Queen of Peace

Roman Catholic Parish

Welcome!

January 1st, 2023



OUR LADY, MOTHER OF THE CHURCH

8747 W. Lawrence Avenue
Chicago, IL 60656
Ph. (773) 625-3369

Masses:

Tuesday:	7:00 am
Thursday:	7:00 am
Sunday:	10:00 am

ST. EUGENE CHURCH

7958 W. Foster Avenue
Chicago, IL 60656
Ph. (773) 775-6659

Masses:

Monday:	9:00 am
Wednesday:	9:00 am
Friday:	9:00 am
Saturday:	8:30 am
Confessions	4:00 pm
Sunday Vigil Mass:	5:00 pm
Sunday:	8:30 am
	11:30 am

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Monday:	4:00 pm - 6:00 pm
Benediction:	5:45 pm

RECTORY OFFICE HOURS

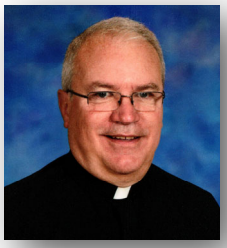
Our Lady, Mother of the Church

Monday	9:00 am - 5:00 pm

St. Eugene

Monday - Thursday	9:00 am - 7:00 pm
Friday	9:00 am - 5:00 pm
Saturday	9:00 am - 1:00 pm

From the desk of



Father Rich Yanos

This Sunday, January 1st may be New Year's Day in our secular life, but in our liturgical life, it is the Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God.

In was in the year 431 that the Council of Ephesus declared that the Virgin Mary was Mother of God; in Greek, Theotokos, which means, "God-bearer."

Mary was celebrated under this title on the first of January until about the eighth century when the day was changed to mark the circumcision of the Lord.

The reforms of the Second Vatican Council returned the day to Mary, Mother of God but kept the Gospel reading which highlights the shepherds' response to the angelic message of a Savior's birth in Bethlehem and then concludes with the reference to Jesus' circumcision.

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Now that we've entered into a new year, I would like to thank all those who had a hand in helping our parish get through 2022…. which I suppose would be everyone. In a special way, though, I would like to thank my brother priests and deacons and all our parish staff who went above and beyond the call of duty to ensure that our Christmas crowds were well accommodated and that our Christmas liturgies were well planned and staffed. I also want to acknowledge all our Liturgical Ministers who served as Ushers, Greeters, Eucharistic Ministers, Altar Servers, Lectors, etc… My sincere gratitude also goes out to our musical group directors, Lydia and Vince Hilado, and Dennis Dayson, as well as all our cantors, musicians, and singers. You all did a stellar job of enriching and enhancing our Advent and Christmas celebrations.

I would also like to acknowledge our phenomenal maintenance team of Romulo Jara, John Lemus and Boguslaw Krolikowski for all they do behind the scenes making sure our facilities are always looking their best for those who enter our doors. I also want to acknowledge the hard work that our Environment and Art Committee under the leadership of Terri Swiderski put in to enriching our worship and gathering spaces with their beautiful touches and handiwork in the setting up of the trees and flowers throughout our churches and facilities. A big thank you for the Pilch Family for decorating Our Lady, Mother of the Church. A job, as always, well done!

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When was the last time you went a good retreat? Well, the opportunity to do so is being made to both the men and women of our parish. If you might be looking to find a more profound and personal relationship with God, you are invited and encouraged to take advantage of this opportunity to step aside and take a respite from the craziness of your life to do so.

Jesuit priest, Fr. Michael Sparough, and Fr. Al Johnson, two well known and dynamic preachers will lead a retreat that will be focusing on the "Spiritual Exercises" of St. Ignatius of Loyola. This retreat will be held on the beautiful 80 + wooded grounds of the Bellarmine Jesuit Retreat Center in Barrington, IL., the week-end of February 24-26, 2023.

All adults of our parish community are invited to share in this weekend. For more information you can contact, parishioner, Ralph Cantal at either 708-452-6438 or 708-362-0631, but don't wait too much longer since this weekend is for both men and women it will quickly fill up. If you've never gone on a retreat this may be the opportunity and invitation you've been waiting for. Consider it.

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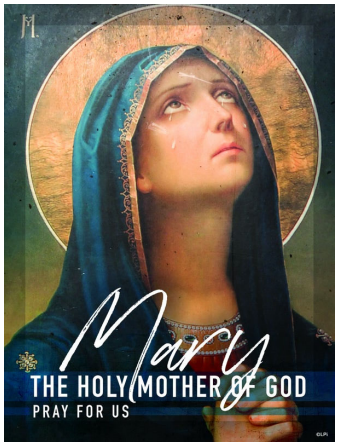
Often, I remind our daily Mass attendees of how significant their presence here is. In many ways, as we gather around the Lord's Table, we represent the larger community. At times, I have emphasized how the grace of this sacrament can transform lives and how I look to this humble daily Mass crowd to set an example and tone for the rest of the parish.

