Queen of Peace
Roman Catholic Parish

Welcome!



January 8, 2023 • The Epiphany of the Lord

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

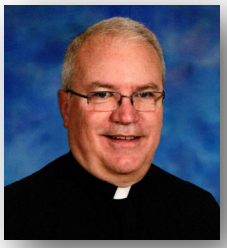
Our Lady, Mother of the Church

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 weekend our Church celebrates the Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord. This day has been celebrated since the third century in the East and since the fourth century in the West. It is a celebration of the Lord's incarnation as the manifestation of God's presence among us.

The gospel we hear proclaimed today portrays reason and revelation working closely together to lead us to Christ – a journey that can be completed only by the gift of faith. Using their science, the Magi arrived in Jerusalem. There these "non-Jews" or Gentiles consult the Jewish revelation to determine the route to their goal of finding the Christ-child, for reason alone cannot bring us finally to Christ. But the revealed word of itself seems insufficient as well, since the scribes who gave instruction to the Magi, based on the interpretation of the scriptures, do not make the journey themselves or even with them for that matter. Perhaps Matthew is telling his mixed community of believers, and our own community, that none of us has it all together, but that together we have it all.

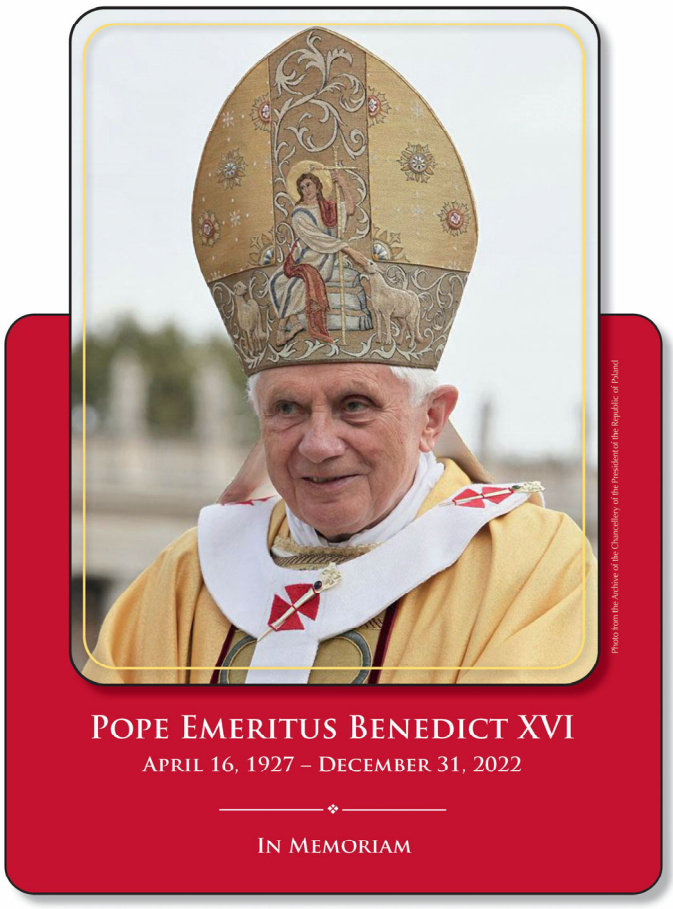
As I reflect on this thought I am drawn to look at our own community of faith here at Queen of Peace and the gifts each of us bring to the Lord's Table and to each other. As your priest and pastor, I am fully aware of my shortcomings and the things that are lacking in my ability to better shepherd our community of faith. Yet, what is lacking in me does not discourage me, because I am also aware of the unique gifts and talents that are represented here in YOU -- the good people of this parish. As any successful pastor will tell you, it is in the collective recognition and use of the many gifts given us by God that creates a holy people and an effective parish community. It is in the working together with each other that we bring about God's kingdom among us.

Not a day goes by in the life of our parish that I am not reminded of how we are richly blessed because of the shared goodness of the dedicated men, women, and children in our community. I want to thank everyone in our combined parish (our staff, my brother priests, our resident Verbum Dei Sisters, and parishioners as well) for helping to make our Christmas season together the wonderful celebration that it has been and continues to be. Great things happen when we work side-by-side, and I am always grateful and proud of what we have accomplished and continue to do together here at Queen of Peace.

May 2023 be a year of new opportunities, health, and renewed faith for us all!

