



PASTORAL STAFF

Pastor, Rev. Tirso Villaverde
Pastor Emeritus, Rev. James Barrett
Residents, Rev. Harold Murphy
Michael Okoro, C.S.Sp.
Deacon, Michael Neba
Accountant, Jim Masini
Religious Ed, Cynthia Splatt
School Principal, Christine Huzenis
Music Ministry, Steve Burke
Howard Schneider

MASS SCHEDULE

Weekend

Saturday 4:00 pm Sunday 8:30 am & 10:30 am **Weekday** Monday-Saturday 8:00 am

RECONCILIATION

Saturdays from 3:00-3:30 pm.

An appointment can also be made by calling one of the priests.

OFFICES

Rectory (773) 764-0615 2324 W. Chase Hours: Monday-Thursday 9:00 am-12:00 pm & 1:00-5:00 pm Friday by appointment Parish Website: www.smmchicago.org/parish

Parish School (773) 271-2008 Northside Catholic Academy

> Activity Center 7341 N. Claremont Holy Hands (773) 764-0615, ext. 27

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Silence. If we are to be honest with ourselves, it bothers a good number of us. For those of us who have every tried to sit in silence for at least one full minute, several things might happen. For one, we might become easily distracted by any noise after about five seconds. We might find ourselves becoming so antsy that we find it hard to sit still let alone remain quiet. Then, our minds might wander and begin to worry about the things we have to do. Yet, as much as we might fear silence or avoid it, silence is extremely key in our relationship with God because it is in silence that God speaks to us.

We might think, though, that we do not have enough time to be in silent prayer. However, it is not because we lack the time to be in silence. Rather, it is because we do not allow ourselves the luxury of being in silence. Silence does not necessarily mean the absence of noise. It can simply mean the undisturbed act of focusing our attention to the God who comes to us in the quiet of our hearts. This type of silence has a calming effect. At our most peaceful state, we will actually begin to hear more clearly and more powerfully the voice of God speaking to us,



letting us know what He desires of us. We need those moments of silence in order to cultivate that ability to discern the will of God in our lives. This is what I would like us to concentrate on during this season of Lent as a parish wide practice.

For this very reason, the Liturgy Board and I have decided that during the season of Lent, we will have moments of profound silence both at the start and at the end of our Sunday liturgies. We have chosen these two moments for specific reasons.

First, the instructions to the Mass actually call for a period of profound silence prior to the start of Mass. It allows us to prepare ourselves interiorly by putting ourselves in the mindset needed to begin to listen to the voice of God. The way we will do this is through the chime of the handbells. Members of the music ministry will lead the opening procession by the soft chime of the handbells. Once the ministers reach the front of the sanctuary, the music ministers will lead us in a simple sung refrain. This will take the place of the opening hymn.

Secondly, we will have another moment of profound silence at the very end of the Mass. Rather than conclude Mass with a closing hymn, the ministers will exit the sanctuary in another moment of profound silence which may be accompanied once again by the soft chime of the handbells. The Liturgy Board and I decided on this moment as well because silence is oftentimes needed at the very end of our time of prayer.

As we may have noticed, though, here at the parish there has been the tendency to applaud at the conclusion of the final hymn. Although we know that it is a sign of gratitude, applauding at the end of Mass can lead to the wrong understanding that we came to Mass to be entertained. It then makes the ministers and the choir into the "actors" in the play while the people in the congregation would be the "audience." In the Mass, there are no actors and audience. Whether we are in the sanctuary, the choir area, or even in the pews, we are all ministers exercising a specific ministry in order to help everyone to pray and hear the voice of God. Applauding sometimes causes a confusion in understanding why we came together in the Eucharist in the first place.

We would like the parish as a whole to refrain from that during the season of Lent in order to give ourselves the moment to interiorize the message that God just gave to each of us during the celebration of the Eucharist. The silence may seem jarring and may even be uncomfortable but it is a moment that we can spend in reflection which then allows us the ability to discern what God just wanted to tell us.

