

The Chimes

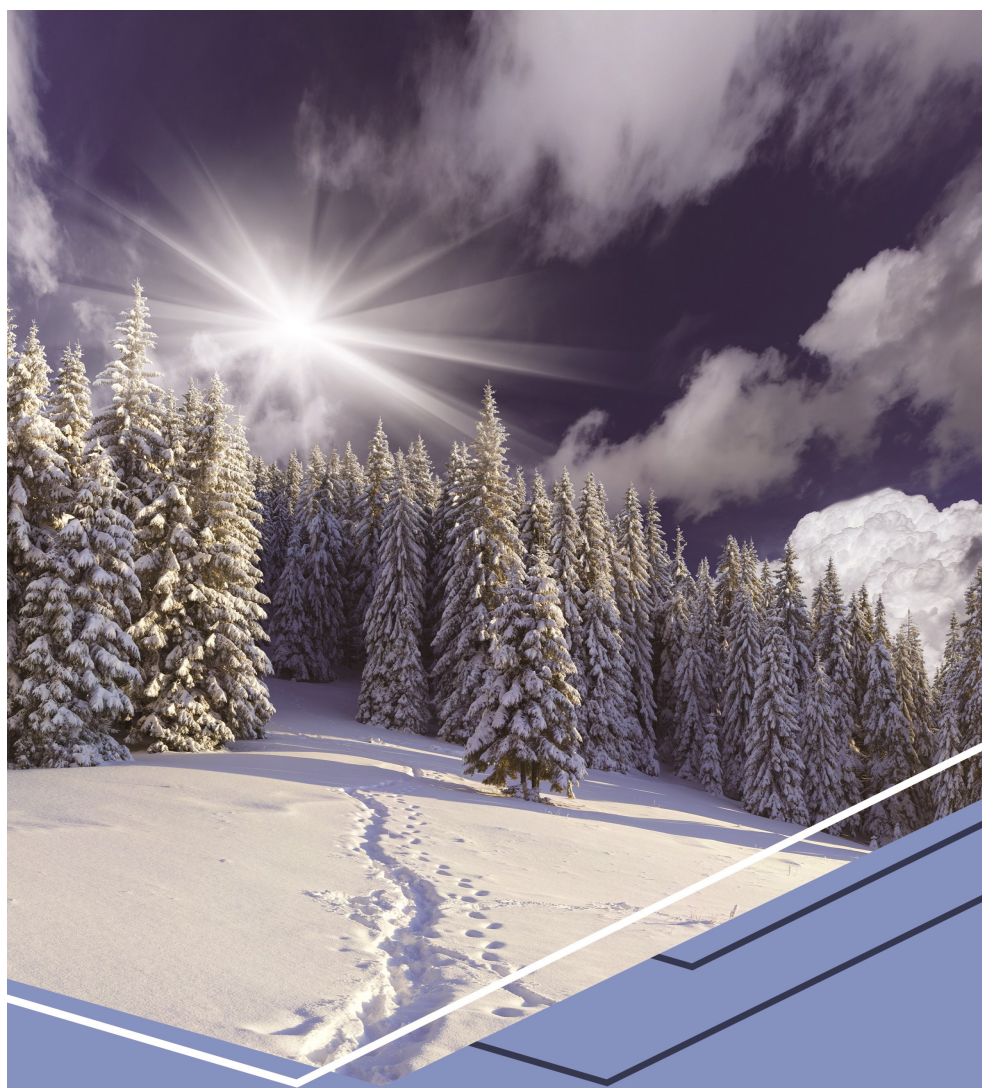
The weekly bulletin of
HOLY CHILD JESUS PARISH
AT ST. MARGARET MARY

2324 W. Chase Ave. • Chicago, IL 60645



December 13, 2020

Third Sunday of Advent



3rd SUNDAY OF ADVENT

"This is the one about whom it is written: Behold, I am sending my messenger ahead of you; he will prepare your way before you." - Mt 11:10

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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PASTORAL STAFF

Pastor, Rev. Phi Nguyen

Pastor Emeritus, Rev. James Barrett

Associate Pastors,

Rev. Arthur Bautista

Rev. Jose Baptista, SFX

Deacons,

Michael Neba Francis Duc Nguyen

David Pham Joseph Thuan Than

Accountant, Jim Masini

Religious Ed, Cynthia Splatt

Music Ministry,

Steve Burke & Howard Schneider

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday

4:00 pm (English)

