St. Eugene Parish
Chicago, IL 60656

THE VOICE

First Sunday of Advent **December 3, 2017**

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.

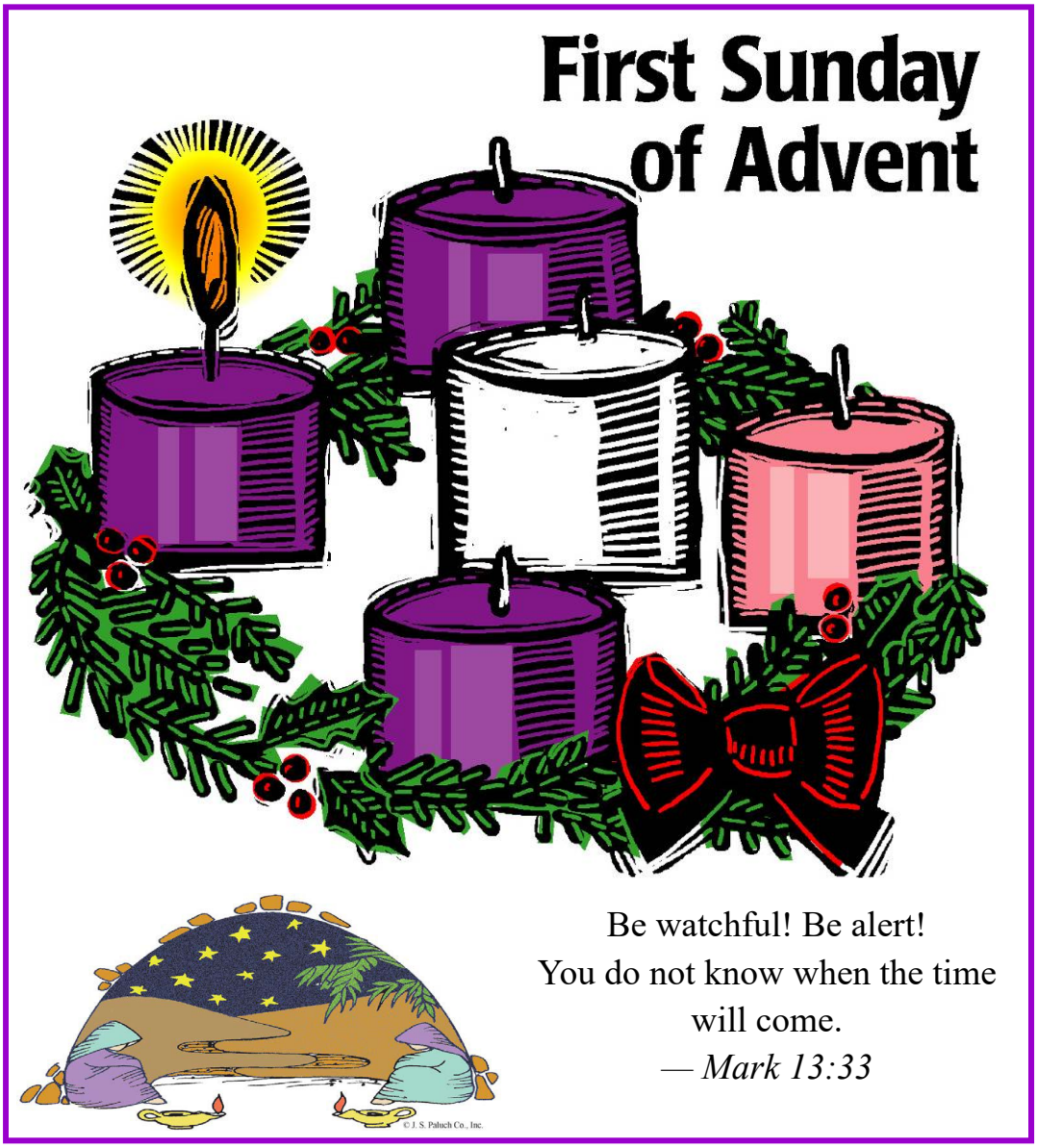
BAPTISMS: 1st & 3rd Sundays at 1:00 PM. Baptismal Preparation Class the first Tuesday of each month at 7:30 PM in the rectory. Please telephone the rectory to register.

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.



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
Deacon Chick O'Leary, Business Manager
Ms. Lydia Hilado, Director of Music
Mr. Vincent Hilado, Assist. Director of Music
Ms. Catherine Scotkovsky, Principal
Mrs. Janet Kusinski, Assistant Principal
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.

