is an extra charge of \$2.00 for postage.

8th GRADE ENTRANCE EXAM PREP COURSE

There will be an HSPT Entrance Exam Prep Course held December 28-31 for all interested 7th and 8th grade students. The 4-day program prepares students for every key dimension of the exam - problem-solving, test management, mental preparation etc. The course will be held at three locations: Chicago (St. John Fisher), La Grange and Park Ridge and will be taught by acclaimed teachers from local Catholic high schools. Contact Claire Larmon at 773-259-9046 or go to www.redwoodprep.com to sign up and learn more.

ADVENT COMMUNAL PENANCE SERVICE

Please set aside an hour or so on **Tuesday, December 15th at 7:00p.m.** for our annual Advent Communal Penance Service. Once again this year, we will celebrate the sacrament in the context of Taize Prayer, providing a very peaceful opportunity for reflection and for experiencing God's amazing love and mercy. As always, we will try to have an extra priest available for face-to-face confessions.

Even if you don't feel the need to celebrate the Rite of Reconciliation individually on this night, you might want to come simply to find a quiet and prayerful hour for yourself in the midst of the sometimes hectic preparations for the days of Christmastime.

Remember that the Sacrament of Penance is also celebrated every Saturday afternoon from 3:00 to 3:45 in one of the confessionals in the rear of church.

BETWEEN JOBS MINISTRY

The mission of the Between Jobs Ministry is to provide practical and spiritual resources to support the unemployed and underemployed of our parish. ***We are excited to announce our third event on Thursday, December 10 at 6:30p.m. in SJF's Rectory Community Room on the second floor.*** We welcome Katie Klinger and Lorraine Guse, who will speak about "Inside Tips on Getting That Interview—Preparing a Winning Cover Letter and Resume." If you're between jobs, plan to join us on December 10. You can also bring your resume for a professional review/critique. In addition, the ministry needs volunteers for helping people brush up on computer skills, resume writing and networking. If you can't join us then or want to volunteer or learn more about the ministry, contact Mary Pat Anders (773-239-3624), Jim White (773) 322-2518 or Deacon Tom.

St. John Fisher will be collecting gifts for Catholic Charities Annual Celebration of Giving Toy Drive.

Please donate new, unwrapped toys to brighten the holidays for Chicago area children.
Gift cards and gifts for infants and older teens are most needed.

The school week will run from December 7th to the 11th.

Unwrapped gifts may be brought to the school.

Collections after Mass will take place on Saturday, December 12th and Sunday, December 13th. Items may be left in the Church foyer.



Some gift suggestions:

Infant/toddler: Musical and talking toys, soft books, stuffed animals, ethnic dolls.

Ages 2-10: Books, art supplies, action figures, toy cars and trains, dolls, sports equipment

Pre-teen/Teen: Books, board games, purses, portable cd players, teen hair/make-up kits

Questions? Contact Kate Keller (773) 445-3794 or
Email kateroethle@sbcglobal.net

Special MANNA Christmas Offer

As we approach the holiday season, we would like to encourage you to use the St. John Fisher **MANNA** program. Those of you who use the program regularly, know that a percentage of every gift card you buy is returned to you as a tuition rebate. Regular users have earned literally thousands of dollars as significant discounts when the rebates are refunded in February or August. (This August, almost \$40,000 was earned in tuition rebates.)

In addition to the money *you* save, the school has also used their portion of the profits from the MANNA sale for important improvements to the school program that are not covered in the operating budget. We are grateful to each of you for your participation. **MANNA is clearly a WIN-WIN proposition.**

Aware of the tough economy this year, we are offering a new incentive to our program. From November 15-January 15, one percent of the profit from MANNA will be used for our tuition assistance program. This fund was established last year to help families who because of job loss or other temporary set-backs, need assistance with monthly tuition payments. Although 1% does not seem like a significant sum, our Christmas sales have traditionally been so strong, that we anticipate the money directed to that fund could be significant.