Again, we are not discouraging the conversation and camaraderie that parishioners oftentimes engage in after Mass. We are just asking that we observe a moment of profound silence immediately before and after the Mass. Hopefully, we will journey through Lent to Easter much more aware of the fact that we come to Mass primarily to hear the Word of God and then go into the world living out the Word that has been spoken to us.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

1000 PAPER CRANES...

is our current project for the spring. Sadako Sasaki survived the atomic bombing of Hiroshima, but at age 11 she was diagnosed with leukemia. In the hospital, Sadako folded Origami Paper Cranes. There is a legend that if you fold a 1000 paper cranes, your wish will come true. Sadako wanted to get well, but she was also wishing for Peace in the World. She died at age 12, but her legacy endures.

Do you fold Origami? and do you have paper? gift paper is good. Let us know.

Our world is so in need of peace.

ANGEL CLOSET

As spring approaches we are preparing to celebrate First Communion and Confirmation with our children and teens. Do you have clothes that your children have outgrown? We already have a donation and if you would like to donate a dress, veil, a suit jacket, or shoes, please bring them to the rectory during office hours. Dresses for Confirmation can be any color.



LENTEN PILGRIMAGE TO 7 CHURCHES WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1, 2020

The bus will leave from SMM at 9:00 am and return by 2:15 pm. Here is a tentative schedule of churches that will be visited this year:

8:00	Mass and	Perpetual .	Help l	Novena	at SMM
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9:00 Board the bus

9:15 Queen of All Saints Basilica

10:00 St. Peter's in Skokie

11:00 St. Martha and

Shrine of All Saints in Morton Grove

11:45 Our Lady of Perpetual Help in Glenview

12:30 Sts. Faith, Hope and Charity in Wilmette

1:15 St. Joseph in Wilmette

2:15 Return to SMM for late lunch

in the Activity Center

\$40/person Maximum 30 pilgrims Lunch included To sign-up, please call Fr. Tirso at 773-764-0615 or email at tvillaverde@archchicago.org.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

COLLECTION REPORT

February 16, 2020

Sunday Envelope Budget	\$8,942.00	
Sunday Envelope Actual	\$2,549.42	
Loose Money	\$ 662.86	
Total Collection	\$3,212.28	
Variance	(\$5,729.72)	
Weekly Budget Amount		
Envelopes Used	97	

TAIZE LENTEN SERVICE

Friday, March 6, 2020 7:30-8:30 pm

The Benedictine Sisters invite you to a Taize Lenten Prayer Service. We will sing with accompaniment by live musicians, listen to scripture and a reflection, take time for payer and light candles.

This quiet, contemplative time can be a meaningful addition to your Lenten observance.

St. Scholastica Monastery is located at 7430 N. Ridge Blvd., Chicago, 60645, near public transportation.

Please register by email: communication@osbchicago.org.



CATHOLIC SISTERS WEEK EVENT

Hear God's voice in your life. Find your center. On Wednesday, March 11th, join women, ages 18-50, for an evening of scripture, prayer and refreshments. Explore the bible through Lectio Divina, a Benedictine prayer tradition, and discover God's guidance for your life.

The group will meet at St. Scholastica Monastery, 7430 N. Ridge Blvd., Chicago. For information and to RSVP: www.osbchicago.org/word or call 773-338-7063.

Catholic Sisters Week is an annual celebration that takes place from March 8-14. Created to honor women religious, it is a series of events that instruct, enlighten and bring greater focus to the lives of these incredible women.

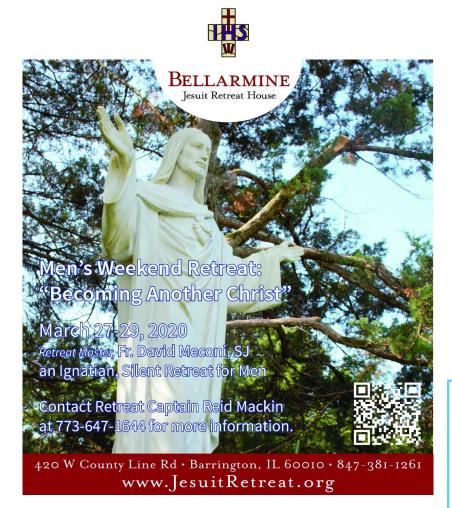


PARISH & COMMUNITY EVENTS

EXERCISE CLASS meets in the Activity Center on Tuesdays & Fridays from 9:30am to 10:30am. For more information, call Bernadette Dunne, 773-764-9422

BOY SCOUT TROOP 923

Come join the fun! Boys aged 11 and up are welcome to join Troop 923. We meet every Tuesday from 7:00 to 9 pm in the Rectory Hall. Contact us by email at HaveFun@BoyScoutTroop923.org or by voicemail at 312-772-4923.



