St. Eugene Parish
Chicago, IL 60656

THE VOICE

Fourth Sunday of Advent **December 18, 2016**

Rectory
7958 W. Foster
773/775-6659
Fax 773/775-2832
churchoffice@st-eugene.org
www.st-eugene.org

School
7930 W. Foster
773/763-2235
Fax 773/763-2775
www.steugene-school.org

Convent
Spiritual Center
Verbum Dei Sisters
7920 W. Foster
773/467-0295
vdeichicago@comcast.net

SUNDAY MASSES: (5:30 PM Saturday), 7:00, 9:30, 11:30 AM, 4:30 PM

WEEKDAYS: 6:30, 9:00 AM (8:30 AM Saturday)

CONFESSIONS: Saturdays from 4:00—5:00 PM in the Reconciliation Room.

BAPTISMS: 1st & 3rd Sundays at 1:00 PM. Baptismal Preparation Class the first Tuesday of each month at 7:30 PM in the rectory. Please telephone the rectory to register.

WEDDINGS: Arrangements must be made 6 months in advance with one of the Priests. Weddings are celebrated for registered parishioners of St. Eugene Parish.

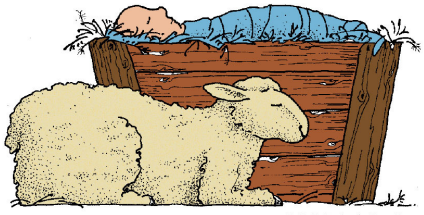
PARISHIONERS: When moving in or out of St. Eugene Parish, please notify the rectory.

YOUR WILL: Remember the church in your bequests.

CHURCH ETIQUETTE: The priest should be the last in, and first out of church.

Fourth Sunday of Advent





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They shall name him
Emmanuel,
which means
"God is with us."
— Matthew 1:23

Parish Staff

Rev. George Koeune, Pastor
Rev. James J. O'Brien, Pastor Emeritus
Rev. Greg Wojcik , Associate Pastor
Rev. John G. Hetland, Associate Pastor
Rev. Philip J. Grib, S.J., Resident
Retired Deacon Edward O'Leary
Deacon Jim Cozzo, Jr.
Deacon Chick O'Leary, Business Manager

Ms. Catherine Scotkovsky, Principal
Mrs. Janet Kusinski, Assistant Principal
Ms. Lydia Hilado, Director of Music
Mr. Vincent Hilado, Assist. Director of Music
Mrs. Barbara Meier, Bulletin Editor
Mrs. Joanna Bischof, Mrs. Pat Conlon,
Mrs. Kathleen Kon &
Mrs. Terri Swiderski, Receptionists

Please TURN OFF any electronic devices before entering the church for Mass or any other Liturgical service.
Please do NOT park in front of church to ensure emergency vehicle access.
There are ample parking spaces provided on the north side,
to the rear of the church and the Shaunessy Center parking lot.

RECTORY HOURS
MONDAY - FRIDAY
9:00 - 11:30 am & 12:30 - 8:00 pm
(closed for lunch: 11:30 am - 12:30 pm)
SATURDAY & SUNDAY:
9:00 am - 1:00 pm

Welcome, visitors and guests, to St. Eugene Church and Parish. Please sign our guest register in the rear vestibule and let our ushers know if you need a taxi or need to use a phone.

More Than a Single Day

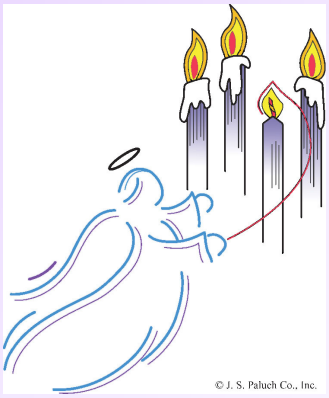
We are celebrating the fourth Sunday of Advent already. Next week we will celebrate the birth of Our Savior. This is a week early, but I want to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas! I hope the season brings many blessings to parishioners and visitors of St. Eugene Parish. One way to be blessed is to celebrate the entire Christmas season. As I have mentioned in previous years, Christmas is longer than a single day, it is a season. Our celebration of the birth of Jesus is a celebration that must not be rushed. The Christmas season does not officially end in our liturgical calendar until the feast of The Baptism of The Lord, which is Monday, January 9, of next year.