The End of the *To Teach Who Christ Is* Campaign

The *To Teach Who Christ Is* Campaign will end this December 2017. Starting in the new year there will not be any of the campaign envelopes included in your contribution packets. I want to thank everyone who supported our campaign. We have many generous parishioners at St. Eugene Parish who truly care about their spiritual home. We have completed ten of the eighteen projects that we proposed to the parish. This is a good start, but, we still have more work to do in the future.

It is clear that the new pastor who will come to St. Eugene Parish in July will have to work with you to complete the projects. However, I do want to propose a solution to address the needed funds for completion of these projects. Deacon Chick O'Leary (our Business Manager) likes to point out that we do not need people to give more money, but we need more people to give. This is true. We do need more people to give. Yet, at the same time, I truly believe that there are parishioners who could still give more to the parish, and this extra amount would not hurt them financially. We still have a lot of parishioners who give a dollar a week to the collection. As I have stated before, if those parishioners who only give a dollar, could at least make it a five-dollar bill, we would have enough funds to complete many of the projects on our list in a very short time.

Can you help the future pastor of St. Eugene Parish? We have many parishioners who give thirty dollars or more each week (I am one of those myself), and I don't think it is fair to ask those giving a substantial amount to increase their offering. However, for those who are giving a dollar each week, can you make it five dollars? Please pray about this. Would five dollars to your parish really hurt you financially? It truly is not that much by the standards of today, but those five dollar bills would add up and really make a difference. I thank you for considering this request. Please pray and consider what I am asking.

With regards to our campaign, I want to reprint part of an article I presented in the summer.)

The St. Eugene Archdiocesan goal for the campaign was $1,130,000 (more than a million!). Roughly twenty percent of parishioners made a pledge to the campaign. This is not a high number. St. Eugene only pledged 34 percent of the monetary goal that the Archdiocese set for our parish. Of the $345,623 pledged to the parish, we have collected almost $345,000. We have had some very generous parishioners support our campaign; unfortunately, we have had a high percentage of parishioners who did not contribute. Because of this reality, we will not be able to complete our lists of projects until we receive more funds. Below is an updated list of the status and cost of each project. I want to thank all of those who have been so generous to our parish.

Completed Projects:

	Project	Status	Estimated Cost
1.	Courtyard school playground	Completed	$85,000
2.	Upgrade HVAC Controls	Completed	$2,100
2.	Convent Building Repairs	Completed	$145,000
3.	New Air-conditioning unit	Completed	$90,000
4.	Automatic door for disabled	Completed	$10,000
5.	Concrete sidewalk repair	Completed	$3,000
6.	School Emergency lighting	Completed	$5,000
7.	School Chimney Repairs	Completed	$15,000
8.	Parish/School Garage Electrical Work, New Conduit trench	Completed	$3,000
9.	Parish Sewer Repair	Completed	$800
10.	New Electronic Sign	Completed	$28,000

TO TEACH
WHO CHRIST IS

(Continued on page 3)

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.

(Continued from page 2)

Note: Partially completed repairs have been done to the school intercom system, the parish truck, the tractor for snow removal, rectory roof repairs, and asphalt patching to the parish parking lot. Estimated cost was around $13,000 for all these repairs. Total spent on repairs was approximately $400,000. As you can see, we have already spent more than the amount that was pledged to the parish. The convent repairs were more costly than expected. Structural issues were discovered that had to be fixed. The cost was $100,000 dollars more than the estimate. Since we did not collect the targeted amount, and given that fact that we had unexpected expenses, I have had no choice but to put a hold on the remaining projects.

Projects not completed:

11.	Church Bathrooms	On hold until more funds are available	$90,000
12.	Parish Center Bleachers	On hold until more funds are available	$20,000
13.	Parish Center Curtains	On hold until more funds are available	$20,000
14.	Snow plow for Truck	On hold until more funds are available	$5,000
15.	Parish Center Bathrooms	On hold until more funds are available	$20,000
16.	Tractor for snow removal	On hold until more funds are available	$17,500
17.	Building Endowment	On hold until more funds are available	$250,000
18.	Parish Rectory Windows and rectory interior	On hold until more funds are available	$150,000

TO TEACH WHO CHRIST IS

Again, I want to thank everyone who has helped our parish. If you did not contribute to the campaign, I pray that you will consider giving more to the weekly collection to support your parish.

Yours in Christ,

Fr. George

SECOND COLLECTION
NEXT WEEKEND
RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS

Find St. Eugene on Facebook!



GOD HAS A DIFFERENT PLAN

We begin the season of Advent with a heartfelt call for our own repentance. We remember God's faithful love for us, and call upon God to help us to turn back. For "behold, you are angry, and we are sinful" (Isaiah 64:4). In the first reading and in the psalm, we recall God's promises and lament our unfaithfulness and our guilt. We call upon God's might and power in order to save us. With Isaiah, we ask God to "rend the heavens and come down, / with the mountains quaking before you" (Isaiah 63:19).