We would like to invite you to consider using MANNA gift certificate options when you are thinking about your holiday shopping. Many merchants provide certificates at our sales on a cash and carry basis. (Jewel, Dominick's County Fair, Kohl's, many local restaurants, and countless other stores are available any day of the week, (except Tuesday). Many other merchants and larger businesses can be "special ordered" with little turn-around time.

Using the MANNA Program this holiday season benefits you, the school, and our tuition assistance program. If you are not sure how it works, or need to know about our convenient hours, please check the new posting on the school website which lists the hours of operation and the stores that are in the program. If you have a question about the stores available through special orders, please call the school and we will put you in touch with one of our MANNA staff.

Thank you for your strong support of our school and especially of this new initiative to help our school families.

HOLY NAME SOCIETY — THURSDAY DECEMBER 10 — 7:00PM

The Holy Name Society of St. John Fisher (Men's Club) cordially invites you to attend our upcoming meetings. Our next meeting is Thursday, December 10 at 7:00PM in Kane Hall. We will be hosting our 1st Annual Chili Cook-Off. Some of the premier chefs of the parish will offer a pot of their finest chili. Judging will take place and the parish chili champion will be crowned and earn bragging rights for a year.

Please grab some neighbors and friends and come down to the meeting and enjoy complimentary food, beverages, and SJF neighborhood camaraderie.

Other dates to remember:

January 14th—Hockey Night

February 21st—Father / Kids Mass & Breakfast

SANTA SACKS FOR THE REST SHELTER

As a parish family, we would like to gather items to fill up 45 Santa Sacks for the women at the **REST Shelter** who are struggling for a happier and healthier life. If you have any of the following items to donate, we would greatly appreciate your contributions. Individual items needed are: *socks, hats, scarves, gloves, packets of Kleenex, chapstick, toothbrushes, individual toothpaste, perfume, deodorant, phone cards, wrapped candy, granola bars, gum, juice boxes, McDonald's or Burger King gift certificates.*

With your help, we can make someone else's Christmas a little bit merrier. Please drop off these packages at the rectory marked **SANTA SACKS** or give us a call at (773) 238-6932 and we will be happy to pick them up. **Thank You!**

Youth Ministry - be part of something BIGGER!



Youth hosted Mass... u in?

be on the list...

Sun. December 20th

Singers: Practice with us at 2:30 PM at MHR

Everyone: Celebrate Mass with us at 4:30 PM at MHR

For more information call Kim Madonia at: 708.275.8922

*We had a great Drop In last week!
A big shout out to all who attended!
It was awesome to see all of the college
students who were home on break. Thanks
for taking the time to come hang with us!*

DROP - IN SCHEDULE:

ALL HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS ARE INVITED TO JOIN US FROM 6:30 P.M. - 9:00 P.M. ON:

Dec. 9th @ MHR (Convent 2nd Floor) * **Dec. 16th @ SJF** (Rectory Basement)

We hope to see you on Wednesday! Feel free to invite your friends!

Questions? Comments? Concerns? Please feel free to contact the Director of Youth Ministry,
Kim Madonia at 708.275.8922 or e-mail at youtharethefuture@hotmail.com

CANTORS/LECTORS

Saturday, December 12

4:00 PM **Cantor:**
Reader: D. Brennan

Sunday, December 13

8:00 AM **Cantor:**
Reader: L. Shallow
10:00 AM **Cantor:**
1st Reader: C. O'Malley
2nd Reader: P. Wasik
12:00 PM **Cantor:**
Reader: D. Moore



EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Saturday, December 12

4:00PM 1.) A. Kozek; 2.) R. Mahoney; 3.) C. Bicek; E.M.1) J. Rooney (T); E.M.2) M. Kozek; E.M.3) J. McVady; E.M.4) K. Kozek; E.M.5) C. Cihocki

Eucharistic Sacristan:

Sunday, December 13

8:00 AM E.M.1) J. Standring; E.M.2) J. Standring (T); E.M.3) Deacon Carroll
10:00 AM 1.) A. Schumann; 2.) M. Schumann; 3.) N. Zelek; E.M.1) Deacon Siska; E.M.2) J. Boyle; E.M.3) K. Sullivan; E.M.4) E. Boyle (T); E.M.5) H. Zelek