For many people, Christmas is over on December 26, which is truly sad. These people are missing the importance of the coming of the Christ Child. The season is offered so that individuals, families, and parishes can deepen their relationship with the Lord by celebrating His coming among us. The celebration of the birth of Jesus deserves more than just a single day! As people of faith, we must avoid imitation of secular society. For example, there is a radio station in Chicago that begins playing Christmas songs in early November, but on December 26, the day after Christmas, they return to their regular format. It makes no sense to celebrate an event before it actually arrives, then ignore the event when it has happened. The station would be liturgically and spiritually correct if it waited until after Christmas day to play Christmas songs. However, that is not going to happen because it does not fit in with the commercialism of the season.

As people of faith, we must not give in to the practices of the secular society. Wish a loved one a Merry Christmas the day after, or even a week after, the actual day of Christmas. The celebration of the birth of the Savior of the world needs to be more than a single day. As we celebrate the season of God's love and peace, may you and those you love enjoy peace and happiness during Christmas and throughout the New Year.

Yours in Christ,

Fr. George



Bulletin copy **MUST** be in the rectory office **NO LATER THAN 12:00 NOON EACH MONDAY**. Copy material received past the deadline will not be published in *The Voice* until the following weekend—NO EXCEPTIONS.

THIS WEEKEND

FAMILY MASS
FEATURING 4TH GRADE 9:30 AM

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL
CHRISTMAS GIFT PROGRAM

Please remember all gifts need to be returned TODAY
Sunday, December 18
no later than 11:00 am.

OPLATEK
AVAILABLE IN THE VESTIBULE
AFTER ALL MASSES
(and at the rectory during the week.)



MITTEN TREE
Please see page 5

SUMMONED BY GOD

As Christmas draws near, Advent's scriptures lure us into a world of dreams, signs, wonders, and the miracle of the virgin birth. Too often we allow the great stories of our faith, the ones that are most familiar, simply to wash over us. Today's Gospel account of the events leading up to the birth of the Lord reads like a present-day soap opera. Yet Joseph's courage, even in the midst of what must have been an incredibly confusing time, provides a model for us. Each week, we are summoned by God to embrace the way of goodness and truth through the proclamation of God's holy word. Like Joseph, we are called to do as the Lord commands us. As we stand at the threshold of Christmas, let us have the courage to be open to whatever it is that the Lord will require of us as we celebrate the miracle of Bethlehem.

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HAPPENINGS

SUNDAY	**18**
9:30 am	Family Mass featuring 4th Grade: CH
12:30 pm	Youth Athletics: SH.CTR
MONDAY	**19**
ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT, 12:00 PM - 8:00 PM	
3:15 pm	Cub Scouts: SH.MR
4:00 pm	Youth Athletics: SH.CTR

Sacrificial Giving

December 11, 2016

Regular Sunday Offering	**$**	**11,059**
Electronic Giving December 5 to December 11 $2,141 from 47 donors	**$**	**2,141**
Total	**$**	**13,200**
Sunday Budget 2016-17	**$**	**16,000**
Over / (short)	***$***	***2,800***
To Teach Who Christ Is	**$**	**1,975**
Sharing Parish	**$**	**250**
Retirement Fund for Religious	**$**	**3,389**
Immaculate Conception	**$**	**2,950**

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR PARISH.
YOUR EFFORTS ARE GREATLY APPRECIATED.
Visit our giving page by going to our web site (www.st-eugene.org)

TUESDAY	**20**
4:00 pm	Youth Athletics: SH.CTR
WEDNESDAY	**21**
4:00 pm	Youth Athletics: SHCTR
6:30 pm	Altar & Rosary Board Meeting: SH.MR
THURSDAY	**22**
4:00 pm	Youth Athletics: SH.CTR
FRIDAY	**23**
7:00 pm	Simbang Gabi: CH
	Reception to follow Mass: SH.CTR+MR
SATURDAY	**24**
	CHRISTMAS EVE
10:00 am	AA: SCH: RH
SUNDAY	**25**
	CHRISTMAS DAY