6:00 pm (Vietnamese)

Sunday

10:00 am (English)

12 noon (English & Vietnamese)

Weekdays

Monday-Saturday 8:00 am (English)

RECONCILIATION

Saturday from 3:00-3:30 pm

1st & 3rd in English

2nd & 4th in English & Vietnamese

RECTORY OFFICE

(773) 764-0615

2324 W. Chase

Hours: Monday-Thursday

9:00 am-12:00 pm & 1:00-5:00 pm

Parish Website:

www.smmchicago.org/parish

Activity Center

7341 N. Claremont

Holy Hands

(773) 764-0615

Third Sunday of Advent (Gaudete Sunday) – Year B

Today's Gospel, John 1: 6-8, 19-28, centers on St. John the Baptist who came to testify to the Light and to help prepare the people of his day for Christ's message of salvation.

A man named John was sent from God. He came for testimony, to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He was not the light, but came to testify to the light. (John 1: 6-8)

The Holy Scriptures provide us plenty of information about John the Baptist, his role as the forerunner of Jesus Christ the Lord. We can see that he was a trustworthy person. He knew who he was. When people thought of him to be someone else, he said: *"I am the voice of one crying out in the desert, make straight the way of the Lord."* (John 1:23) Not only asking people of his day to change their way of living, open their hearts and their whole being to receive the Savior, John the Baptist also lived truthfully to his message. We all knew that John's death was the result of his confrontation with King Herod over the king's unlawful marriage to Herodias, his brother's wife. John the Baptist came to testify to the truth and died for it. As followers of Jesus Christ, we believe that only in God there is eternal peace and happiness. Thus, we all have the responsibility to share and to live out our faith in our Lord. Each of us has a role in preparing the way for the Lord.

We have some time left until Christmas. It could be enough time to discern our role in the preparation for the Lord to come.

Fr. Phi Nguyen



The Christmas Giving Tree is up at Holy Child Jesus Parish at St.

Margaret Mary Church. Please consider taking a tag and returning a

wrapped gift to the rectory or the church by this Sunday,

December 13th. You will be sharing the gift of giving and the gift of

hope. All gifts will be going to families in our neighborhood.



PLEASE HELP WITH MASS RESERVATIONS

We have recently seen a decline in the number of reservations, especially for the Sunday 10:00 a.m. Mass. Although Mass attendance remains high and we welcome everyone's presence, we strongly rely on our reservation system to help us plan our seating which still remains limited.

We ask that everyone makes a reservation for every Mass that you plan to attend. If you attend every week, please make a reservation for every week. Please do not rely on the list that we keep for walk-ins.

If you have access to the Internet, please go to our website at <https://smmchicago.org/parish/> or and follow the prompts for signing up for Mass.

If you do not have access to the Internet, please make a phone reservation by calling the parish office at (773) 764-0615. Please note that the deadline for phoning in your reservation for weekend Masses is Thursday at 4:30 p.m. We are unable to honor any requests made after the deadline.

Thank you for your cooperation.

CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

We have a core group of volunteers at Holy Child Jesus Parish at St. Margaret Mary Church that has done a fantastic job assisting at Mass. We hope to have more of our parishioners so we can expand our group. Volunteering is a way to give back to the parish, to help build our community. You don't have to be here every week—once a month would help us tremendously.

Please call the parish office at (773) 764-0615 or email Art Blumberg at art.blumberg@hcjp.org for more information.

COLLECTION REPORT

December 6, 2020

Sunday Envelope Budget.....	\$8,942.00
Sunday Envelope Actual.....	\$5,134.00
Loose Money	\$1,451.34
Total Collection	\$6,585.34
Variance	(\$2,356.66)
Weekly Budget Amount	
Envelopes Used	46

Liturgical Calendar of December 2020 and New Year 2021

Simbang Gabi:

@ Timothy: December 16 @ 7:00 PM

@ Henry: December 18 @ 7:00 PM

@ SMM: December 19 @ 4:00 PM

Reconciliation:

@ SMM: Dec 12: 2:00 PM – 3:45 PM

@ Henry: Dec 13: 9:00 AM – 12:00 noon

@ Timothy: Dec 19: 2:00 PM – 3:45 PM.

