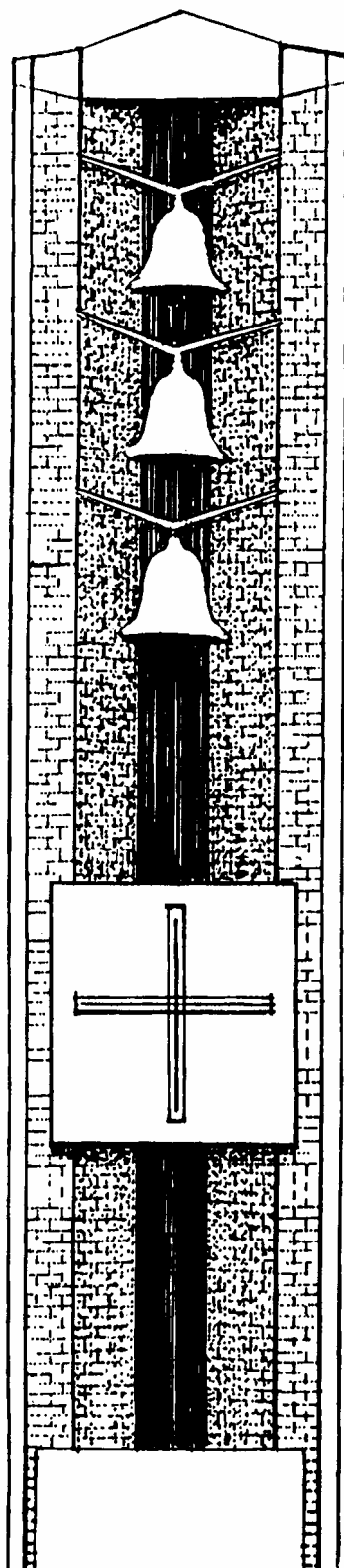


Saint John Fisher Parish

November 22, 2009

Our Lord Jesus Christ the King



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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.

REST IN PEACE

Please remember especially in your prayers this week: Parishioner Harriette M. Gierloff; Mary E. Doolan; Barb Maine.

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.

GIVING THANKS

Thanksgiving Day mass at St. John Fisher is one of the most beautiful in the entire year. If you're in town on Thanksgiving Day, do your best to be here at 9:00a.m. on November 26th to share in the inspirational music led by our choir and instrumentalists and to give thanks to God for the abundant blessings we've all received.

SUNDAY AND WEEKDAY LECTORS ...

The new Lector workbooks for Sunday and Weekday Lectors are now available for pick up in the priest sacristy. Please pick up your copy as soon as possible.

FAMILY ADVENT WREATH EVENT



The Mother's group would like to welcome all families to join us at the **10:00a.m. Mass** on **Sunday, November 29th**. Immediately following we will meet in Kane Hall to assemble our own fresh green wreath centerpiece to celebrate Advent. A prayer book will be provided to guide our families through this holy season. The wreaths and families will receive a special blessing. Christmas carols and small treats will be included. The cost is **\$25.00 per family** at the door. Please RSVP Melissa at mokdok@yahoo.com or **(773) 239-1244**. Space is limited. Last minute walk-ins are welcome while supplies last.

LITURGY: THE THINGS WE DO, THE WORDS WE USE – PART VII

I apologize for not having this in last week's bulletin as promised, but time got away from me. In fact, in order to do this next installment, I had to go back and read what I already wrote to see what was left out. That's not to say that, even in seven parts (plus the two on music), I've considered all that there is to know about the liturgy. Volumes could be—and have been—written on the meaning and importance of our worship; however, I'll keep this series to just two more parts. Then I would invite you to let me know if there's anything else **you** would like me to ponder and write about in the future—regarding liturgy or anything else. I'll also count on the inquiring minds of our eighth graders to provide me with material. But for now, let's begin this reflection by considering what we call the **environment** of worship.

You may not realize it, but we do have a **liturgy environment committee** whose ministry involves both imagining and implementing what some might call the “decorating” the church throughout the seasons of the church year. Over the past several decades, the church has discarded the word “decorating” simply because it really doesn't describe the scope of what's required to prepare our worship space for the celebration of the eucharistic liturgy. Instead, we now speak of preparing the **environment** for worship, which does indeed involve flowers, plants, fabric and such, but isn't quite the same as deciding on what color to paint the walls in the living room or what fabrics to choose for the furniture and drapes. For one thing, the church provides some fairly clear guidelines which either should or must be followed in preparing the worship environment. For another, we don't “decorate” the church to call attention to the flowers or the fabrics that are used—no matter how beautiful they might be—but rather to enhance our worship experience and to support our common prayer.