	FACILITY CODES
CH	**Church**
CV	**Convent**
REC.LL	**Rectory Lower Level**
SCH.110	**School Room 110**
SCH.RH	**Ryan Hall**
SH.CTR	**Shaunessy Center**
SH.CTR+MR	**Shaunessy Center & Meeting Room**
SH.MR	**Shaunessy Center Meeting Room**



ADORATION of the BLESSED SACRAMENT
Mondays in church
12:00 NOON - 8:00 pm
with Benediction at 7:45 pm

Mary is found with Jesus at Bethlehem, in Egypt, in Nazareth, in Jerusalem, and, above all, on Calvary.
Saint Ignatius of Loyola

PLEASE COME — VISIT JESUS

PEOPLE OF THE CROSS UNITED

Please pray for all who have suffered from the jihadist-inspired violence in our own country. Let us also pray for the millions of people who have been displaced in the Middle East as the war against ISIS continues. Seeking safety, many are now living under harsh conditions in refugee camps. They are waiting for the conflict to end and longing to return to their homes. During Advent, a season of waiting, longing and preparing for the coming of Christ, who was also forced to flee His home, let us not forget them.



CRISIS PREGNANCY HELPLINE
1-800-400-4205

WEEKEND ANNOUNCEMENTS MUST BE RECEIVED IN THE RECTORY OFFICE BY 9:00 AM ON FRIDAY AND APPROVED BY FR. GEORGE

Prayer with Scripture

We invite you to an encounter of prayer where you can stop from the hurry of the moment and listen to God through God's Word, in silence, meditation, adoration and contemplation. In this short but intense time, we listen to a talk that introduces us into the understanding of the Word of God, which later, we reflect on and meditate in an attitude of faith, discovering what God is trying to reveal to us. The prayer is accompanied by the exposition of the Blessed Sacrament with songs to help the faithful enter more into prayer.

Every Tuesday in Spanish - 7:00 pm
Every Wednesday in English - 7:00 pm
Every Thursday in Polish - 7:30 pm

St. Eugene Convent
7920 W. Foster, Chicago IL 60656
For more information please contact the convent at:773-467-0295



FOR CHRISTMAS
THE RECTORY OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24
AND REOPEN
MONDAY, DECEMBER 26 AT 9:00 AM

FOR NEW YEAR'S
THE RECTORY OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED
SUNDAY, JANUARY 1
AND REOPEN ON
MONDAY, JANUARY 2 AT 9:00 AM

Parishioner Contact Update

To help us keep our records current, please print the information below and drop the form in the collection basket or at the rectory. Thank you.

Last Name _____ First Name _____ M/M, Mr., Mrs., Ms., Miss

Last Name _____ First Name _____ M/M, Mr., Mrs., Ms., Miss

Address _____ City _____ Zip code _____

Email address: _____ Email address: _____

Phone # (Home) _____ Cell # _____ Cell # _____

ADVENT 2016 - SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Tuesday, December 20 - 7:00 p.m. - Communal Reconciliation Service
(Confession heard in English, Italian & Polish)

Wednesday, December 21 - 1:00 - 2:00 p.m. (English, Polish, & Italian)
(Confession heard in English, Italian & Polish)

CHRISTMAS MASSES



Christmas Eve (Saturday): 4:00 p.m. - Family Liturgy
6:30 p.m. - Christmas Vigil
9:30 p.m. - Christmas Carols
10:00 p.m. - The Mass of Midnight

Christmas Day (Sunday): 7:00, 9:30 and 11:30 a.m.
(no 4:30 p.m. Mass on Christmas Day)



NEW YEAR'S SCHEDULE
Solemnity of Mary

New Year's Eve Mass (Saturday) 5:30 p.m.

New Year's Day Masses (Sunday) 7:00, 9:30 and 11:30 a.m. & 4:30 p.m.

CHRISTMAS TRADITIONS

The greatest gift of the Christmas season is love.