I am convinced that without this daily gathering in which we proclaim, hear, share, and reflect upon the wisdom and direction of God in the scriptures, our lives and our parish would be a different place. This morning I also thought how wonderful it would be if more people in our parish could be touched by this experience. What keeps those in our parish who are able to participate in daily Mass from doing so, especially when the very real presence of Christ is made present for us whenever we celebrate the Eucharist? Christ is also present 24 hours a day in the tabernacles of our churches throughout the world. I suppose a long list of excuses could be named, but might that not be all that they are – excuses?

For this reason, I am putting out a personal invitation to all of you who might be at home and not working, a retired senior, middle-aged man or woman working 2nd or 3rd shift, or a stay-at-home mom or dad to consider joining our Queen of Peace community at daily Mass. I would bet my life that after a steady practice of reflecting upon the Word of God and receiving the Body of Christ you will feel not only more personally fulfilled, but more empowered to deal with, tackle and take on the daily challenges of life.

There can be no greater sign of Christ's presence among us than that of a community at prayer. For even Christ himself said, "Where two or more are gathered, there am I in their midst".

Won't you consider joining us at daily Mass? Perhaps you might invite a neighbor to come with you and start a new routine for you both? You might even meet a new friend here. Great things happen around the table of the Lord. Hope you can join us as we look forward to welcoming you. Daily Mass is celebrated Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 9:00 a.m. at St. Eugene Church and Tuesday's and Thursday's at 7:00 a.m. at Our Lady, Mother of the Church and every Saturday morning at 8:30 a.m. at St. Eugene Church Please join us for these opportunities to partake of the Eucharist and prayer here at Queen of Peace Parish.



May the new year of 2023 be one in which all our community will be renewed in their faith and that same faith will be put into action through the service of all our brothers and sisters. Happy New Year!

Fr. Rich Yanos

SUNDAY'S READINGS

FIRST READING:
"So shall they invoke my name upon the Israelites,
and I will bless them." (Nm 6:27)

PSALM:
May God bless us in his mercy. (Ps 67)

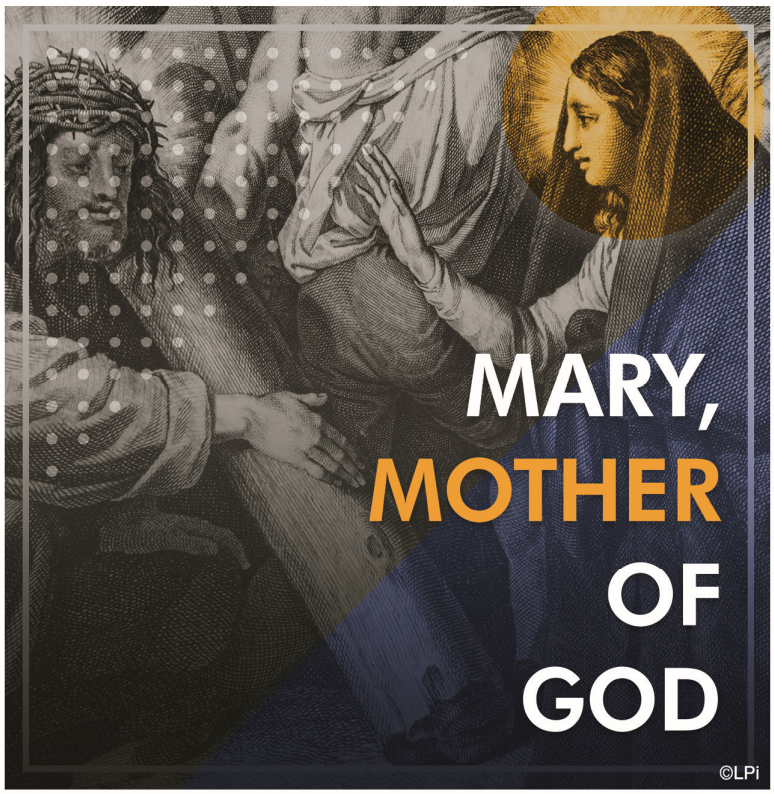
SECOND READING:
When the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son,
born of a woman. (Gal 4:4)

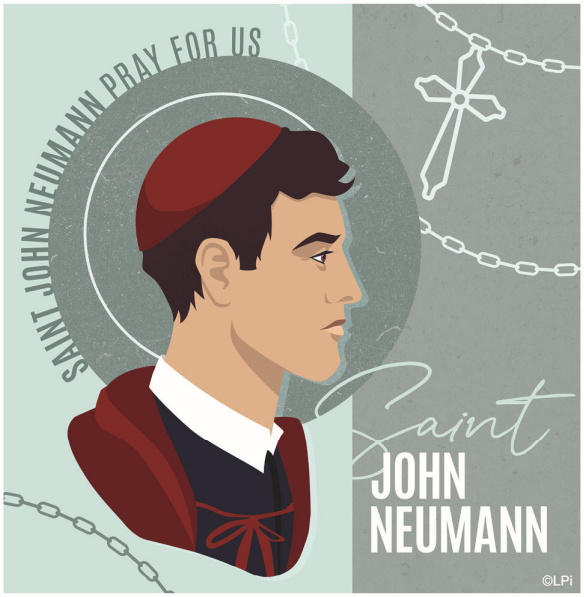
GOSPEL:
The shepherds went in haste to Bethlehem
and found Mary and Joseph, and the infant lying in
the manger. (Lk 2:16)