HELP FILL EASTER EGGS AGAIN!

Plastic eggs will be made available in the Gathering Space of the church starting next weekend, February 29/March 1. These eggs will be used for our annual Easter Egg Hunt on Easter Sunday, April 12th, after the 10:30 am Mass.

Parishioners are again invited to take as many eggs as you would like and fill them with any combination of the following:

*candy/chocolate *coins *small toys *small religious mementos.

Please return filed eggs no later than the weekend of March 28/29.

ANGEL HAIR IS RETURNING TO SMM! Saturday, March 21, 2020 SMM Activity Center

8:00 am until 2:00 pm

Please help by doing one or more of the following:

- *Volunteering as a barber or haircutter
- *Volunteering in some other capacity
- *Donating gently used clothing.
- *Donating small travel sized toiletries.
- *Making a monetary donation

Questions... please contact Fr. Tirso at 773-764-0615 or tvillaverde@archchicago.org.

REST IN PEACE

Our blessed Lord has called home **Rufino R. Jimenez** and Joan Heuel for whom we promise our prayers that they may live in joy in His presence.



BAPTISMS

+Gemma Garcia, daughter of Ricardo Garcia & Maria Gutierrez, received new life in the Lord through the waters of Baptism this past weekend. May her parents and godparents be a light to her life.

CLASSIFIEDS

FOR RENT: sm office spaces \$300-\$600/mo, perfect for 1-8 person office, quiet environment, 24 hr access, Neal Gallo, 773-743-6565 or

Neal.gallo.gznm@statefarm.com;

NEEDED: handiman/computer tech, Peg, 773-274-

FOCUS ON THE WORD

CYCLES OF FAITH

7th Sunday in Ordinary Time

The Gospels continue to challenge us to the core. This is especially true in the way our social relationships have developed. Feeling safe and secure in the world are not things that come easily these days. Actually, we may find ourselves feeling more reservation, caution, reluctance, and fear than ever before. In a moment's notice, life can drastically change. When someone has been intentionally and violently hurt, especially someone we love, we can all too easily find ourselves very attracted to the Old Testament philosophy of "an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth."

Intellectually, we know this is not what Jesus wants us to do. But on some level it just seems to make practical or even political sense. After all, why should we allow someone to get away with a heinously violent act? Yet, Jesus cannot be any clearer than he is with this! Offer no resistance to one who is evil. Turn the other cheek as well. When pressed into service, go two miles. Do not turn your back on one who wants to borrow. Love your enemies. Now, take a moment to reflect on all of this. Consider a horrible act of violence committed against someone you love. Listen. Think. Be honest. Can you do as Jesus directs?

We want to be holy. But we are more comfortable with a definition of holiness that can keep us saying our prayers and on our knees in church. We are not comfortable with a definition of holiness that has something to say about to how we react to and negotiate life. We like to keep a sharp and strong line between the secular and the sacred. In fact, we would prefer that the doors between them be kept closed. God wants us to be holy as He is holy. If God sees this one way and we see it another, then where does this leave us on our journey to God?

Our minds like the practical, worldly, and secular answers to things. They are more black and white and at first glance appear to make more sense. Holiness wells up from our souls and is beyond reason. It cannot be explained. It is something we just simply know comes as a result of deep prayer. The truly contemplative eye knows inwardly that what Jesus asks is true and then willingly does it. It may not be easy.

-Pope Francis

"During this Lent, let us all ask the Lord: Make our hearts like yours."



+PARISH DEVOTIONS+

OUR MOTHER OF PERPETUAL HELP NOVENA

Every Wednesday at 8:30 am.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Every Friday following 8:00 am Mass until 7:00 pm.

Please enter the middle door, school side.

(Become a regular, call

Mila Cobarrubias at 773-814-4282 or

Judith Seruelo at 773-764-0247.)

Mass at 7:00 pm on First Fridays;

Vespers and Benediction at 7:00 pm

on all other Fridays.

HEART OF THE SPIRIT PRAYER MEETING

Every Friday at 7:30 pm in Rectory Hall.