The scarf, mitten/glove tree (for all ages) will be in the vestibule of the Church from the First Sunday of Advent until the Fourth Sunday of Advent.



The tree items are distributed with the help of the St. Vincent DePaul Society.
God Bless Everyone!

Knights of Columbus
Karol Wojtyla/Pope John Paul II Council # 14008

The winning entries in the Knights of Columbus "KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS" poster contest at St. Eugene School will be on display in the rear vestibule of the church throughout the Christmas season.

SINGERS WANTED FOR SIMBANG GABI

The Simbang Gabi, or "Night Mass", is considered a symbol of sharing in the Philippines. What better way to show this than to share your talent of song with our congregation? We are welcoming all singers to join in our Simbang Gabi, to be held on Friday, December 23, 2016 at 7:00 pm



We will have one more rehearsals in December:

Wednesday, December 21 at 7:00 pm

The rehearsal will be held in church.

Please feel free to come to any or all of the rehearsals! If you have any questions, please call the rectory and leave a message for Vincent Hilado.

PLEASE PRAY



***For the Sick*:** Linda Adamczyk, Annabella Amato, Pat Apida, Robert Apida, Anthony Barone, Jennifer Pemberton Blackmore, Anthony Bongiorno, Arthur Bronski, Margaret Brinlee-Brucken, Frances Bruno, Francine Bruno, Ken Cain, Brian Campbell, Franco Chiappetta, Agnes Collins, Deacon Jim Cozzo, Jr., Mirna Cozzo, Kevin D'Agostino, Dominic De Fano, Dana Dennis, Jaimie Di Carlo, Marge Dyson, Vicki Fealey, Don Feist, Bob Gasiorek, Carol Gasiorek, Robert W. Gelfond, Frances Gofron, Michelle & Shaun Hamilton, James G. Hanson, Tim Heider, Denise Hess, Barbara Hinze, Patricia Jackson, Eileen Jacques, Kathy Jeskey, John Keating, Cindy Koeune, Katherine Koeune, Bill Kohut, Bob Kolk, Raymond Kordzinski, Lila Krzak, Olga Kykta, Allie Lim, Rose Mary Maratto, Rosemary Marinello, John Masley, Dolores Michalek, Ursula Mills, Michael C. Muscarello, Virginia Muscarello, Leo Navickis, Deacon Ed O'Leary, Rita Oltman, Lena Pighini, Norma Quilici, Gerry Randazzo, Charlotte Rice, Rita Rogers, John Ruberti, Teresa Ruberti, Leo Samborski, Theresa Samborski, Marie Sauser, Jerry Schippers, Joanne Schippers, Patrick Schippers, John Schuster, Michael Shannon, Yolanda Shannon, Emily Steckiewicz, Maxine Stefanowski, Rev. Fred Tomzik, Mary Vail, Gina Vassalo, Beverly Wijas, Mary Ann Zulawinski and for those who are homebound, in hospitals, nursing homes and under hospice care.

Newly added to our sick list:

For the Deceased:

PLEASE CALL THE RECTORY IF YOU WOULD LIKE A NAME LISTED.



ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

DECEMBER FOOD DRIVE
will take place the weekend of
DECEMBER 31, 2016 / JANUARY 1, 2017.



THANK YOU AGAIN to those of you who contributed food and monetary donations to our Parish Food Drive in November. Your generous donations put food on many tables and provide aid to the poor in other ways. There are so many in need.

BULLETIN COPY FOR THE WEEKEND OF
DECEMBER 31, 2016 / JANUARY 1, 2017
MUST BE IN THE RECTORY OFFICE
BY 9:00 AM WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2016



SAVE THE DATE!
ALUMNI WEEKEND
FEBRUARY 17, 18, & 19, 2017

ALL ARE INVITED TO JOIN US IN CELEBRATING THE THIRD





SIMBANG GABI

A Filipino tradition full of love, gift giving, offering authentic Filipino dishes, singing traditional Christmas carols, and wishing peace and joy to everyone.