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.
The English translation of Psalm Responses from Lectionary for Mass © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 1, 2023

Sunday:	Mary, The Holy Mother of God, National Migration Week, New Year's Day
Monday:	Sts. Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops and Doctors of the Church
Tuesday:	The Most Holy Name of Jesus
Wednesday:	St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious
Thursday:	St. John Neumann, Bishop
Friday:	St. André Bessette, Religious
Saturday:	St. Raymond of Penyafort, Priest
Next Sunday:	The Epiphany of the Lord





Saint of the Week

St. John Neumann, patron saint of educators, immigrants, and sick children, was the first male saint to be canonized from the USA. An immigrant himself, he expanded Catholic education in his region from 2 schools to 100 & ministered in 6 different languages!

Prayer

Prayer for St. John Neumann's intercession

O St. John Neumann, your ardent desire of bringing all souls to Christ impelled you to leave home and country; teach us to live worthily in the spirit of our baptism which makes us all children of the one Heavenly Father and brothers of Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the family of God.

Obtain for us that complete dedication in the service of the needy, the weak, the afflicted, and the abandoned which so characterized your life. Help us to walk perseveringly in the difficult and at times painful paths of duty, strengthened by the Body and Blood of our Redeemer and under the watchful protection of Mary our Mother. May death still find us on the sure road to our Father's house, with the light of living faith in our hearts.

(Prayer Source: https://stjohnneumann.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/Prayers-to-St.-John-Neumann.pdf)

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, December 31, 2022

4:00 pm Saturday Vigil Mass - Mass at St. Eugene Church

Dimitri Anton, Andrew B. Bujdasz, Carlos Saul
Bernice Cwiklik, Special Intention for Matthew & Nicole
Elmer & Grace D. Frelka,
Special Intention for Isia
Dec'd mbrs of Kot & Feret Fams, Ludwik Komperda,
Hillard & Michael Michalek,
Special Intention for Darek, Damian, Marzenna & Fam.
Joseph Mikewicz,

Sunday, January 1, 2023

8:30 am Mass at St. Eugene Church

People of the Parishes,
Caterina, Vincenzo, Maria,
Giuseppe Campisi, Juan Diaz,
Domenica, Rosario, Giacoma,
Salvatore, & Antonino
Gerraci, Domenico & Anna Iannelli

10:00 am Mass at Our Lady, Mother of the Church

Eleanor Calabro, Santo Calabro, Carmela Di Matteo,
Ted Marszalek, Sr., Pietro Pisello,
Matilda & James Halas
Blessings for Family of Darek, Marsha, Isia,
Damian, Nicole, Matthew,
Eloisa Barrera - 30th Anniversary

11:30 am Mass at St. Eugene Church

M/M Salvatore Allegra, Spec. Int. Sophie,
Katarzyna & Teofil Cabaj,
Dominick & Maria Di Rea & Fam.,
Witold Gadomski & Fam., Bruno Janus,
Krys, Dabros, & Wytrol Fams.,
Jan Mikulski,
Anthony & Josephine Riggio, Paul & Annetta Simonetti
Special Intention for Matthew, Nicole, Isia, Darek,
Marzenna, Damian and Family

Monday, January 2, 2023

9:00 am Mass at St. Eugene Church

Purgatorial SocietyAnderson & Lopez Fams.,
John Kula, Robert De Giuseppe,
Joseph & Edith Hoffmann

Tuesday, January 3, 2023

7:00 am Mass at Our Lady, Mother of the Church

Phyllis & Arthur Bastian, Ted Marszalek, Sr.,
August Samp

Wednesday, January 4, 2023

9:00 am Mass at St. Eugene Church

Dec'd Mbrs Di Gangi & Castro Fams.,
Sam & Angie Iacovelli, Myron Masley,
John Mietus - B-day Remembrance, Anna Mordini

Thursday, January 5, 2022

7:00 am Mass at Our Lady, Mother of the Church

Willian Renwick Barry

Friday, January 6, 2023

9:00 am Mass at St. Eugene Church

William & Lucy Brown, Spec. Int. of Alac Horvath,
Jude & Minn Fams., Spec. Int. of Susan Villarreal

Saturday, January 7, 2023

8:30 am Mass at St. Eugene

Saturday, January 7, 2023

5:00 pm Saturday Vigil Mass - Mass at St. Eugene Church

Frank Esposito, Juan Diaz, Anna Dudek,
Elmer & Grace Frelka, Jorgo & Zorica Stefanowski,
Anna & Michal Stoklosa, Fr. Fred & Frederick Tomzik

Sunday, January 8, 2023

8:30 am Mass at St. Eugene Church

People of the Parishes
Joann Habrelewicz, Joseph Porada

10:00 am Mass at Our Lady, Mother of the Church

Franca De Fonte, Angela Le Pore, Pietro Pisello,
Mr. Jack Schneider 10th Anniv., Elisabeth Tresher