Yes, God is faithful to us, because we are the work of God's hands. God is the potter, we are the clay. And yet, our concept of how God will come to save us is rooted in our own expectations of a warrior God who crushes mountains and thunders into our lives with great noise and glory. But God has a different plan: the Incarnation.

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ADVENT WREATH



During Advent, a wreath with four candles, representing the four weeks of Advent, is in a prominent place in the sanctuary.

As in previous years, we are asking parishioners to volunteer to be in the entrance procession and light the appropriate candle(s) at the beginning of Mass. A single person, a couple, or an entire family can volunteer for the candle lighting ceremony.

A sign-up sheet is posted in the vestibule of the church. Stop and sign up for one of the 19 masses during Advent. Make sure to include your telephone number (or call the rectory to leave your phone number), so we can answer any questions you may have and also to remind you the day before your mass.

THIS WEEKEND



SOCIAL CONCERNS
CHRISTMAS GIFT PROGRAM
PLEASE TAKE A CHILD'S NAME
IN THE VESTIBULE **(see page 6)**



SECOND COLLECTION
FLOWERS FOR OUR ALTAR
AT CHRISTMAS

ALTAR & ROSARY SOCIETY
MASS 9:30 AM
ROSARY BEGINS AT 9:05 AM



SIGN UP TO LIGHT A CANDLE(S)
ON OUR
ADVENT WREATH
(sign up sheet is in the vestibule)



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



MITTEN TREE & ST NICHOLAS BOX
(see page 11)



HAPPENINGS

SUNDAY	**3**
9:30 am	Altar & Rosary Society Mass Rosary starts at 9:05 am: CH
12:30 pm	Youth Athletics: SH.CTR
MONDAY	**4**
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
TUESDAY	**5**
5:30 pm	Altar & Rosary Society: SH.CTR+MR
7:30 pm	Exploring the Diaconate: SCH.110
WEDNESDAY	**6**
4:00 pm	Youth Athletics: SH.CTR
6:30 pm	School Advisory Committee: SCH.110
THURSDAY	**7**
3:00 pm	Girl Scouts: SH.MR
4:00 pm	Youth Athletics: SH.CTR
7:00 pm	RCIA: REC.LL
FRIDAY	**8**
Feast of the Immaculate Conception	
a Holy Day of Obligation	
4:00 pm	Youth Athletics: SH.CTR
SATURDAY	**9**
10:00 am	AA: SCH:RH
SUNDAY	**10**
12:30 pm	Youth Athletics: SH.CTR



Sacrificial Giving

November 19, 2017

Regular Sunday Offering	**$**	**12,270**
Electronic Giving **November 13 to** **November 19** **$ 862 from 38 families**	**$**	**862**
Total	**$**	**13,132**
Sunday Budget 2017-18	**$**	**16,000**
Over / (short)	***$***	***2,868***
To Teach Who Christ Is	**$**	**354**
Sharing Parish	**$**	**121**
Catholic Campaign for Human Development	**$**	**3,108**

November 26, 2017

Regular Sunday Offering	**$**	**12,260**
Electronic Giving **November 20 to** **November 26** **$ 582 from 37 families**	**$**	**582**
Total	**$**	**12,842**
Sunday Budget 2017-18	**$**	**16,000**
Over / (short)	***$***	***3,158***
To Teach Who Christ Is	**$**	**403**
Sharing Parish	**$**	**27**

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)

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**

Eucharistic Adoration began the first Monday of Advent 2004 at St. Eugene Parish.
A special acknowledgement is extended to all who, for thirteen years, have faithfully kept their commitment to participate every Monday.
We acknowledge also all those who take time to honor Jesus in the Holy Eucharist on Mondays as often as possible.
Through Adoration, the Christian mysteriously contributes to the radical transformation of the world and to the sowing of the gospel.



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

Our Lady was raised above all the angelic choirs by reason of her compassion with the suffering of her Son, his Passion being the perfect road that mounts straight to heaven.
Blessed Peter Favre

PLEASE COME — VISIT JESUS

PEOPLE OF THE CROSS UNITED

We are all members of the Body of Christ.
If one member suffers, all members suffer.
(1 COR: 12:26)

Please pray for our brothers and sisters who suffer persecution in many countries throughout the world because of their Christian faith.