ST. EUGENE PARISH

MASS WILL TAKE PLACE ON FRIDAY, DECEMBER 23, 2016 AT 7:00 PM IN CHURCH





PLEASE JOIN US AFTER MASS TO SHARE A MEAL

(offering authentic Filipino dishes)

IN THE SHAUNESSY CENTER



SPONSORED BY:
THE FILIPINO AMERICAN GROUP
& ST. EUGENE PARISH
For more information please contact:
Yolly Sarmiento: 847/284-0524
Evelina Habacon-Hilado: 773/763-5197
Ellen Torres: 773/814-7231

+ MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK +

Saturday, December 17 - Vigil:
Fourth Sunday of Advent
5:30 Leonard Calaido

Sunday, December 18 - Fourth Sunday of Advent
7:00 People of the Parish
9:30 Andrew & Joan Maier
11:30 Cecilia Albert, Maria De Santis, Carlo & Paolino DiPolermo, Frank Jablowski, Lisowski & Fruzynski Fams., La Pietra Fam. & Friends, Ted Majewski, John Mugniani, Consilia Panzeca, Alex & Sarah Perri & Fam., Michael & Frances Persoski, Giuseppe & Antonio Pizzuto, Michael P. Rongo, Ralph & Angeline Rongo, Sam Salvato, Eraldo Simonetti, Stanley Sulikowski, Maria Tenuta
4:30 Anthony & Lillian Dielle

Monday - Friday: 6:30 am & 9:00 am
Saturday: 8:30 am

Monday, December 19
6:30 Kazimierz & Henryka Fornal
9:00 James Meyer

Tuesday, December 20
6:30 Purgatorial Society
9:00 Michael Koenig

Wednesday, December 21 - St. Peter Canisius
6:30 Stanley Siwiec
9:00 Thomas Patrick Barnes, Betty Gleeson, Pamela Heider, Norman Johns, La Pietra Fam. & Friends, Carlo Romano, White, Krzywicki & Malecki Fams.

Thursday, December 22
6:30 Marilyn Solka
9:00 Jimmy McGuire

Friday, December 23 - St. John of Kanty
6:30 Mary Anne Loftsgarden
9:00 Helen & Walter Wojtas
7:00 Simbang Gabi Mass

Saturday, December 24
8:30 Living & Dec'd Mbrs. Lutfy & Dahir Fams.

Saturday, December 24 - Vigil: The Nativity of the Lord
4:00 George Meier
6:30 Petrenko & Grow Fams.
10:00 Michael & Thomas Doles

Sunday, December 25 - The Nativity of the Lord
7:00 People of the Parish
9:30 Antoni Orlowski
11:30 Cristoforo & Salvatore Alaimo, Amalia & Jenaro Barone, Francesco & Ninfa Balistreri, Domenico Battista, Walter Caban, George Concialdi, Dabros & Wytrwal Fam., Helen & Steve Dobrowolski, Thomas Dahm, Mary Jane Dombrowski, Michael Fiorante, Joseph Fonnanta, John Kula, Joseph Kuzara, Vince & Mary LaPietra Fam. & Fri., Vernon R. Lipps, Sr., Michael & Josephine Magnine,. Joseph Ronald Magnine & Virginia Sorce, Mike & Michael Michalek, Aniela Mietus, Rich Litwitz & Eileen Mitchell, Casto Neri, Anna & Mike, Sr. Parente, Michael Vito Parente, Vincenzo & Adele Pizzuto, Bridie & David Riordan, Russo & Riotto Fams., Phil Saineghi, Maria Tenuta, Roy Tufts, Edward & Victoria Wnek

A REMINDER

To make sure a Mass Intention is included in the bulletin, it must be made **2 weeks** in advance. To make sure a Mass Intention is read at Mass, it must be made at least **1 week** in advance of the date requested.

PLEASE NOTE:

The designated multi-intentional Mass times will be the 9:00 morning Mass on Wednesday, and the 11:30 morning Mass on Sunday. Multi-intentional Masses will have no more than 30 names.