Eucharistic Sacristans: J. and S. Murphy

12:00PM E.M.1) Deacon Reilly; E.M.2) K. Murnane (T); E.M.3) P. Ashe; E.M.4) L. Shallow; E.M.5) M. Fried

MASS INTENTIONS AND SCHEDULE

Monday, December 7

6:30AM Communion Service
8:15AM Georgette Holtz — *Kathy Klinsky Bieganski*
John and Delia Hassett — *Rena Arlt*

Tuesday, December 8

6:30AM Communion Service
8:15AM Lorraine Milkint — *Resce Family*
10:00AM Parishioners
7:30PM Colette Knieps — *Marcia Collins*

Wednesday, December 9

6:30AM Communion Service
8:15AM Antonette Howard — *Mother*

Thursday, December 10

6:30AM Communion Service
8:15AM Margaret Griffin — *SJF Women's Club*
Muriel Stehney — *John and Jackie Long*

Friday, December 11

6:30AM Communion Service
8:15AM Jacqueline Thiese — *SJF Women's Club*

Saturday, December 12

8:15AM Marge Signorelli — *Resce Family*
Beegan and Skonicki Families - *Family*
4:00PM Parishioners

Sunday, December 13

8:00AM Mary Stenson — *Jim and Eileen Flanagan*
10:00 AM Joan Dugger — *Kenneth and Ruth Ulrich*
Mary Stenson — *Peggy Bukowski*
12:00AM Michael P. Batich — *Loftus Family*
Martin Provenzano, Jr. — *Provenzano Family*
Judy Nelson — *The Boyle Family*

If you are contemplating making a will or changing your will and plan to leave something to charity, please keep St. John Fisher Parish in mind. A bequest to your parish continues your love and concern for your parish long after your life on earth has been completed.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Is 35:1-10; Lk 5:17-26
Tuesday: Gn 3:9-15, 20; Eph 1:3-5, 11-12; Lk 1:26-38
Wednesday: Is 40:25-31; Mt 11:28-30
Thursday: Is 41:13-20; Mt 11:11-15
Friday: Is 48:17-19; Mt 11:16-19
Saturday: Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab; Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47
Sunday: Zep 3:14-18a; Is 12:2-3, 4, 5-6; Phil 4:4-7; Lk 3:10-18

PARISH PRIESTS

Rev. Robert Kyfes, Pastor
Rev. Marion Soprych, Associate Pastor
Rev. Arthur Marat, Resident
Rev. Thomas J. Purtell, Pastor Emeritus

Associate

Rev. Thomas McCarthy, O.S.A.

Deacons

Deacon Robert Carroll Deacon Raymond Reilly
Deacon Couple Tom and Mary Siska

Sister Jean Anne McGrath, C.S.J., **Principal**

Elena Chermak, D.Min., **Dir. of Religious Education**
(773) 238-1851

Music Directors

Michael Carso, **(708) 396-2738**
Alan Bukowiecki
(312) 403-2512

Kim Madonia, **Youth Minister (708) 275-8922**

SACRAMENTS

Baptisms: Sundays at 1:15 P.M.

Baptismal Preparation Class, 11:30 A.M. First Sunday of Month. Contact Rectory for details. A Baptismal Preparation Program is a requirement in the Chicago Archdiocese.

Reconciliation: Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)

Saturdays 3:00 to 3:45 P.M. or by appointment

Marriage: Arrangements are to be made at the Rectory at least **six months** before the wedding. A marriage preparation program is a requirement in the Archdiocese (Pre-Cana, Discovery Weekend, etc.).

Communion for Homebound Parishioners: Members of our parish family who are ill or homebound, please call the parish office and a Minister of Care will bring communion to your home at your convenience.

New Parishioners: We welcome you! Please introduce yourself to us. We ask that you register in the rectory office.