ALTAR & ROSARY SOCIETY
New Sacristan Needed



Altar & Rosary is looking for a sacristan that would be able to clean and fill the holy water fonts on Fridays, after the 9:00 am mass or on Saturday, after the 8:30 am mass. We will train the person and would like to have the new sacristan in place to start the beginning of the year. If interested, please call Lois at: 773/774-1511.

ST. EUGENE SCHOOL
IS STILL COLLECTING *BOX TOPS*

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

INSTITUTE FOR DIACONAL STUDIES

Are you interested in inquiring about becoming a deacon for the Archdiocese of Chicago?

Please join the Institute for Diaconal Studies on **Tuesday, December 5, 2017 at 7:30 p.m. at St. Eugene, Chicago**. The *Exploring the Diaconate* session will take place in the **School Annex Room 110**.

Directors of the Institute will welcome you and discuss all aspects of the archdiocese's deacon formation program, including application requirements and all elements of the formation journey. Wives of potential applicants are welcome and urged to attend.

For more information, contact Deacon Bob Puhala, bpuhala@usml.edu or **847-837-4564**.



POPE FRANCIS
TWEET FOR THE WEEK

Let us look to Jesus today and say to Him in our hearts: "Remember me, Lord, now that you are in your Kingdom!"

SOCIAL CONCERNS MINISTRY GIFT PROGRAM

We are running our annual
Christmas Gift Program
for the children of
Our Lady of Mercy Parish.

This year we've been given the names of over ***400*** children.
In past years, thanks to the generosity of the members of the St. Eugene community,
we've been able to provide a gift for every child in the Christmas Gift Program.
We are hoping that the members of the St. Eugene community
will once again help us to provide a gift for each of the 425 children.
The suggested gift amount is
$15.00 - $20.00.

Our members will be in the vestibule of the church with the children's names before and after Masses the weekend of December 2 - 3.
All gifts should be wrapped & returned to church the weekend of December 16 - 17.

Remember the gifts must be returned by 11:00 am on December 17.

Our members want to thank everyone for bringing a little joy into the lives of these children this Christmas season.



FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
Friday, December 8, 2017
Above all the angels

From the very beginning, and before time began, the eternal Father chose and prepared for his only-begotten Son, a Mother in whom the Son of God would become incarnate and from whom, in the blessed fullness of time, He would be born into this world. Above all creatures did God so love her that truly in her was the Father well pleased with singular delight. Therefore, far above all the angels and all the saints so wondrously did God endow her with the abundance of all heavenly gifts poured from the treasury of His divinity that this Mother, ever absolutely free of all stain of sin, all fair and perfect, would possess that fullness of holy innocence and sanctity, than which, under God, one cannot even imagine anything greater, and which, outside of God, no mind can succeed in comprehending fully.

From *Ineffabilis Deus - The Immaculate Conception - Apostolic Constitution* issued by Pope Pius IX on 8 December 1854

FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION - A HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION

Masses are: Thursday, December 7 - 6:30 pm

Friday, December 8 - 6:30, 9:00, & 11:30 am & 6:30 pm



PLEASE PRAY

***For the Sick*:** Linda Adamczyk, Annabella Amato, Pat Apida, Robert Apida, Jon Arnswald, Anthony Bongiorno, Thomas Bongiorno, Mary Brasse, Julie Bronski, Margaret Brinlee-Brucken, Angela Brunetti, Franco Cecchini, Franca & Franco Chiapetta, Agnes Collins, Jim Conlon, Mirna Cozzo, Joan De Stefano, Dominick Di Re, Marge Dyson, Vicki Fealey, Don Feist, Virginia Florkiewicz, Janis Gale, Bob Gasiorek, Carol Gasiorek, Robert W. Gelfond, Frances Gofron, Rev. Philip Grib, S.J., June Grovak, Kelly Halloran, Michelle & Shaun Hamilton, James G. Hanson, Thomas C. Hanson, Tim Heider, Barbara Hinze, Patricia Jackson, Eileen Jacques, John Keating, Cindy Koeune, Katherine Koeune, Bill Kohut, Bob Kolk, Olga Kykta, Allie Lim, Rose Mary Maratto, Rosemary Marinello, Michael P. McAuley, Phyllis Mc Garrh, Michael C. Muscarello, Virginia Muscarello, Leo Navickis, Laurie Neumann, Fern Niewinski, Norma Quilici, Gerry Randazzo, Charlotte Rice, Joe Riotto, Diane Rizzuto, Rita Rogers, Stella Rombotis, John Ruberti, Teresa Ruberti, Ann Rubino, Frances Salvato, Leo Samborski, Patty Samborski, Theresa Samborski, Jerry Schippers, Joanne Schippers, Pat Schippers, Patrick Schippers, Vickie Sealey, Bernadett Sedlacek, Emily Steckiewicz, Maxine Stefanowski, Rev. Fred Tomzik, Gina Vassalo, Beverly Wijas, Brittany Wilson, Sally Zumer and for those who are homebound, in hospitals, nursing homes and under hospice care.