It might be best to look first at what we may **not** or should **not** do when preparing the environment for worship. First under the heading of “no-no's” is **artificial**: everything that we use in worship should be real. In John's gospel, Jesus reminds us that his “flesh is real food” and his “blood real drink.” All the elements of liturgy should be just as real and natural as the bread and wine. The candles at the altar must be 51% beeswax; oil candles are discouraged. Artificial plants or flowers should never be a part of the environment—though we have to make an exception when it comes to flammable materials, like Christmas trees, and we have cheated a bit with some silk autumn leaves among the mums in church right now since real leaves would dry up in a matter of days. The second environmental trap to be avoided is trying to be too **literal** in interpreting the liturgical seasons. The best example of that is the creation of a desert for Lent with sand and cacti. The worship environment shouldn't try to transport us back to biblical times or to the Holy Land. I experienced one of the worst examples of that extreme at a previous parish (not to be named) where the environment team turned the Eastertime sanctuary into the garden surrounding Jesus' tomb, complete with enormous fake boulders, a waterfall, and enough plants and trees to populate a garden center. In the midst of all that, the altar nearly disappeared, which brings us to the one thing which must **never** happen in the creation of the liturgical environment.

Several times in this series I've mentioned the preeminence of the **altar**, and the American bishops addressed this in an essential teaching on the environment of worship:

“(The altar) is never used as a table of convenience or as a resting place for papers notes, cruets or anything else. It stands free, approachable from every side, capable of being encircled. It is desirable that candles, cross, any flowers or other decoration in the area should not be so close to the altar as to constitute impediments to anyone's approach or movement around the common table.”

The only objects that may be placed **on** the altar **before** the Liturgy of the Eucharist begins are the altar cloth, corporal (the white square of linen in the center) and a microphone (if necessary). **During** the Liturgy of the Eucharist, the only other objects that may remain on the altar are the sacramentary and the vessels for communion, and they must be removed at the conclusion of the communion rite. All of this is not meant to be a picky housekeeping issue, but rather a matter of safeguarding the sacredness and dignity of the most important object in the church. Similarly, the environmental elements created around the altar (flowers, plants, fabrics, candles) are there to help us focus on the action taking place at the altar, not to call attention to their beauty or to direct our minds away from the Eucharist. That's why, for example, it's inappropriate to place a manger scene anywhere near the altar during Christmastime. Even on Christmas eve or day, we don't come to church to be transported back to Bethlehem but rather to celebrate the real presence, here and now, of the risen Lord Jesus.

(Continued on next page)

I'll used a lot of space here to describe the "don'ts" of liturgical environment. Next week (I hope) I'll finish up with the "do's" necessary to create a beautiful and dignified space where we can raise our hearts and minds to God.

Fr. Bob

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.

WOMEN'S CLUB LUNCHEON DONATIONS

The annual Christmas Luncheon will be held on Saturday, December 5th at Ridge Country Club. As in years past, we are looking for donations for the raffle baskets from our parishioners. It is difficult to solicit businesses in this economy so we are looking for items to use in the baskets. It can be a regifted item (always acceptable) or perhaps a gift card or certificates for a store, restaurant, car wash, hair salon, etc. You can contact ***Kathleen Daly*** (773) 445-9270 or e-mail kdaly@woway.com



*Jesus Christ is the faithful witness,
The firstborn of the dead
And ruler of the kings of the earth
- Revelation 1:5*



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Youth Ministry - be part of something BIGGER!

End HUNGER
with **your** young
Person...



www.freerice.com

I thought I would share this
WONDERFUL link with you and
your family. Please take a moment
to check it out. It's totally **free**
and it gives you and/or your
young person the chance to help
end world hunger **TOGETHER!**

You can pick from multiple subjects:
Art, Chemistry, English, Geography,
Language Learning, Math

1 question right = 20 grains of rice

5 questions right = 100 grains of rice

Play and feed hungry people.

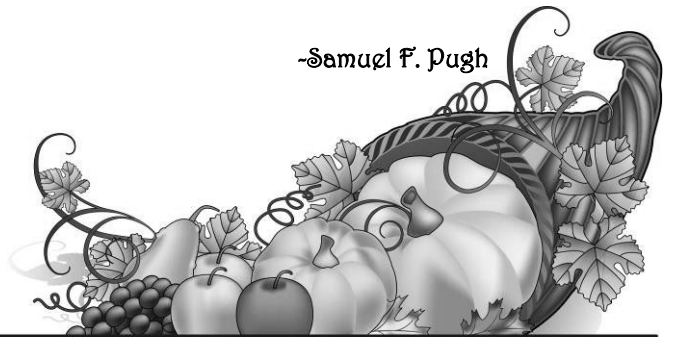
1,611,699,490 grains of rice were
donated last month!

