St. Eugene Parish
Chicago, IL 60656

THE VOICE

Fourth Sunday of Advent **December 24, 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.

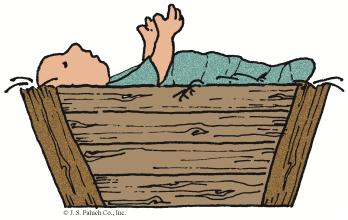
PARISHIONERS: When moving in or out of St. Eugene Parish, please notify the rectory.

YOUR WILL: Remember the church in your bequests.

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

Fourth Sunday of Advent





The child to be born will be called holy, the Son of God.
--Luke 1:35

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.

Pastor's Corner



This week we have the Cardinal's Christmas Letter.
Merry Christmas, Peace and Joy to everyone!
Yours in Christ,
Fr. George



Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

In 1223, just two years before his death, Saint Francis of Assisi set up a living crèche, a replica of the manger in Bethlehem at the birth of Jesus. He preached and prayed before the scene. His biographer, Thomas of Celano, says that in that moment Francis was "overwhelmed with love and filled with wonderful happiness." His contemplation of Jesus, the Word made flesh, drew him to experience the depth of God's love.

We live in a troubled world beset by wars, violence, injustice, broken relationships, and illness. Beyond that, we do believe and are convinced that God loves us and walks with us in Jesus, his Son. As we know, God will heal us and our broken world and bring us into the fullness of life. It is my hope that when you pray before the mystery of the Incarnate Word, as Saint Francis prayed, you will be renewed in hope and confidence and be "overwhelmed with love and filled with wonderful happiness."

May God bless you with a renewal of faith, hope, and love as we celebrate the birth of the Lord.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+ Blase J. Cupich

ARCHBISHOP OF CHICAGO

Christmas 2017
Cardinal's letter to the Faithful
Archdiocese of Chicago

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

OPLATEK
AVAILABLE IN THE VESTIBULE

MITTEN TREE (see below)



GOD'S PROMISE

The lengthy passage from Samuel is a wonderful exposition of God's promise to the house of David: that his throne would forever be gloriously occupied by his descendants. Hidden in the mystery of the prophecy is the promise of the Savior, the Messiah, Son of God and Son of David. The prophet Nathan, speaking in God's name, poetically turns around David's plan to build a house for God, and announces God's plan to build a "house," that is, a dynasty for David. From this house of David will come the Messiah, the Christ, not in kingly splendor as David ruled, but as a humble man, destined to rule forever and over all. When God gives a gift, it's amazing what we are given--so different from what we ever could have imagined. —Rev. James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

HAPPENINGS



SUNDAY	**24**
	CHRISTMAS EVE
MONDAY	**25**
	CHRISTMAS DAY
TUESDAY	**26**
	NO ACTIVITIES
WEDNESDAY	**27**
	NO ACTIVITIES
THURSDAY	**28**
4:00 pm	Youth Athletics: SH.CTR
FRIDAY	**29**
4:00 pm	Youth Athletics: SH.CTR
SATURDAY	**30**
10:00 am	AA: SCH:RH
SUNDAY	**31**
	NEW YEAR'S EVE

	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**

Sacrificial Giving

December 17, 2017

Regular Sunday Offering	**$**	**13,878**
Electronic Giving December 11 to December 17 $ 1,117 from 47 families	**$**	**1,117**
Total	**$**	**14,995**
Sunday Budget 2017-18	**$**	**16,000**
Over / (short)	***$***	***1,005***
To Teach Who Christ Is	**$**	**625**
Sharing Parish	**$**	**501**

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)

ANNIVERSARY WISHES TO PAT & JIM CONLON 65 YEARS

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!





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.

WE WILL NOT HAVE ADORATION
ON CHRISTMAS DAY
MONDAY, DECEMBER 25, 2017
&
ON NEW YEAR'S DAY
MONDAY, JANUARY 1, 2018



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

"God so loved the world that He gave
His Only-Begotten Son,
in order that everyone who believes
in Him might have eternal life."
Gospel of John
Taken from the Magnificat, Vol. 13 No. 13

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.

CRISIS PREGNANCY HELPLINE
1-800-400-4205

RECTORY HOURS
THE RECTORY IS CLOSED
AND
WILL RE-OPEN
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 26
AT 9:00 AM.
&
THE RECTORY WILL BE CLOSED
ON
NEW YEAR'S DAY
& WILL RE-OPEN
TUESDAY, JANUARY 2
AT 9:00 AM

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

BLESSING OF THE
OUTDOOR NATIVITY MANGER

Please join the Knights and the St. Eugene School children for the blessing of the outdoor Nativity manger, immediately following the 9:00 am Mass on Friday, December 22nd. The manger will be located by the front doors of the church next to the canopy.