Newly added to our sick list:

For the Deceased: Mary De Ford, Lena Pighini, Jerry S. Quercia, Virginia Welch

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

+ MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK +

Saturday, December 2 - Vigil: First Sunday of Advent
5:30 Barbara Bronski
Sunday, December 3 - First Sunday of Advent
7:00 Erwin Budnik
9:30 Mary Jane Dombrowski
11:30 Mary Antonacci, Aurora & Patrizia Barone, Margaret Chlopek, Anthony Consolo, Claudia Gilbert, Heiberger Fam., LaPietra Fam. & Fri., Pasquale & Giovanna Lonero, Domenica Battista, John F. Mugnaini, Marcel & Faustine Noronha, Michael Vito Parente, Angela & Vincenzo Recchia, Cosimo Spica, Natividad Verano
4:30 People of the Parish

Monday - Friday: 6:30 am & 9:00 am
Saturday: 8:30 am
Monday, December 4 - St. John Damascene
6:30 Stanley Siwiec
9:00 Helen & Walter Wojtas
Tuesday, December 5
6:30 Kazimierz & Henryka Fornal.
9:00 Anna Fornal
Wednesday, December 6 - St. Nicholas
6:30 Purgatorial Society
9:00 Vincenzo Di Iorio, LaPietra Fam. & Fri., Bill Ryan
Thursday, December 7 - St. Ambrose
6:30 Walter D'Souza
9:00 Robert A. Nosek
6:30 Robert P. Reilly, Sr.
Friday, December 8 - The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
6:30 People of the Parish
9:00 Karen Hunt
11:30 Joseph Jagiello
6:30 Int. for Arlene Jagiello
Saturday, December 9 - St. Juan Diego Cuauhtlatoatzin
8:30 Michael Kwilas
Saturday, December 9 - Vigil: Second Sunday of Advent
5:30 Carmela & Frank Esposito
Sunday, December 10 - Second Sunday of Advent
7:00 People of the Parish
9:30 Raymond J. Horn, Jr.
11:30 Aurora & Patrizia Barone, Betz Fam., Dabros & Wytrwal Fams., Michelle Dammicco, Hinze & Moriarty Fams., Holz Fam., La Pietra Fam. & Fri., Vernon Lipps & Dec'd Fam. Mbrs., Alex & Sarah Perri, Joseph & Anna Wilk
4:30 Edward Madura & Adam Ostrowski

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.

+MINISTERS OF THE LITURGY +

Saturday, December 9 - 8:30 am
*** **Team 10**
Saturday, December 9 - 5:30 pm
* J. Sclafani
** P. Brown, C. Lim, M.Lim, M. Pollowy, S. Sclafani
*** **Team 2**
Mon., 12/11 - 9:00 am
Sunday, December 10 - 7:00 am
* J. Kusinski
** J. Carrozza, T. Curtin, L. Feist, D. Feist, P. Gerard
*** **Team 9**
Tue., 12/12 - 9:00 am
Sunday, December 10 - 9:30 am
* T. Swiderski
** P. Conlon, M. Cozzo, C. Hill, C. Hill, T. Swiderski
*** **Team 3**
Wed., 12/13 - 9:00 am
Sunday, December 10 - 11:30 am
* B. Gasiorek
** M. Guerrieri, M. Holder, J. Horn, M. Kenny, M. Russo
*** **Team 4**
Thur., 12/14 - 9:00 am
Sunday, December 10 - 4:30 pm
* R. Kopf
** B. Czubek, E. Dillon, R. Fiorante, B. O'Neill, Y. Sarmiento
*** **Team 1**
Fri., 12/15 - 9:00 am