A day of reflection @ SMM: December 9, 2020 at 7:00 pm

Christmas

December 24

@ SMM: 4:00 PM and 10:00 PM: English

@ Henry: 4:00 PM: English and 6:00 PM: Vietnamese

@ Timothy: 8:00 PM: English

December 25

@ SMM: 10:00 AM: English and 12:00 noon: Bilingual

@ Henry: 8:00 AM: Vietnamese and 10:00 AM: English

@ Timothy: 9:00 AM and 11:00 AM: English

New Year 2021

1. Dec 31, 2020 @ 4:00 PM: Mass at SMM: English

2. January 1, 2021: New Year – Mary the Mother of God

@ SMM: 9:00 AM: English

@ Henry: 9:00 AM: English and 11:00 AM: Vietnamese

@ Timothy: 11:00 AM: English



My Dear Brothers and Sisters,

We find ourselves journeying through a most uncommon Advent season. Despite the unique challenges presented by our current circumstances, our gaze remains fixed upon Christ.

These weeks leading to Christmas are a special time in which we prepare for our King, Jesus Christ, to be born anew in our hearts. This year, we are invited in a very special way to imitate the humility and trust of our Blessed Mother. In St. Luke's narrative of the Annunciation, Mary responds to the angel Gabriel with the words, "*Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word (Luke 1:38).*" We pray that, like Mary, we may be filled with courage to say yes even though we do not fully understand what will unfold before us.

Over the past couple of months, our parish has been living in confusing and challenging times. Like Mary, we have found our strength by embracing the Lord to carry on. And with the Holy Spirit guiding us, our Holy Child Jesus family continues to spread the Good News of Jesus Christ for one another and our surrounding community.

Our parish has adapted new ways to serve our community during these trying times such as livestreaming Mass, online prayer groups, religious education and RCIA classes. And we joyfully – and safely – celebrate Mass and the sacraments in our church thanks to the time and effort of so many staff and volunteers. To those of you who give so much of yourselves, thank you. You make it possible to worship together and serve together.

At the same time, with limitations on Mass attendance, our collections continue to suffer on a weekly basis. The contributions of parishioners at Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Masses constitute a sizable portion of our annual budget to fund vital ministries and areas of operation for our parish.

Therefore, **I humbly ask you to prayerfully consider making a one-time Christmas gift** to ensure that our parish ministries and operations can continue into the new year. You can send your gift to our parish office, or via [GiveCentral](#). If you are unable to make a financial gift, I ask that you continue to pray for our Holy Child Jesus family.

I also invite you to give of your time to the extent you are able. We need additional volunteers to assist with Masses given the necessity to register, usher and clean the building, thus ensuring everyone's safety. To volunteer, please call the parish office at (773) 764-0615 or email Art Blumberg at art.blumberg@hcjp.org.

Please know that **you are a gift to our Holy Child Jesus family**. Your presence, whether in spirit or in person, mean more to our local Church than you can imagine.

May the Lord be with each one of you during the Advent and Christmas seasons. I continue to pray for you and ask that you continue to pray for me.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

God Bless,
Fr. Phi Nguyen

CYCLES OF FAITH

3rd Sunday of Advent

Did you ever stop and realize that there is no earthly gain that can ever really satisfy us? Think of winning the Lotto. On this side of the winning ticket, it's all about the money, the new car, house, vacations, bank accounts, and infinite pleasures. The possibility of acquiring all of these earthly securities brings us back again and again to the purchase of a ticket. Then, one day we win! Our dreams are fulfilled, and happiness is on the horizon. Then one day, we wake up and realize that nothing has really changed, and I am not as satisfied as I thought I was or would be. I find myself living in my incompleteness and with my profound sorrow and grief. I did not find joy.

Glimpses of joy are possible but not by material means. They are brought to us through incredible experiences of connection that bring us face to face with real and authentic faith, hope, and love. And, they are glimpses and do not last. The moment we find ourselves looking back at them, they are gone, and we find ourselves remembering the moment in memory. To carry joy within us is to realize that it is not something I create, manufacture or even acquire. It is not able to be purchased. It is a gift. My need for joy mirrors my need for eternity, for a Creator who has a claim on the very essence of who I am and desires a home within me. As C. S. Lewis discovered, joy is a surprise that speaks to my very soul and is given as gift by the God who loves me.