11:30 am Mass at St. Eugene Church

Rosalia & Giorgio Alaimo 50th Wedd. Anniv.,
Brunetto & Celilia Brunetti, James Duffy,
Maurice Dufy, Phillip & Phil Saineghi, Juan Diaz



Schedule of Liturgical Ministers

Date	Celebrant	Extraordinary Minister	Altar Server	Lectors
Saturday, 1 / 07 **5 pm - St. Eugene**	Rev. Rich Yanos	B. Gebhardt - WB J. Gebhardt - B T. Crivlare - C MB. Glynn - O J. Horn - WO	TBA	C. Bobka
Sunday, 1 / 08 **8:30 am - St. Eugene**	Rev. Jacek Dada	P. Draniczarek - WB B. Czubek - B M. Cozzo - C J. Cardella - 0 G. Bermas - WO	TBA	J. Bischof
Sunday, 1 / 08 **10:00 am - OLMC**	Rev. Greg Rom Deacon Chris Virruso	R. Molas - C P. Peterson - T	D. Flynn T. Molas G. Pilch J. Pilch	J. Molas - 1st N. Ringelstein - 2nd
Sunday, 1 / 08 **11:30 am - St. Eugene**	Rev. Ed Pacocha	P. Tomzik - WB M. Tomzik - B J. Pomis - C F. Pacia - O P. Paetsch - WO	TBA	J. Mroszczak



We pray for our loved ones who are serving in any branch of the Armed Forces during this time of conflict.



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

Major Adamczyk
Joseph Antosh, Jr.
Ghaleb Azroui
Donald Bellisario
Matthew Calderisi
Timothy Emmett Carolan
Melissa Rose Cortese
James Vincent Degrazia
Patrick Edward Dillon
Zbigniew Dudkowski
Kurt Feiereisel
Matthew Scott Forrest
Dirk Haller
Andrew Hopkins
Christopher Jenkins
Bernard Edward Kusinski
Antonio James Lim
Payne Manczko
Chris Marchiori
Daniel Meaney
Keith Miller
Michael Morales
Mike Mroszczak
Thomas Neuhengen
Eric Norwood
Elliott O'Claire
Vincent Page
Chad Pritchard
Nicholas Ranch
Adam Roberts
Joseph Saineghi, Jr.
Holly Schippers
Michael Schippers, Jr.
Sean Sherlock
Sharon Sherlock
Phillip R. Simonsen
Dominic John Guerrieri, Jr.

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.
Also, please call the rectory when your loved one returns home.

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.

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday	5:00 pm	St. Eugene Church
Sunday	8:30 am	St. Eugene Church
	10: 00 am	Our Lady, Mother of the Church
	11:30 am	St. Eugene Church

Weekday Masses

Monday	9:00 am	St. Eugene Church
Tuesday	7:00 am	Our Lady, Mother of the Church
Wednesday	9:00 am	St. Eugene Church
Thursday	7:00 am	Our Lady, Mother of the Church
Friday	9:00 am	St. Eugene Church
Every Saturday	8:30 am	St. Eugene Church



Sunday, January 8, 2023
8:30 am & 11:30 am - St. Eugene Church
10:00 am - Our Lady, Mother of the Church

ALL ARE WELCOME TO JOIN US ON OUR UPCOMING TOUR OF:
SICILY, ROME and SOUTHERN ITALY
11 Days…. October 16 – 27, 2023









Italy is known for its magnificent scenery, quaint side street ristorantes, historic sculptures and impressive fountains around every corner, and museums filled with some of the world's greatest masterpieces and fine art. Some of the places we will be visiting are: **Palermo**, **Amalfi Coast, Sorrento**, **Pompeii**, **Rome (and an audience with Pope Francis)**, **Agrigento**, **Taormina**, **Monreale** and so many more breathtaking venues.

Whether you have been to Italy before or not, no tour of this beautiful country is ever the same. Sharing this experience with your family, friends and/or fellow parishioners helps to make it that much more enjoyable as we always have so much to talk about and share at the end of each of our days of sightseeing and touring.

Sicily, Rome, and Southern Italy always draw a lot of interest and this trip is sure to fill up quickly, so if you think you might be interested in joining us this October be sure to get your reservation in early. Brochures containing all the information about this ITALIAN GETAWAY, as well as the complete itinerary, can be obtained by filling out the form below and returning it to: **Fr. Rich Yanos at 7958 W. Foster Ave., Chicago, Illinois 60656 or by picking one up in the bulletin kiosk at Our Lady Mother of the Church or the pamphlet racks in the vestibule of St. Eugene. You can also pick up a brochure at either of our parish offices. An informational meeting about this trip will be on Sunday, January 15th at 1:00 p.m. in Meeting Room 110 located at the west end of the school off the church parking lot.**

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ **STATE:** _____ **ZIP:** _____

PHONE #: _____ **EMAIL:** _____

Request for Fr. Rich's Sicily, Rome & Southern Italy Brochure

ST. JOSEPH'S TABLE COMMITTEE



The Queen of Peace Parish St. Joseph's Table Committee
would like to invite you to consider joining the
St. Joseph's Table Committee
or helping on the day of the event.