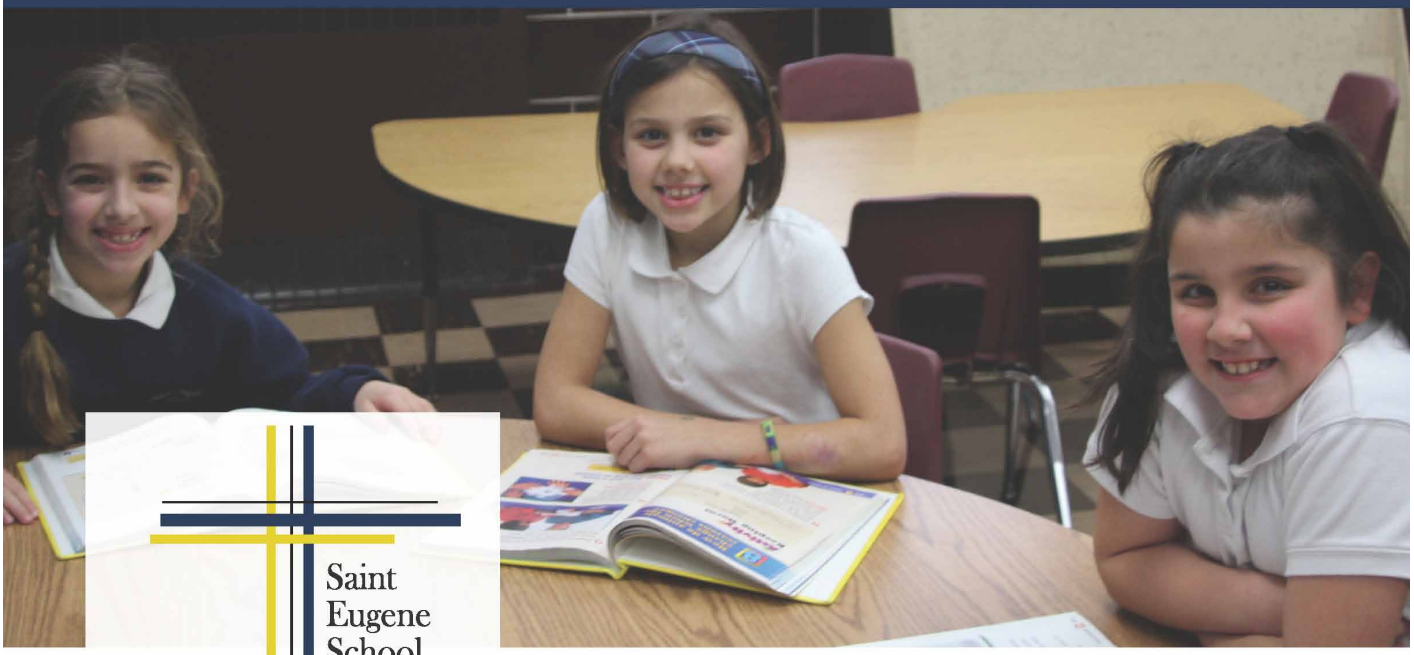
NEW EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Would you like to be a Eucharistic Minister at the week-end Masses at St. Eugene? You must be a parishioner of the parish and have made your confirmation. There would be one class for you to attend before being mandated. If you are interested, please call the rectory and leave your name and phone number. Someone from the rectory will return your call.

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.

You're Invited to Visit Us!



Saint Eugene School

Academic Excellence Rooted in Faith

St. Eugene School

Learn how we can help your child grow academically and spiritually

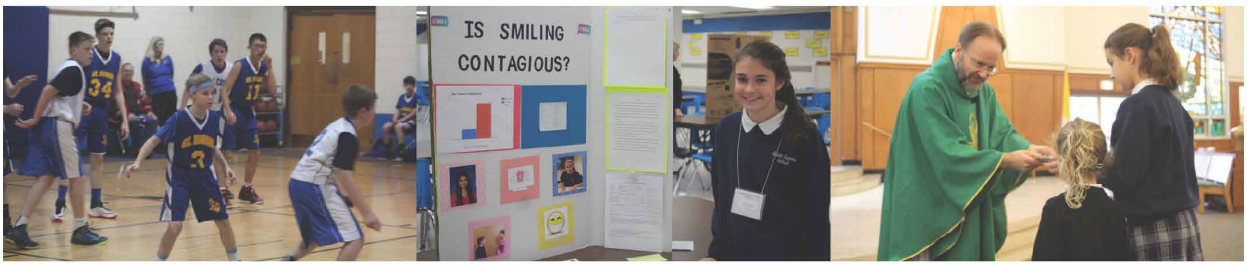
- 3 Yr. PS/ 4 Yr. PK: Full & Half Day Programs
- Kindergarten—8th Grade
- Before & After School Care
- We offer a variety of extracurricular activities to meet your child's interests.
- Technology: Computer Lab, iPad Carts, 1:1 Chromebooks Grade 6-8

Open Houses

Monday, December 18 - 6:00-7:00 PM
Sunday, January 28 - 10:30-1:00 PM

Thursday, February 1 - 8:00-9:00 AM -
Kindergarten Open House/Curriculum Share

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT | LEADERSHIP| FAITH FORMATION



Visit *www.steugene-school.org* for more information
7930 W. Foster Ave., Chicago, IL 60656 • Phone: 773-763-2235



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



2017/18 Knights of Columbus Youth Free-Throw Championship

Local Competition

St. Eugene Parish Shaunessy Center

Saturday, January 13, 2018 1:00 - 3:00 pm

All boys and girls, ages 9 to 14, are invited to participate in this local competition. Winners will progress through local, district, and state competitions.