POPE FRANCIS TWEET FOR THE WEEK

May Advent be a time of hope. We go to encounter the Lord who comes to encounter us.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO BECOME A PARISHIONER OF ST. EUGENE PARISH, WE WELCOME YOU TO PLEASE STOP BY THE RECTORY OFFICE DURING REGULAR OFFICE HOURS.
M-F 9 am - 8 pm, SAT – SUN 9 am - 1 pm

+MINISTERS OF THE LITURGY +

***Lector **Eucharistic Minister ***Server**

Saturday, December 24 - 8:30 am
*** **Team 8**
Saturday, December 24 - 4:00 pm
* Volunteer Lector
** Volunteer Eucharistic Ministers
*** **See Christmas Schedule**
Saturday, December 24 - 6:30 pm
* Volunteer Lector
** Volunteer Eucharistic Ministers
*** **See Christmas Schedule**
Saturday, December 24 - 10:00 pm
* Volunteer Lector
** Volunteer Eucharistic Ministers
*** **See Christmas Schedule**
Sunday, December 25 - 7:00 am
* Volunteer Lector
** Volunteer Eucharistic Ministers
*** **See Christmas Schedule**
Sunday, December 25 - 9:30 am
* Volunteer Lector
** Volunteer Eucharistic Ministers
*** **See Christmas Schedule**
Sunday, December 25 - 11:30 am
* Volunteer Lector
** Volunteer Eucharistic Ministers
*** **See Christmas Schedule**
Monday, December 26 - 9:00 am
*** **Team 8**
Tuesday, December 27 - 9:00 am
*** **Team 9**
Wednesday, December 28 - 9:00 am
*** **Team 10**
Thursday, December 29 - 9:00 am
*** **Team 11**
Friday, December 30 - 9:00 am
*** **Team 12**

GETTING EVEN

The only ones you should try to get even with are those who have helped you.

—Anonymous



CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL PLACEMENT TESTING THE CLASS OF 2021

Saturday, January 14, 2017

Please call the school of your choice for details and time of the testing.

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

By now, the first Christmas carols are heard in the home, but usually not yet in church. What is a "carol" anyway? Originally, a carol was any kind of communal song sung at a festival such as a harvest. By the thirteenth century or so, carols were associated with household celebrations. "Carol" comes from the Old French *carula*, meaning a circular dance. Carols weren't for church, since the language of liturgy was Latin and the carols were in the common language. Their characteristic sound comes from medieval chord patterns, and they often have strong refrains for everyone to sing. Even in the churches of the Reformation, carols didn't make it into church services until the 1870s or so, since there was a preference for psalms. Anglicans resisted popular carols; most of our beloved carols came via the Methodists, an offshoot of the Church of England. The Catholic Church generally didn't admit carols to liturgy either, but we didn't make laws against them.

We are told that the beloved carol "Silent Night" comes from Catholic Austria and a harried parish music director. Joseph Mohr, the priest of St. Nicholas in Oberndorf, had written the words in 1816, but offered them to his music director, Franz Gruber, when the church's organ broke. Mohr asked him to write a melody that could be played on guitar as a prelude to Mass. Gruber finished the tune just hours before midnight Mass in 1818. The people were shocked to hear a guitar in church, but were charmed by the sweet lullaby. The church was swept away by a flood in the 1990s and the village later relocated, but the townspeople have set up the "Silent Night Memorial Chapel" at the site. Today the carol is in print in some three hundred languages. How wonderful that the pipe organ broke on that night!

--Rev. James Field, Copyright (c) J. S. Paluch Co.

He comes to us!

The true miracle of Christmas is not the power of God to become man. It is not the mystery of divinity merged with humanity. No, it is something more wondrous, more astonishing - for we have a God that comes to us! Before the Incarnation, the world and its religions had seen God from a distance, something each of us must struggle to find. But Jesus' birth gave us a God who is a seeker, one who runs to find His children, even in the lowest of habitations, a stable.

Thus at Christmas we are all Elizabeth, amazed at the arrival of our Savior right on our own doorsteps. This intimate blessing makes the Nativity the most precious of gifts, the mercy and love of a God who does not wait for our stumbling steps, but instead He comes to visit us.