The St. Joseph's Table is a community event that honors St. Joseph
by raising funds for charity
by serving traditional non-meat foods
to the public and selling bakery items
from the St. Joseph's display table.

Scheduled Meetings

Planning meetings are held in the Shaunessy Center Meeting Room,
which is on the east end of St. Eugene campus, at 7:00PM on the following dates:

Wednesday, January 11, 2023
Wednesday, February 8, 2023
Wednesday, February 22, 2023
Wednesday, March 8, 2023
Wednesday, March 29, 2023

Event

The St. Joseph's Table will be held on Saturday, March 18th, 2022, with setup on Friday, March 17th.

Volunteer Opportunities

Full Committee member:

⇒ Help with planning and acquiring donations.

Event Volunteers (March 17th and 18th):

⇒ Setting up/Take down
⇒ Food Line Servers.
⇒ Kitchen Help.
⇒ Clean up.
⇒ Greeters.



Donations

Donations of homemade breads, desserts and
your favorite dish are welcome.

For More Information Contact:

Sal Sparacino – 630.768.8375
Russell Sparacino – 708.557.5059

Rosaries for Justice and Peace on Earth

Sunday, January 1, the Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God is also the World Day of Peace, a day of prayer for world justice and peace, so our Rosary intention this week is for justice and peace on earth. At the end of Pope Francis's message for the World Day of Peace, he said, "May Mary Immaculate, Mother of Jesus and Queen of Peace, intercede for us and for the whole world." We thank all who pray at least one Rosary for the weekly intention, including Emily A., Lori G., James H., John I., Evelyn K., Terri K., Gilda M., Lonnie M., Mary M., Ted M., Josephine N., Emilie P., Stefania P., Jean R., Shirley S., and Milabelle T. Please contact the rectory office to add your name to this list.

Devotion to Our Mother of Perpetual Help

This will be prayed on Tuesday, January 3rd, right after the 7 a.m. Mass.

Living Rosary

Pray a decade of the Rosary daily for the triumph of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, and in honor of the patron of the Living Rosary, Saint Philomena. The next available decade is the fifth Sorrowful Mystery, Jesus Dies on the Cross. Please reach out to the rectory office to sign up for this decade.

Joyful Mysteries	*Luminous Mysteries*	*Sorrowful Mysteries*
Annunciation—Ted M.	Baptism in the Jordan—Barb R.	Agony in the Garden—Jean R.
Visitation—Barb R.	Wedding at Cana—Mary M.	Scourging at the Pillar—Jean R.
Nativity—Josephine N.	Proclaim the Kingdom—Ted M.	Crowning with Thorns—Mary M.
Presentation—Karen R.	Transfiguration—Emily A.	Carrying of the Cross—Ted M.
Finding in the Temple—Mary M	Institution of Eucharist—Emily A	