All boys and girls 9-14 years old are eligible to participate and will compete in their respective age divisions.

All contestants on the local level are recognized for their participation in this event. Participants are required to furnish proof of age and written parental consent.

Entry forms must be submitted prior to January 13, 2018.

For entry forms or additional information, please contact:

Patty Samborski, St. Eugene Athletic Director

773-763-2235 ext. 227 psamborski@st-eugene.org

BLESSING OF EXPECTANT MOTHERS

Next Sunday, and on the second Sunday of each month, St. Eugene Parish offers a blessing for expectant mothers, fathers and their unborn children following the 9:30 a.m. Mass. The blessing is given to strengthen mothers and fathers during the time of waiting, and to pray for the health and safe delivery of their child. This blessing may be received monthly throughout the pregnancy.

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Advent calendars appear now in many homes, and newfangled formats are even available on line. Children have fun opening the doors and windows keyed to the days counting down to Christmas. Behind each door is a picture related to the Christmas mystery, perhaps a scripture verse or saying, but more and more these days something totally unconnected to religious life, like a small toy or a chocolate treat, appears instead. The Advent calendar is not very old as traditions go. We can trace it back to German-speaking Christians, both Protestant and Catholic. Lutherans might have originated the custom by placing chalk marks on doors starting December 1, lighting candles every day, or placing a new religious picture on the wall each day during Advent. The oldest known hand-made calendar goes back to 1851, and the first printed ones appeared in 1908 in Germany with Bible verses behind the doors. By far the most interesting calendar is a building, the town hall (*Rathaus*) of Gengenbach in Germany's Black Forest. Every year the townspeople invite an illustrator of children's books to create twenty-four paintings or motifs for each of the twenty-four main windows of the building. Every night the people gather to see a new window opened and illuminated.

Very few commercial Advent calendars pay much attention to the core values of our liturgical calendar: the pivotal place of Sunday, the importance of Advent feasts like Saint Lucy and Saint Nicholas, and the clear shift in tone on December 17 from Advent longing and preparation toward imminent hope in Christ's coming. That kind of creativity is left up to you!

—Rev. James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

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 Social Concerns Ministry. God Bless Everyone!





ST. NICHOLAS BOX

The St. Nicholas box will be in the church vestibule, next to the Mitten Tree, until the weekend of December 16 & 17.
We are asking for donations of clean coats, boots, hats, gloves and/or mittens.
We are collecting for Puerto Rico Evacuees in the wake of Hurricane Maria. Coming from Puerto Rico they are coming here with no winter clothing.
As always we can count on St. Eugene Parishioners !!!



Christmas Choir



The St. Eugene Choir invites parishioners to join them on the glorious Feast of Christmas for the 10:00 PM Christmas Midnight Mass and/or the 11:30 AM Mass on Christmas Day. There will be one rehearsal in church on Thurs, Dec. 21 at 7:00 PM.

Even if you have never sung with a choir before but still enjoy singing the music of the Christmas Season, please consider joining us for these festive masses on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. If you have any questions, please feel free to call Lydia Hilado at the rectory number: (773) 775-6659.

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

ADVENT 2017 - SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Wednesday, December 20	-	**7:00 p.m. - Communal Reconciliation Service**
Friday, December 22	-	1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Saturday, December 23	-	4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

(Confession heard in English, Italian & Polish on Dec. 20 & 22)

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.