DEVOTION TO THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS

Every 1st Friday of the month beginning with Mass at 7:00 pm. Fellowship follows after Mass. Contact person: Terry Luciano, 773-677-7347

FATIMA ROSARY

First Saturday of the month immediately following 4 pm Mass.

SACRAMENTS

Marriage: Arrangements should be made at least three months in advance.

Baptisms: On the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month immediately following the 10:30 am mass. Please make arrangements at least one month in advance.

Preparation class held on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm in the rectory

R.C.I.A

Program/Process for adults interested in the Catholic Faith (Sept.-April). Call the Rectory for information.

NEW PARISHIONERS

We welcome our new parishioners and invite them to register at the rectory.

WORSHIP CALENDAR

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, February 23 7th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30 am Don Tres

George Meyers

10:30 am Scout Sunday

Peter Justiano Wallis

Julita Trovela

Monday, February 24

8:00 am Christopher M. Turner (living)

Tuesday, February 25

8:00 am Marie, Aaron & Family

Wednesday, February 26

8:00 am Marie, Aaron & Family

7:00 pm Deceased members of SMM

Thursday, February 27

8:00 am Marie, Aaron & Family

Friday, February 28

8:00 am Marie, Aaron & Family

Saturday, February 29

8:400 am Deceased members of SMM

4:00 pm Ann Donohue

Michael O'Donnell

Sunday, March 1 1st Sunday of Lent

8:30 am Chris Murtaugh

Dolores Chozianin

10:30 am Intentions of an SMM Donor

Julita Trovela

Peter Justiano Wallis



Readings for the week of February 23, 2020

Sunday: Lv 19:1-2, 17-18/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8, 10,

12-13 [8a]/1 Cor 3:16-23/Mt 5:38-48

Monday: Jas 3:13-18/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 15 [9a]/

Mk 9:14-29

Tuesday: Jas 4:1-10/Ps 55:7-8, 9-10a, 10b-11a, 23

[23a]/Mk 9:30-37

Wednesday: Jl 2:12-18/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 12-13, 14

and 17 [cf. 3a]/2 Cor 5:20-6:2/

Mt 6:1-6, 16-18

Thursday: Dt 30:15-20/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6

[Ps 40:5a]/Lk 9:22-25

Friday: Is 58:1-9a/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 18-19 [19b]/

Mt 9:14-15

Saturday: Is 58:9b-14/Ps 86:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 [11ab]/

Lk 5:27-32

Next Sunday: Gn 2:7-9; 3:1-7/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 17

[cf. 3a]/Rom 5:12-19 or 5:12, 17-19/

Mt 4:1-11

LITURGICAL ROLES

SMM serves, prays and celebrates.

Sacristans

Monday, February 24

A Volunteer Is Needed **Wednesday, February 26**

Terri Luciano

Saturday, February 29

A Volunteer Is Needed

Lectors

Saturday, February 22

4:00 pm Julie Ashbach & Judy Moylan

Sunday, February 23

8:30 am Bernadette Edom & Tim Murtaugh

10:30 am Alex Jones

Eucharistic Ministers Saturday, February 22

4:00 pm B. Alban, A.

B. Alban, A. Alban, M. Neba,

D. Cole, G. Lindor, M. Varallo &

M. Fallon

Sunday, February 23

8:30 am P. & R. Mackin, J. Murtaugh,

B. Russell, C. Chima &

L. Igboanugo

10:30 am B. David, A. Baldonado,

Y. Malicay, V. Onyeaghala, G. Potucek, K. Conorquie &

J. Seruelo

Lectors

Saturday, February 29

4:00 pm Julie Ashbach & Lee Draus

Sunday, March 1

8:30 am Peter Johnston & Peter Scheidt

10:30 am TBA

Eucharistic Ministers

Saturday, February 29

4:00 pm M. Fallon, M. Varallo, J. Moylan,

G. Lindor & D. Cole

Sunday, March 1

8:30 am L. Honda, R. Hardy, L. Ibgoanugo,

J. & T. Murtaugh, B. Russell &

R. Mackin

10:30 am M. Grigsby, A. Baldonado, B. Alban,

L. Ibekwem, T. Linwood,

B. Bingham & J. Seruelo