The beauty of Advent is found in discovering the beauty of the gift of joy. God has visited his people for no other reason than to show them where and how to find joy! All of our human and earthly joy experiences are always only glimpses. They never satisfy us, sustain us or fulfill us. It is only God who is the joy of my soul. Real, Divine experiences of joy catch us off guard, make us stop and become aware, bring a feeling of awe and rightness and have an eternal Otherness about them. Nothing created by humans can ever come close to this. We probably will not fully realize the truth of all of this until we actually meet God face to face in heaven one day. Then, in that sacred moment when our hearts leap for joy we will understand what we have been tirelessly searching for all along. Intense gratitude will most surely follow.

HOLY CHILD JESUS PARISH CONTRIBUTIONS

We support our faith through our prayers, our works and our contributions to Holy Child Jesus Parish. Our contributions support our growing ministries.

If you currently make your contributions to Holy Child Jesus at St. Timothy, St. Henry or St. Margaret Mary, please continue to do so and make your contributions payable to whichever church you are currently contributing to.

Parishioners may also contribute through GiveCentral by going to www.hcjp.org, or www.sainthenrychicago.org or www.smmchicago.org and following the Donate prompts.

Thank you for your prayers and generosity for Holy Child Jesus.

Readings for the week of December 13, 2020

Sunday:	Is 61:1-2a, 10-11/Lk 1:46-48, 49-50, 51-54 [Is 61:10b]/1 Thes 5:16-24/Jn 1:6-8, 19-28
Monday:	Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a/Ps 25:4-5ab, 6 and 7bc, 8-9 [4]/Mt 21:23-27
Tuesday:	Zep 3:1-2, 9-13/Ps 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-18, 19 and 23 [7a]/Mt 21:28-32
Wednesday:	Is 45:6b-8, 18, 21c-25/Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14 [Is 45:8]/Lk 7:18b-23
Thursday:	Gn 49:2, 8-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4ab, 7-8, 17 [cf. 7]/Mt 1:1-17
Friday:	Jer 23:5-8/Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19 [cf. 7]/Mt 1:18-25
Saturday:	Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17 [cf. 8]/Lk 1:5-25
Next Sunday:	2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29 [2a]/Rom 16:25-27/Lk 1:26-38

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, December 13

Third Sunday of Advent

English

10:00 am Wayne Haukap
Julita Trovela
Mario Vega

Bilingual English & Vietnamese

12:00 pm Deceased members of Holy Child Jesus

Monday, December 14 St. John of the Cross

8:00 am Deceased members of Holy Child Jesus

Tuesday, December 15

8:00 am Deceased members of Holy Child Jesus

Wednesday, December 16

8:00 am Deceased members of Holy Child Jesus

Thursday, December 17

8:00 am Deceased members of Holy Child Jesus

Friday, December 18

8:00 am Deceased members of Holy Child Jesus

Saturday, December 19

8:00 am Deceased members of Holy Child Jesus

English

4:00 pm Hazel Wiltgen
Ann Donohue
Simbang Gabi

Vietnamese

6:00 pm Deceased members of Holy Child Jesus

Sunday, December 20

Fourth Sunday of Advent

English

10:00 am Mildred Burns
Madeline Galassi
Julita Trovela
Marie Schmid

Bilingual English & Vietnamese

12:00 pm Deceased members of Holy Child Jesus



CLASSIFIEDS

FOR RENT: jumbo furnished apt on 2nd fl, 1 blk from church, Frank, 773-743-7030; 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.gzm@statefarm.com; 3 bdrm, 1500 sq ft, 3rd fl, Peg, 773-274-7534;
FOR SALE: 2003 silver Malibu, 67,112 mi, 773-764-3789.

Retirement Fund for Religious

Please give to those who have given a lifetime.

retiredreligious.org

In good times and bad, senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests have served our Church and world. Today, they pray for a world that is hurting. Yet, hundreds of religious communities do not have enough retirement savings and struggle to provide for aging members.

Your gift to today's Retirement Fund for Religious collection helps provide medications, nursing care and more.

They are most grateful for your generosity!

SACRAMENTS

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

Baptisms: On the 2nd (in English) and 3rd (in Vietnamese) Sundays of the month following the 12 noon Mass.

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.