1st Trimester Honor Roll 2016

Grade 4 –High Honors
Colin Fitzpatrick, Emily Fitzpatrick, Sofia Sollano
Grade 4 – Honors
John Anish, Maria Cheng, Kelly Fergus

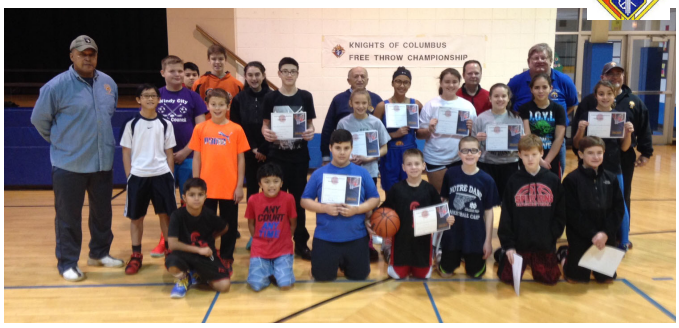
Grade 5 –High Honors
Emma Coleman, Ashley Banaszek, Joey Crimaldi, Nolan Crimmins, Dylan Golden, Aidan Meier, Veronica Opyd, John Lynch, Jorje Lara, Matty McGovern, Mary Sclafani
Grade 5 – Honors
Colleen Devyor, Jimmy McGovern

Grade 6 – High Honors
Marie Clancy, Michael Craven, Karl Jackiewicz, Sophia Kruszewski, Vincent Meo, Catherine Lacala, Megan Spanola, Marie Zissis

Grade 7 – High Honors
Nicolette Hersh, Olha Kushnir, Natalie Larucci
Grade 7 – Honors
Grace Canetta, Natalie Lo Giudice

Grade 8 – High Honors
Alexandra Dabkowski, Jaclyn McGreevey, Erin Mullany, Jason Pierson, Emma Santangelo, Michael Takaki
Grade 8 – Honors
Bryan Coleman

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS FREE THROW



CRAFT NIGHT AT ST. EUGENE SCHOOL







Busted Halo®

the guide to How To Go To Confession
(take this sheet with you... it's okay, really)

Before You Go...

Examine your conscience, that is, reflect on what sins you have committed. To guide you, just Google "examination of conscience" and you'll find many resources to help you. It's even alright to make a list to bring with you to confession if that helps.

1. Introduction. When you come before the priest, begin by making the Sign of the Cross (praying the words out loud), and continue by saying, "Bless me, Father, I have sinned. It has been *(how long)* since my last confession. These are my sins..."

2. Confession. List the sins you have committed that came to mind when doing your examination of conscience. Don't be too general (like, "I haven't been a good person"), but a lot of detail is not necessary either (you don't need to tell the whole story of how a sin came about). If you're not sure if something is a sin is, just ask the priest. This isn't counseling, so unless you ask, the priest likely won't give you advice. He'll just move on to...

3. Penance. The priest will suggest something for you to do or pray as a response to God's mercy. You'll have to remember what this is and do it after the confession is over, so pay attention.

4. Contrition. The priest will then ask you to pray your "Act of Contrition," demonstrating your sorrow for your sins. This needs to be prayed out loud for the priest to hear, but need not adhere exactly to one formula. Here are two examples (choose the one that suits you best):

ACT OF CONTRITION

My God, I am sorry for my sins with all my heart.
In choosing to do wrong and failing to do good,
I have sinned against You whom I should love
above all things. I firmly intend, with your help,
to do penance, to sin no more, and
to avoid whatever leads me to sin.
Our Savior Jesus Christ suffered and died for us.
In his name, my God, have mercy.
OR:
O my God, I am heartily sorry
for having offended you and I detest all my sins,
because I dread the loss of heaven
and the pains of hell;
but most of all because they offend you, my God,
who are all good and deserving of all my love.
I firmly resolve with the help of your grace,
to confess my sins, to do penance,
and to amend my life. Amen.

5. Absolution. Don't get up to leave after that prayer, because the best part is yet to come: the priest will extend his hands in your direction and he will pray the **Prayer of Absolution:** "God, the Father of Mercies, through the death and resurrection of his Son, has reconciled the world to himself and sent the Holy Spirit among us for the forgiveness of sins. Through the ministry of the Church, may God grant you pardon and peace. And I absolve you from your sins in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen."
You respond: Amen.