Over 71 **BILLION** grains of rice
donated to date.

May the blessings of this Thanksgiving
fill your hearts and home.
- The SJF/MHR Youth Ministry Program -

Oh God, when we have food,
help us to remember the hungry;
When we have work,
help us to remember the jobless;
When we have homes,
help us to remember those who
have no home at all...
Help us to destroy our complacency;
bestir our compassion,
and be concerned enough to help,
by word and deed,
those who cry out
for what we take for granted.

-Samuel F. Pugh



THANKSGIVING

DROP - IN SCHEDULE:

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

Nov. 25th @ MHR (Convent 2nd Floor) * **Dec. 2nd @ 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, November 28

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

Sunday, November 29

8:00 AM **Cantor:**
Reader: **R. Kroll**
10:00 AM **Cantor:**
1st Reader: **S. Mahoney**
2nd Reader: **R. Carroll**
12:00 PM **Cantor:**
Reader: **J. Joyce**



EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Saturday, November 28

4:00PM 1.) J. McVady; 2.) P. Hayes; 3.) M. Ochs; E.M.1) C. Bicek (T); E.M.2) M. Waldron; E.M.3) J. Miller; E.M. 4) N. Del Valle; E.M.5) M. Jurek

Eucharistic Sacristan: M. Redmond

Sunday, November 29

8:00 AM Deacon Reilly; E.M.2) W. Winters (T); E.M.3) D. Sosnowski
10:00 AM 1.) A. Schumann; 2.) S. Murnane; 3.) M. Schumann; E.M.1) J. Rooney; E.M.2) M. Rooney (T); E.M.3) Deacon Carroll; E.M.4) P. Gribble; E.M.5) G. Gribble

Eucharistic Sacristan: J. Boyle

12:00PM E.M.1) Deacon Siska; E.M.2) D. Gardner (T); E.M.3) R. Walsh; E.M.4) K. McElligott; E.M.5) C. Galvin

MASS INTENTIONS AND SCHEDULE

Monday, November 23

6:30AM Communion Service for Winnie Wahlen — *Marcia Collins*
8:15AM Mary Kay McGrath — *James O'Connell*

Tuesday, November 24

6:30AM Communion Service
8:15AM Louis, Ann and Lucy Morande—*Family*
In Thanksgiving—*Judi Fitzgerald*

Wednesday, November 25

6:30AM Communion Service
8:15AM Mary August — *Kathy and Mitch Sadus*
Mary Kay McGrath — *Friends from the Hospital*

Thursday, November 26

6:30AM **NO** Communion Service
9:00 AM Pipari Family — *Pam and Tony Yozze*
Michael Stenson — *Family*

Friday, November 27

6:30AM Communion Service
8:15AM Louise Reilly — *Ray Reilly*
William A., William D. and Dorothy Vice — *Dorothy Shannon*

Saturday, November 28

8:15AM Louise Farrell — *The Dempsey's*
Special Intentions of Mike and Joanne Frederick — *Family*
4:00PM Parishioners

Sunday, November 29

8:00AM Billy Roberts — *Szarzynski Family*
Joseph Sosnowski — *Fisherfest Committee*
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*

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: Dn 1:1-6,8-20; Lk 21:1-4
Tuesday: Dn 2:31-45; Lk 21:5-11
Wednesday: Dn 5:1-6, 13-14, 16-17, 23-28; Lk 21:12-19
Thursday: Sir 50:22-24; 1 Cor 1:3-9; Lk 17:11-19
Friday: Dn 7:2-14; Lk 21:29-33
Saturday: Dn 7:15-27; Lk 21:34-36
Sunday: Jer 33:14-16; Ps 25; 1 Thes 3:12—4:2; Lk 21:25-28, 34-36

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.

CHILDREN'S CATHOLIC BOOK CLUB



The book for this month is titled **Squanto and the Miracle of Thanksgiving** by Eric Metaxas. We will meet in the rectory basement on **Monday, November 30th at 6:30p.m.** There will be a donation basket passed to cover the cost of the craft and to donate a copy of the book to our school's library. We will also have the next book selection available for purchase on that night. For more information or a copy of the book, contact **Amy Goggin (708) 499-3090** or [**Gogginreg@comcast.net**](mailto:Gogginreg@comcast.net)

10th ANNUAL KEVIN DOWLING CHRISTMAS IS FOR KIDS TOY DRIVE

This toy drive is held to celebrate the memory of parishioners, Kevin Dowling and Tom Fenton while sharing the Christmas spirit with some special kids. The drive will take place on **Sunday, December 6th, 12:00Noon to 5:00p.m. at 115 Bourbon Street.** Toys and monetary donations benefit children at *Little Company of Mary Hospital*, *Courage of Oak Lawn*, *LaRabida Hospital* and *Loyola Hospital's Ronald McDonald Child Life Program and Burn Center*. Donations of new toys, games, videos, CDs, Walkmans, gift certificates to local restaurants, paints, crayons, large legos and monetary donations are welcome. All money collected goes to the beneficiaries of the Toy Drive, not the scholarship fund.