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.

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.

CHRISTMAS MASSES



Christmas Eve (Sunday): 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 (Monday): 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
(Note: Not A Holy Day of Obligation This Year)
No Mass of Anticipation

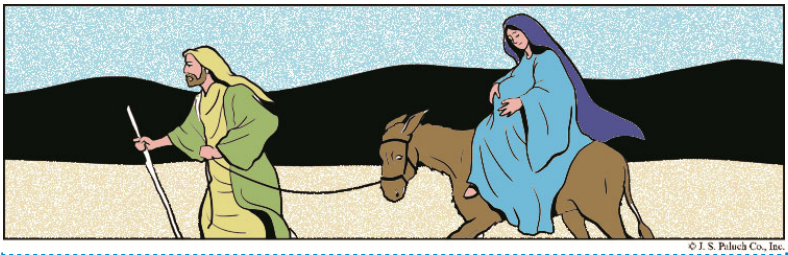


New Year's Day Masses (Monday)
6:30, 9:00 and 11:30 a.m.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY WISHES TO REV. JAMES J. O'BRIEN DECEMBER 29



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.



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 # _____



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, 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, Carmella Giannelli, Frances Gofron, Rev. Philip Grib, S.J., June Grovak, Erika Arquilla Hlavacek, 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, 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: Dick Small

REV. FRED W. TOMZIK, "FATHER FRED"



"Padge " to many. Friend of many and loved by all. Fr. Fred left behind and touched many in his various capacities, including: Pastor of St. Louise de Marillac, LaGrange Park and St. Monica, Chicago; Priest at Nativity of our Lord, Chicago; Divine Infant, Westchester; St. Eugene, Chicago and Divine Savior, Norridge. Chaplain of the Norwood Park Fire Department; active member in both the Catholic Committee on Scouting and the Girl Scouts Medals Committee. "Padge" influenced many teens and adults through Teen Clubs, Haunted Houses and Theater Lighting.
Father Fred's Funeral Mass was held December 19, 2017 at Divine Savior.

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

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Children of the parish are somewhat focused on Santa Claus these days, who is keeping an eye on who's naughty and who's nice. Santa Claus, with his heavenly patron Saint Nicholas, has been more or less in charge of gift-giving to American children for a hundred years or so. In other places, perhaps more attentive to our Christian tradition, there are different gift-bearers. In Greece, Saint Basil delivers the presents on his feast day, December 31, and makes sure everyone is sprinkled with holy water. The Baby Jesus is in charge elsewhere, called the Christkind in Austria and Belgium, El Niño Jesús in Columbia, and Le Petit Jesus in France, where he shares his duties with Père Noël. In the Czech Republic almost everyone is atheist, but Jeíek, the infant Jesus, brings gifts to one and all. In Poland the "Star Man" is said to bring the gifts, although often he turns out to be the village priest in disguise. Saint Nicholas, not his Americanized cousin, is the giver in Holland, where he wears a bishop's miter, and in Russia, where he wears a bishop's crown. Soviet Russia tried to dethrone Saint Nicholas and promote Grandfather Frost, but no one was much fooled by this attempt to squeeze religion out of Christ's birth. One country has a saintly woman in charge of the gifts, Saint Lucy, honored in Sweden on December 13, when children serve their parents breakfast in bed, and others awake to news that they have been nominated for a Nobel Prize. Some children have a second round of gifts on Epiphany, when the magi assume the gift-giving duties. In general, the gifts of Christmas are simple pleasures, not great heaps of treasures. Once upon a time, a new pair of socks or an orange was enough for us. No matter what gifts we receive, all of them are to point us to the true gift, and the true giver.

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

+ MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK +

Saturday, December 23 - Vigil: 4th Sunday of Advent
5:30 John & Stephanie Gonder

Sunday, December 24 - 4th Sunday of Advent
7:00 People of the Parish
9:30 Living & Dec'd Mbrs. Lutfy & Dahir Fams.
11:30 George & Paul Baker, Gerald Barnicle, Aurora & Patrizia Barone, Leonard Cataldo, Adam Cegielski, James & Maria Ciolino, James Collins, May & Martin Collins, George Concialdi, Dabros & Wytrwal Fams., Ernesto & Domenica Fiorante, Antonio Garcia, Matteo Geraci, Joseph Golden, Maria Ria Gonzalez, Gianni Gullo, Frank Jablonski, Kathleen Keely, Julie King, LaPietra Fam. & Fri., Irene McGreevy, Int. for Norine McNaghton, Casto Neri, Daniela Palumbo & Antonio Pizzuto, Tony & Cora Piazza, Thomas & Rose Rocks, Salvatore Tenuta, Frank Tenerello
4:00 Lawrence Viverito
6:30 Edward & Victoria Wnek
10:00 Thomas & Michael Doles