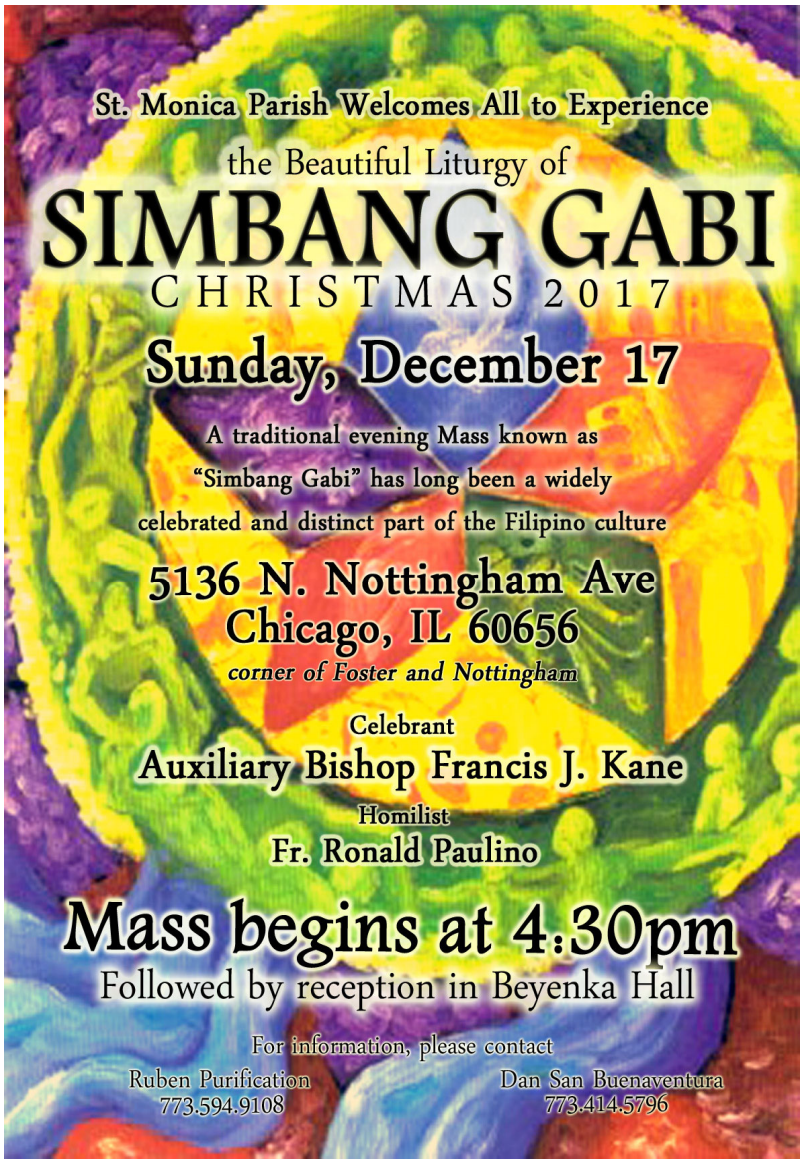
Last Name _____ First Name _____ M/M, Mr., Mrs., Ms., Miss

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

Address _____ City _____ Zip code _____

Email address: _____ Email address: _____

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



Dinner/Lecture
Evening Participation

Our Excellent Speaker, Father George, Father Phil, Michael & Bridget Brennan, Don & Lois Feist, Joe & Joanna Portenlanger, John Janiszewski, Raquel Perez, Pat Wagner, Barbara Meier, Lena Menconi, Agnes Mahoney, Patrick Menconi, Sal Sparacino, our St. Eugene School Staff, and all who attended and brought desserts, salads and took split-the-pot chances. Super Teamwork! Super Parish Support!

WORDS OF OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE TO JUAN DIEGO



"Let not your heart be disturbed. Do not fear that sickness, nor any other sickness or anguish. Am I not here, who is your Mother? Are you not under my protection? Am I not your health? Are you not happily within my fold? What else do you wish? Do not grieve nor be disturbed by anything."

St. Juan Diego's Feast Day
December 9

CRISIS PREGNANCY HELPLINE

The **Crisis Pregnancy Helpline** is sponsored by the Women's Center. They provide counseling, food, clothing, baby furniture, referral services, etc. to those experiencing a difficult pregnancy. **1-800-400-4205**

SOCIAL CONCERNS MINISTRY

If you are in need of assistance, call the rectory.
A member of the **SOCIAL CONCERNS MINISTRY (formerly St. Vincent de Paul)** will get back to you.

ST. PATRICK HIGH SCHOOL — CHRISTMAS MUSIC CONCERTS

Join the Saint Patrick Music Department in celebrating the season at their Christmas Concerts!
What better way to get into the Christmas spirit than through music.
5900 W. Belmont, Chicago. Entry from East parking lot. $5 admission.

Concert Band and Percussion Concert — Wednesday, December 6 at 7 pm
Choir Concert with guests from Trinity High School — Thursday, December 7 at 7 pm.

ALL ARE INVITED TO JOIN US IN CELEBRATING THE FOURTH ANNUAL





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 22, 2017 AT 6:00 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, or

Ellen Torres: 773/814-7231

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
ZBIGNIEW DUDKOWSKI
MATTHEW SCOTT FORREST
ANDREW HOPKINS
CHRISTOPHER JENKINS
JACK KANE
TYLER LANNERS
ANTONIO JAMES LIM
JAMES TYLER MARBACH
CHRIS MARCHIORI
DANIEL MEANEY
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.