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For the third year, sponsors are being sought for the Toy Drive. The sponsorship is \$500.00; your name or business will be on all ads generated, as well as on t-shirts and banners at the drive. For more information or to find out how you can help, contact parishioner, **Jim McKeever (773) 972-6264** or **(708) 499-3235** or [**jg.mckeever@comcast.net**](mailto:jg.mckeever@comcast.net)

ALL SCOUT PANCAKE BREAKFAST

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2009 — KANE HALL — 7:30am—12 NOON
ADULTS — \$6.00 / SENIORS AND CHILDREN UNDER 12 — \$3.00
CHILDREN 5 AND UNDER — FREE

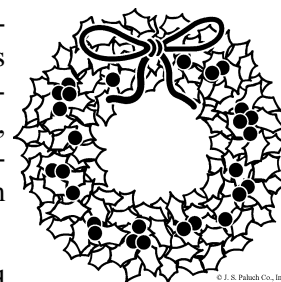
COMMUNITY NEWS

... **1st Annual Beverly Turkey Trot 5K Race and Family Walk** to be held on Saturday, November 28, 2009 through historic North Beverly. Proceeds from this event will benefit the Maeve McNicholas Memorial Foundation and the 19th Ward Youth Foundation. The walk starts and finishes at the Kellogg School (9200 South Hamilton Avenue). For more information and to volunteer to be on the race committee, contact the 19th Ward Youth Foundation (773) 238-0288 or visit the web site [**matthewoshea@wowway.com**](mailto:matthewoshea@wowway.com)

... **Earn Extra Money — U.S. Census 2010** - Work in a temporary, part-time job with the 2010 Census and enjoy good pay (\$14.00 to \$21.00 per hour), flexible hours, and the chance to serve your community. Eligibility criteria: You must be 18 years old or older, pass a multiple choice test, have a valid Social Security Number, U.S. Citizens will be given preference. Call to schedule a test (866) 861-2010. (U.S. Census Bureau is an Equal Opportunity Employer).

DECORATE FOR THE CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS

Fill your home with the spirit and love of the Christmas season. Fresh balsam and mixed noble fir wreaths and other holiday decorations will be available for purchase after all masses on the weekend of November 28-29 in the back of church. Proceeds from the sale help support the work of The Women's Centers of Greater Chicagoland. Through your generosity, thousands of teens and young women facing a crisis pregnancy receive compassionate counseling, social service referrals and material goods assistance they need to help them through this most difficult period of their lives. Your support is greatly appreciated.



Prices are as follows: 25" Balsam Wreath (\$20.00), 36" Balsam Wreath (35.00), 12" Mixed Noble Candlering (\$15.00), 26" Mixed Noble Wreath)\$30.00, Deluxe Cardinal Basket (\$25.00), Classic Swag Door Greeter (\$10.00), Euro Tree (\$10.00), Holly Plant (\$5.00), and new this year—Hyacinth / Crocus / Narcissus Bulbs (\$5.00).

NEW TELEVISED SUNDAY MASS

Beginning on Sunday, November 29th, a televised Sunday Mass will begin airing on CBS Channel 2 from 5:30 to 6:00a.m. each Sunday morning. The Sunday Mass is produced by the Passionist Fathers and Brothers out of New York City and is available nationally on local affiliates. For more information consult the website www.The-Sunday-Mass.org

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!**

SPONSOR-A-FAMILY PROGRAM

This holiday season, St. John Fisher will again participate in the Sponsor-a-Family Program. a month-long effort to collect Christmas gifts for the many children and families served by Catholic Charities. Sponsor-A-Family reaches out to families who are most in need, responding to their basic wishes for clothing, household items, books, or school supplies.

You have the opportunity to help one of the 500 families seeking assistance through Sponsor-A-Family. Past experience shows that spending between \$50-\$75.00 per family member goes a long way toward making many of their wishes come true. Families are available with one to ten members; you choose the size family that you can afford to help.

You really can make a difference in someone's life this Christmas! Please consider sponsoring a family, or "co-sponsoring" a family with your family or friends. Please call **Mary Kopale (773) 239-6073** or send an email to mkopale@yahoo.com to sign up, or with any questions. You can also find information at www.catholiccharities.net/ celebration. The gifts will be collected on **December 5th**, so please call soon. Thank you!



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STEWARDSHIP = TIME - TALENT - TREASURE

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.