St. Eugene School

7930 W. Foster Ave., Chicago, IL 60656 ▪ (773) 763-2235

www.steugene-school.org



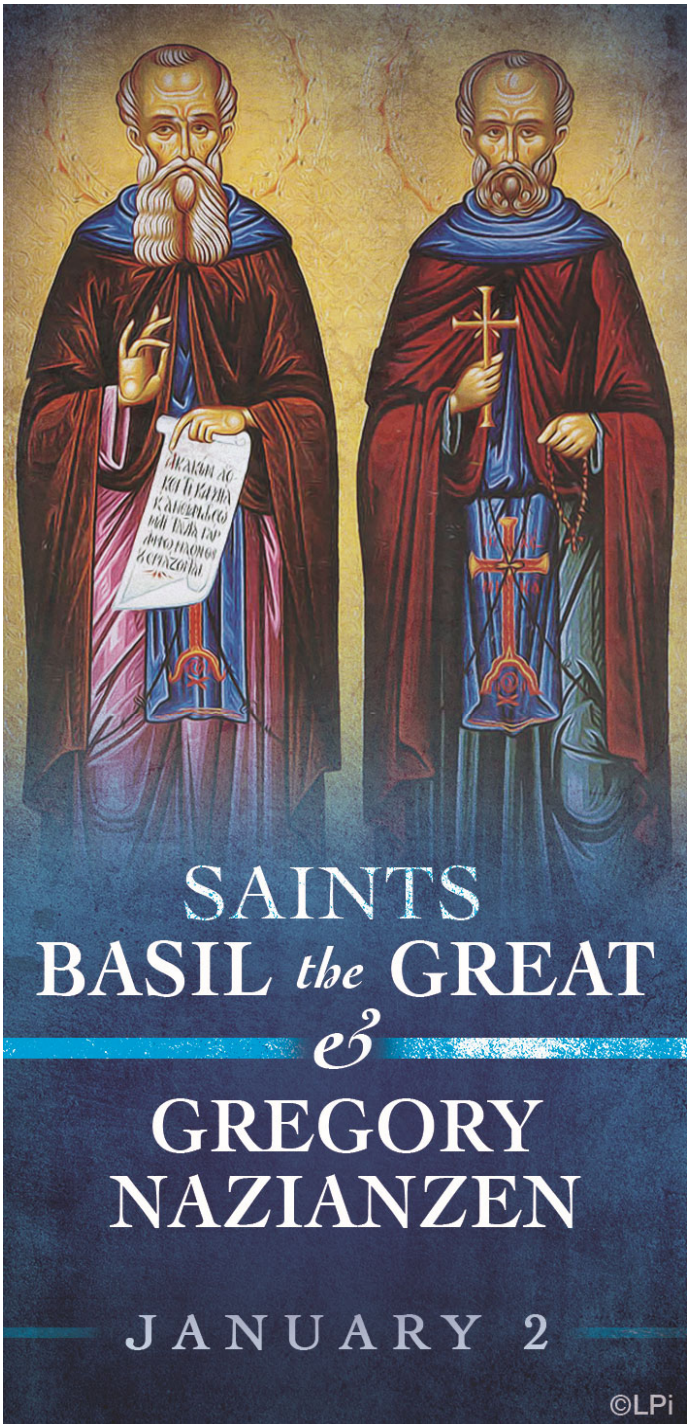


Please Call 773-763-2235 or Visit Our Website at www.steugene-school.org to Schedule a Tour and Find Out More Information.

Due to the early printing of our bulletin
no donation information is available.
It will be reflected in the next available bulletin.

Thank you for all your support.

Please continue your contribution in the usual way, until we finalize the merger of the databases and electronic giving accounts. Also, if you are registered parishioner of OLMC, DS or St. Eugene Church – you don`t need to re-register.





EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

SPEND TIME WITH OUR LORD IN EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

St. Eugene Church Mondays 4:00 pm - 6:00pm
Benediction at 5:45pm
No adoration on Monday, January 2nd.



Rectory Office
will be closed on
Monday, January 2nd



ATTENTION:
Ministers of Care
Please pick-up
your new certificate
in the sacristy.

ON SUNDAY, JANUARY 8, 2023
THERE WILL BE A NEW SICK LIST .
PLEASE CALL THE RECTORY BY
TUESDAY, JANUARY 2, 2023 (9:00 AM)
IF YOU WOULD LIKE A NAME ON THE NEW LIST.

ADDING NAMES TO THE PARISH SICK LIST

It has always been the goal of Queen of Peace Parish to offer our parish community an opportunity to pray for those parishioners who are ill and in need of our prayers. We have tried to keep close track of these names for our Bulletin as they are made available to us.

However, now we face an important privacy issue, very much like the issues faced by hospitals, health institutions, and certainly by other parishes.

We cannot (by law) publicly let our parish community know the health status of any of our members without their permission.

We appreciate the fact that often times friends, neighbors, and acquaintances wish to do something special for those who are sick. We simply can no longer accept names in this manner.

Names for the sick list placed in the Bulletin have to be called in by the person who is ill, or by a member of their immediate family.

At the time they call in the name, they will be asked whether they are the sick person him/herself, or a member of their family, and if they give permission for the name to be placed on the list.

They will be asked for the **correct spelling** of the sick person's name. If a **family member,** they will be required to give **their** name for our records.

Thank you for your patience regarding this process.

We wish to do all we can to offer our parish community the opportunity to offer prayers for those who are ill but we must also be cognizant of the fact that all members of our congregation are entitled to their privacy in this regard.



Queen Of Hearts Raffle Tickets
Available After All Masses
In Rear Vestibule
(All Tickets are Also Available
In SE Rectory Office)

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Second Collection:
Solemnity of Mary

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Second Collection
Next Weekend
Our Sharing Parish
St. Benedict the African



Patronize Our Advertisers

Bulletin Advertising

Did you know that our bulletin is completely subsidized by our Advertisers? Please be sure to thank them in the name of our Parish by utilizing their products or services. If you would like to participate as a sponsor or know someone who is interested, please contact J.S. Paluch Company at t 1-800-566-6170.

CRISIS PREGNANCY HELPLINE

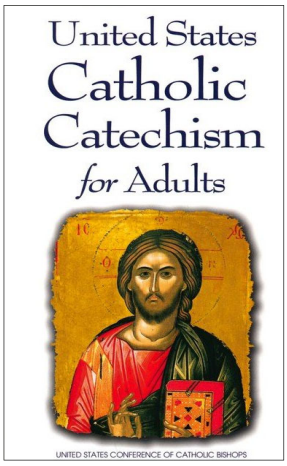
1-800-400-4205

Please Pray for our Deceased Parishioners:

† Jadwiga Swider, † Ed Veth

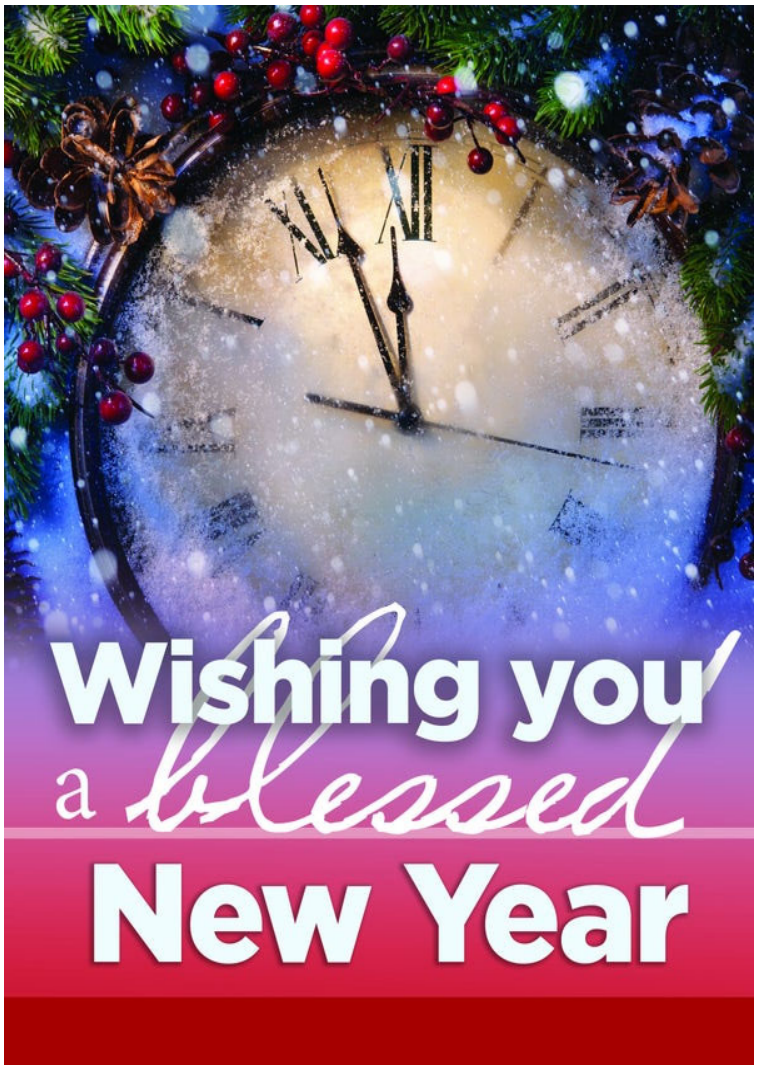


May the souls of the faithful departed rest in peace.



UNITED STATES CATHOLIC CATECHISM FOR ADULTS

Still available for $20.00
(not $29.95)
In the Rectory Office
Questions? Contact Fr. Greg



STEWARDSHIP

Weekend of December 10– 11

Physical Contributions:	**$ 13,097.50**
5:00 Mass (SE):	$ 2,516.00
8:30 Mass (SE):	$ 2,453.50
10:00 Mass (OLMC):	$ 2,882.00
11:30 Mass (SE):	$ 2,731.00
Mailed in (All):	$ 2,515.00
Electronic Giving Total:	**$ 6,073.01**
Give Central (DS):	$ 438.01
We Share (OLMC):	$ 645.00
Give Central (SE):	$ 4,990.00
Total:	**$ 19,170.51**

Weekend of December 17– 18

Physical Contributions:	**$ 12,305.75**
5:00 Mass (SE):	$ 2,119.00
8:30 Mass (SE):	$ 1,890.50
10:00 Mass (OLMC):	$ 2,335.25
11:30 Mass (SE):	$ 2,035.00
Mailed in (All):	$ 3,926.00
Electronic Giving Total:	**$ 2,392.01**
Give Central (DS):	$ 546.01
We Share (OLMC):	$ 260.00
Give Central (SE):	$ 1,586.00
Total:	**$ 14,697.76**



fb

Find St. Eugene & OLMC
on Facebook!

St. John Neumann | January 5

Short Bio — Great for social media or in your bulletin St. John Neumann, patron saint of educators, immigrants, and sick children, was the first male saint to be canonized from the USA. An immigrant himself, he expanded Catholic education in his region from 2 schools to 100 & ministered in 6 different languages!

Biography St. John Neumann is the patron saint of educators, immigrants, and, due to the miracles that secured his canonization, sick children. This is a fitting patronage as he was a lover of education and learning from a very young age. In fact, when he was a child, his mother called him "my little bibliomaniac" due to his preoccupation with reading. Born in 1811 Bohemia, in what is now the Czech Republic, he attended the university in Prague preparing for ordination. However, his local bishops were not ordaining new priests at the time because Bohemia was overstocked with priests. He inquired about ordination all over Europe but received the same answer everywhere. Not one to be deterred, John then applied to several United States dioceses. Receiving no immediate responses, the saint took a leap of faith and decided to just immigrate to the United States in 1836, during his 25th year, with only $40 in his pocket. This risk paid off when he was ordained in New York a month later.

Early in his priesthood he worked primarily as a missionary to German immigrants in Buffalo. His missionary work also created an opportunity for him to spend time in Maryland, Virginia, Michigan, and Ohio. When he was 29, he joined the Congregation of the Most Holy Redeemer (Redemptorists), a congregation of priests and brothers dedicated to helping the poor and most abandoned. He was their first member to profess vows in the United States.