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

Monday, December 25 - The Nativity of the Lord
7:00 Sarmiento Fam.
9:30 Antoni Orlowski & Irene McGreevy
11:30 Cristoforo & Concetta Alaimo, Salvatore Alaimo, Domenico Battista, Walter Caban, Frank Cardamone, Gina & Concetta Castellese, Giorgio & Maria Castellese, Leonard Cataldo, Joseph & Josephine Dombrowski, Mary Jane Dombrowski, John & Frances Fenoglio, Michael Fiorante, Norman Johns, Julie King, John Kula, Michael & Josephine Magnine, Virginia Sorce & Joseph Ronald Magnine, Irene McGreevy & Antoni Orlowski, Mike & Michael Michalek, Vincenzo & Caterina Noto, Michael Vito Parente, Mike & Anna Parente, Frances Pesoski & Michael P. Rongo, David & Bridie Riordan, Russo & Riotto Fams., Anna Scola, Lois Silhanek, Eraldo Simonetti, Emedio & Elvira Spinelli, Maria & Salvatore Tenuta, Edward & Victoria Wnek

Tuesday, December 26 - St. Stephen
6:30 Patricia Zmijewski.
9:00 Roy Tufts

Wednesday, December 27 - St. John
6:30 Norman Johns
9:00 Jim & Pat Conlon - 65th Wedd. Anniv.

Thursday, December 28 - The Holy Innocents
6:30 Purgatorial Society
9:00 Leroy Salemi

Friday, December 29 - St. Thomas Becket
6:30 Rachelle Turano-Wojcik
9:00 Bennie Martin

Saturday, December 30
8:30 Michael Savino

Saturday, December 30 - Vigil: The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph
5:30 Dec'd Mbrs. Conlon & Husfield Fams.

Sunday, December 31 - The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph
7:00 People of the Parish
9:30 Norman Johns
11:30 Aurora & Patrizia Barone, Janina & Wieslaw Borawski, Ron Brown, Pasquale & Catarina Busa, Stanislaw & Franciszka Chabura, Agnieszka Chabura, Cristina & Giovonni Greco, Julie & Harry Harast, Eugene Kosla, Joseph Kuzara, LaPietra Fam. & Fri., Vernon Lipps & Fam., Hilary Naborowski, Paddy & Kathleen Rocks, Joseph & Anna Wilk, Viktoria Wilk
4:30 Geri Francesconi



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.

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.



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 +

Saturday, December 30 - 8:30 am
*** **Team 9**
Saturday, December 30 - 5:30 pm
* P. Brown
** C. Bobka, A. Cisek, C. Edwards, M. Pollowy, Y. Sarmiento
*** **Team 10**
Mon., 1/1 - 9:00 am
Sunday, December 31 - 7:00 am
* J. Imburgia
** A. Bischof, J. Carrozza, R. Kennedy, R. Perez, R. Trovela
*** **Team 1**
Tue., 1/2 - 9:00 am
Sunday, December 31 - 9:30 am
* T. Swiderski
** M. Cozzo, C. Hill, C. Hill, T. Swiderski, J. Nardi
*** **Team 2**
Wed., 1/3 - 9:00 am
Sunday, December 31 - 11:30 am
* B. Gasiorek
** J. Horn, J. Kusinski, P. Paetsch, V. Parado, M. Russo
*** **Team 3**
Thu., 1/4 - 9:00 am
Sunday, December 31 - 4:30 pm
* Volunteer Lector
** Volunteer Eucharistic Ministers
*** **Team 4**
Thu., 12/28 - 9:00 am
Monday, January 1 - 11:30 am
* Volunteer Lector
** Volunteer Eucharistic Ministers
*** **Team 5**



POPE FRANCIS
TWEET FOR THE WEEK
Every stranger that knocks at our door is an opportunity to meet Jesus.

Find St. Eugene on Facebook!

SAVE THE DATE!
ALUMNI WEEKEND
FEBRUARY 23, 24, & 25, 2018

ST. EUGENE SCHOOL
IS STILL COLLECTING *BOX TOPS*

SOCIAL CONCERNS MINISTRY



DECEMBER FOOD DRIVE
will take place the weekend of December 30 / 31



THANK YOU AGAIN to those of you who contributed food and monetary donations to our Thanksgiving 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.

MINISTRY OF CARE TRAINING PROGRAM

There will be a new Ministry of Care Training program which will take place at Presence St. Benedict Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, 6930 W. Touhy, Niles, beginning Monday, January 22, 2018, and for four more consecutive Mondays, January 29; February 5, February 12, and February 19, 2018 from 7:00 - 9:00 pm.