6. Conclusion. The priest will then likely say something like, "God has freed you from your sin. Go in Peace." To which you can respond: **"Thanks be to God."**

After You Leave...
Don't forget to do your penance.
If it is saying certain prayers,
it's best to do it right away in the church before you forget.



"Prayer in action is love; Love in action is service."
Mother Teresa

The Infant Jesus shows us the tremendous gift that is Love. Our service to each other is an expression of that love. Members of the following ministries and their guest are cordially invited to attend our

Volunteers' Appreciation Christmas Dinner Party on Saturday, January 7, 2017 after the 5:30 pm Mass in the Shaunessy Center.

Altar & Rosary Society, Alumni Association, Annulment Ministry, Athletic Board, Choir, Church Tabulators, Eucharistic Adoration Committee, Eucharistic Ministers, Finance Council, Greeters, Knights of Columbus, Lectors, Liturgical Decorating Committee, Liturgy Committee, Maintenance, Ministers of Care, Ministry of Prayer, Music Ministry, Parish Pastoral Council, Pro-Life Committee, RCIA, Sacristans, School Advisory Committee, School Faculty & Administration, Scouting, St. Joseph's Table, St. Vincent de Paul Society, Super Alumni Weekend Volunteers, Trot 'n Treat Volunteers, Ushers, Verbum Dei Sisters.

Kindly RSVP no later than Tuesday, December 27, 2016 to let us know if you will be joining us.



St. Eugene School

OPEN HOUSE!

7930 W. Foster Ave.
Chicago, IL 60656
www.steugene-school.org
(773) 763-2237

Sunday, January 29
(10:30 am - 1:00 pm)

- 3 Yr. PS/ 4 Yr. PK: Full and Half Day Programs
- Kindergarten– 8th Grade
- Before and After School Care
- Strive for children to grow spiritually
- We cater to our students' interests with a variety of extracurricular activities.
- Our graduates successfully move on to prestigious high schools.

Academic Excellence
Rooted in Faith







We ask all of our parishioners, if you have a loved one serving in the military, to please contact the rectory office to give us the name of the soldier, so the whole parish can pray for your loved one. A book in the church vestibule is available for inscribing the names of all military personnel. This book will be part of the offertory procession from now until the war is over.

A PRAYER

Lord, hold our troops in your loving hands.
Protect them as they protect us.
Bless them and their families
for the selfless acts they perform
for us in our time of need.
We ask this in the name of
Jesus our Lord and Savior. Amen

We pray for our loved ones

who are serving in any branch of the Armed Forces during this time of conflict.

MAJOR ADAMCZYK
GHALEB AZROUI
DONALD BELLISARIO
TIMOTHY EMMETT CAROLAN
CATHY O'LEARY CHAMBERLAIN
ZBIGNIEW DUDKOWSKI
MARTY DURCAN
MATTHEW SCOTT FORREST
ANDREW HOPKINS
CHRISTOPHER JENKINS
JACK KANE
TYLER LANNERS
ANTONIO JAMES LIM
JAMES TYLER MARBACH
CHRIS MARCHIORI
KEITH MILLER
MEGAN MILLER
THOMAS NEUHENGEN
ERIC NORWOOD
VINCENT PAGE
CHAD PRITCHARD
NICHOLAS RANCH
HOLLY SCHIPPERS
MICHAEL SCHIPPERS, JR.

If you would like to add a name to the list, please call the rectory.
Also, please call the rectory when your loved one returns home.

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission as Catholics united in faith at St. Eugene Parish is to help bring God to people and people to God. Through evangelization, education and being of service to each other, we strive to make our parish community a holistic community in body, mind and spirit. It is our goal to develop, support, encourage and empower one another in our parish ministries, so that each person can reach their human and Christian potential. We are enthused about the future of St. Eugene and the whole Catholic Church and we pledge our participation in that future. We seek dialogue and open communication with all parishioners in fulfilling the needs of our parish. While recognizing the cultural diversities in our community, we will strive to bring all people together in Christ under a common bond of faith, hope and love.