In 1852, at the age of 41, Neumann became the fourth Bishop of Philadelphia. During this time, he organized the individual parochial schools in his region into a diocesan system. This change allowed Catholic schools to quickly increase the number of pupils enrolled by almost twentyfold. Over the course of his ministry, St. John expanded the number of Catholic schools in his diocese from 2 to 100! His passion for education extended to immigrants, like himself, and his love for learning languages made it possible for him to hear confessions in English, Spanish, French, Italian, Dutch, and Gaelic!

A man of the people, he could often be found outside the church walls visiting people who were sick, staying in taverns and public houses to teach, and celebrating Mass in people's homes at their kitchen tables. He was canonized on June 19, 1977, following three miracles, two of which regarded the healing of youth from grave illnesses. St. John Neumann was the first American man to be canonized a saint.

Prayer

Prayer for St. John Neumann's intercession

O St. John Neumann, your ardent desire of bringing all souls to Christ impelled you to leave home and country; teach us to live worthily in the spirit of our baptism which makes us all

children of the one Heavenly Father and brothers of Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the family of God.

Obtain for us that complete dedication in the service of the needy, the weak, the afflicted, and the abandoned which so characterized your life. Help us to walk perseveringly in the difficult and at times painful paths of duty, strengthened by the Body and Blood of our Redeemer and under the watchful protection of Mary our Mother. May death still find us on the sure road to our Father's house, with the light of living faith in our hearts.





Elise Rose Wlezien



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Bulletin Submissions:

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Please call the parish office
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GOSPEL MEDITATION

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

We hide ourselves and our secrets from God because we are afraid. Even Mary can seem too perfect to approach. The shepherds find the strength to speak to Mary and Joseph at the moment they see the child in the manger. They open their hearts and share what they've experienced. Saint Luke writes of the shepherds, "When they saw this, they made known the message that had been told them about this child."

When I was a college student, I visited Rome. Beggars often approached and said, "Mangia? Mangia?" I didn't speak Italian and thought, "Why are they speaking about the Christmas nativity scene?" My friend said, "Mangia means eat. They're hungry." That's when I realized more deeply than ever before that Mary puts her baby in a place designed for hungry animals to eat.

See that baby in the manger in your heart. Imagine Mary kneeling nearby looking at you with love. She doesn't cling to God for herself. In that cave, from the beginning, she quietly offers her son to hungry souls. The manger means vulnerable self-offering love. That's the sign. This week that same manger opens our hearts to tell Mary about our lives, too.

— Father John Muir

When they saw this, they made known the message that had been told them about this child. All who heard it were amazed by what had been told them by the shepherds. And Mary kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart. - Lk 2:17-19

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(PRACTICING)
CATHOLIC

She Kept All of These Things in Her Heart

"What was my first word? Who was there when I was born? When did I start to walk? Which toys did I play with? What made me cry when I was a baby?"

My oldest has reached the age where she has started to ask questions like this. As she grows up, she is realizing that, in order to understand the world around her, she must first understand herself. This makes her insatiably curious about her own identity, her history — her "origin story," as they say in the movies.

I've got most of it documented either in writing or in photos, but even if it's a detail that wasn't scribbled in a baby book or saved to my digital cloud, it's a memory that I can quickly summon and make real for her as we snuggle and talk about who she was, who she is, and who she may become.
I'm the mom. I have kept all of these things in my heart.

The Blessed Mother knew more about God before opening a book than most of us could discover after a lifetime of study and prayer. There is no one whose knowledge of Christ was so intimate, so deep, so simultaneously ordinary and extraordinary, as the human woman who bore him, birthed him, nursed him, raised him and eventually gave him up.

In the way that I can tell my daughter everything there is to know about the part of her life she cannot recall, Mary can tell us everything we need to know about Christ. All we have to do is ask.

Mary kept all of these things in her heart.
— Luke 2:19

Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

What is the history of the rosary? Where did this prayer come from?

Although a longstanding tradition attributed the rosary to Saint Dominic and the Dominican Order, the practice of using beads to count prayers predates the Dominicans by a few hundred years. In fact, it seems that what we now think of as the rosary (which means "garland of roses") was first developed by illiterate peasants and religious brothers and sisters as a way of offering 150 "Our Fathers" to replace the praying of the 150 psalms in the Divine Office.

The practice of reciting 150 Hail Marys (which was later subdivided into 15 decades of 10 Hail Marys) arose during the late Middle Ages. Devotion to the rosary began to flourish in the nineteenth century, especially as new devotions to Mary began to spread throughout Europe and the New World. An annual liturgical celebration of Our Lady of the Rosary was introduced into the Church calendar in 1573 and it has been observed on the date of October 7 since 1913.

In the apostolic letter On the Most Holy Rosary, Pope Saint John Paul II not only added five new mysteries to the traditional fifteen, but he also reminded Catholics that the rosary is, at its core, an opportunity to go deeper into the life of Jesus: "The rosary, though clearly Marian in character, is at heart a Christocentric prayer … It has all the depth of the Gospel message in its entirety, of which it can be said to be a compendium. It is an echo of Mary's prayer, her perennial Magnificat … With the rosary, the Christian people sit at the school of Mary and are led to contemplate the beauty of the face of Christ and to experience the depths of his love" (no. 1).

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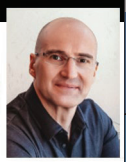
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