Please call the rectory at: 773/775-6659, if you are interested in becoming a Minister of Care. Thank you.

St. Eugene Honor Roll: Trimester 1

Grade 4

High Honors: Alison Banaszek, Gwendolyn Campbell, Nicholas Golden, Owen Karnick, Jacob Kruszewski, Kaitlyn McGovern, Dominick Opiela, Matthew Opyd, Gia Vizzini

Honors: Moira Kate Martin

Grade 5

High Honors: Maria Cheng, Kelly Fergus, Colin Fitzpatrick, Maeve Marrinan, Sofia Sollano, Shannon Urey

Honors: John Anish, Alexander Jackiewicz

Grade 6

High Honors:

Adriana Ahern, Ashley Banaszek, Emma Coleman, Nolan Crimmins, Dylan Golden, Jessica McCarty, Matthew McGovern, Veronica Opyd

Honors:

James McGovern, Mary Sclafani

Grade 7

High Honors:

Michael Craven, Sophia Kruszewski, Vincent Meo

Honors:

Karl Jackiewicz

Grade 8

High Honors:

Grace Canetta, Nicolette Hersh, Emily Kinel, Olha Kushnir, Natalie Larucci, Natalie Lo Giudice, Danielle McCarty, Delaney Rossi

Honors:

Kaitlyn Kurtz, Alexandra Kuszynski

Catherine Scotkovsky, Principal, Janet Kusinski, Assistant Principal, faculty & staff of St. Eugene School wish you a very Merry Christmas and a wonderful New Year!



Memories from Bethlehem

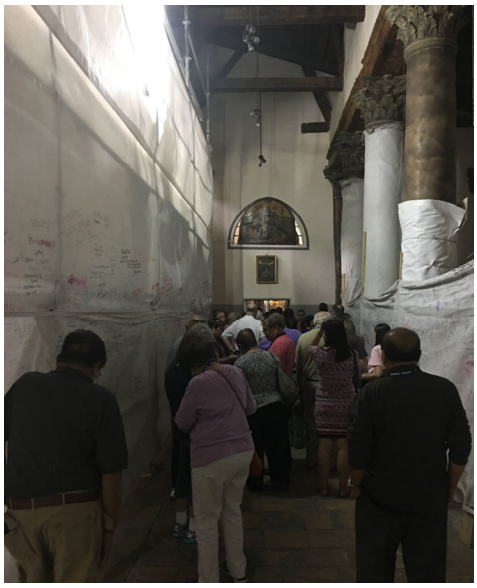
Merry Christmas! In September of this year, I had an opportunity to visit the Holy Land with a group of pilgrims from St Eugene and other parishes. It was my second time there. The first time was over ten years ago when I was a seminarian at Mundelein Seminary. One of the places we visited was Bethlehem, a place that we do not hear of very often during year but the place that we often mention during Christmas time. The town of Bethlehem is more vibrant and alive than the last time I was there. First, we went to Shepherd's Field, where the cave, as tradition says, shepherds were staying and to whom the angel announces the good news of the birth of Jesus. Our ultimate goal was to visit the Basilica of the Nativity. After a short walk we reached the square in the center of Bethlehem. It was as I remembered it from the past. One difference was the great number of pilgrims/tourists.

We passed through a small entrance to enter the Basilica of the Nativity. The first thing we could see was the scaffolding. Finally after so many years, the renovation or preservation of the Basilica is taking place. Thanks to our guide, Johnny, we did not have to wait long hours to get to the Grotto where we believe Jesus was born. When we all got inside, and after everyone touched or kissed the spot when Jesus was born, we all sang Silent Night. The relatively small room was filled with the sound of this beautiful Christmas carol. It was an extraordinary experience to which all people go back after they visit this place in the time of Christmas. After a moment of prayer, we had to leave because there were hundreds or even thousands of people behind us. The next thing was Mass at the Church of St Catherine just next to the Basilica of the Nativity, the place where midnight Mass is celebrated and televised all over the world. What an experience it was! We did not have too much time in Bethlehem on our own but I did get to visit a store of the old friend, John (St. John Souvenirs).

I am not able to describe everything in this short article, but sadly not everything is well in the Holy Land. A big concern is the number of Christians that are leaving. Let us pray for all persecuted Christians around the world, but especially those in the Middle East.

May Baby Jesus Bless You in this Holy Time. Merry Christmas.

Fr Greg









More scenes from Bethlehem













ST. EUGENE SCHOOL CHRISTMAS SHOW - DECEMBER 15, 2017















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

They are back!!!

Special Guests again this year will be the internationally renowned Jesse White Tumblers!



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.