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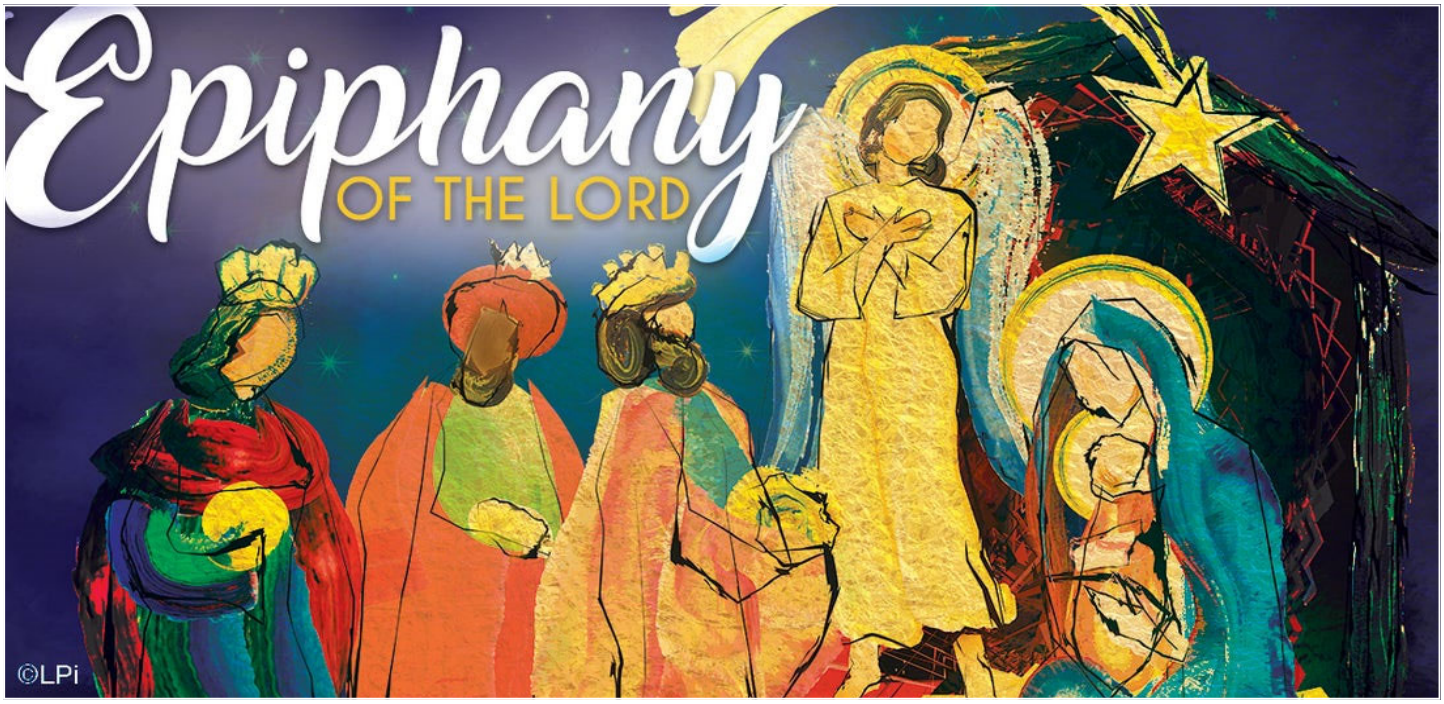
A week ago, we heard the sad news of Pope Benedict XVI. The following is a statement shared by our own Cardinal Cupich: We join Pope Francis and Catholics across the world in mourning the death of Pope Benedict XVI who has gone home to the God he served faithfully.



Throughout his life as a scholar and as a churchman, he showed us what it means to fulfill the ancient command to love God with all your heart, with all your soul and with all your mind. As the last Pope who attended the Second Vatican Council, he has served as a bridge to the future, reminding us all that the reform and renewal of the Church is ongoing. Resigning in 2013, the Year of Faith, Pope Benedict XVI taught us that belief in God means completely placing our trust in Divine Providence. Today we pray as Pope Francis did earlier this year, "May St. Joseph help us to live the mystery of death in the best possible way. For a Christian, the good death is an experience of the mercy of God, who comes to us even in that last moment of our life."

Lord, let your perpetual light shine on your servant Joseph Ratzinger, Pope Benedict VXI, and may he rest in peace.

Fr. Rich Yanos



Important Information from the Parish Finance Office:

Charitable Contributions from Your Traditional IRA

If you are currently taking a Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) from your Traditional IRA or if you are 72 ½ and must start taking an RMD this year, there is a way to save on your taxes AND help the Church at the same time.

Any money you receive from your RMD is, of course, taxable – *unless* you give it DIRECTLY to a recognized charity. This kind of charitable donation is called a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) and, as long as the IRS recognizes the recipient(s) as a bona fide charitable organization, it is not taxable to you. You can decide how much you wish to donate, to whom, and how much you wish to receive yourself; of course, the portion you receive is taxable income to you.

You could use a QCD for a general donation to our parish, to cover your Sunday offerings or a specific ministry of the parish. Or you could use it for your Annual Catholic Appeal contribution. It's up to you.

Begin by talking with your Financial Institution or Financial Advisor on the specifics of making a QCD donation. They will ask you for information concerning the amount and the name and address of the organization to which you want to donate; you may be asked to complete a form giving that information. Your financial institution will either mail a check directly to the charity or mail it to you for you to give to the charity. It's also possible to have the money transferred electronically.

That contributed money is NOT taxable to the donor as income, thus lessening the amount of your taxes. **However**, you (the donor) are not able to take that contribution as a charitable deduction on your taxes. People who have directly contributed to a charity such as a Church or other institutions known as bona fide charities have found that their taxes are lower than if they had received the RMD money and then given the amount to charity.

So, if you must take a Retired Minimum Distribution (RMD) from your Traditional IRA, please consider helping yourself and your church by giving a gift to your parish, Queen of Peace.

MASS INTENTIONS

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 Lepore, 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, Rosa Russo B-Day,
Phillip & Phil Saineghi, Juan Diaz

Monday, January 9, 2023

9:00 am Mass at St. Eugene Church

Purgatorial Society
Eileen Egan, Robert & Eileen Lundgren,
Ignacy Nimczyk, James Santella

Tuesday, January 10, 2023

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

Pietro Pisello (Wedd Anniv.)

Wednesday, January 11, 2023

9:00 am Mass at St. Eugene Church

Joseph & Dominica Donato,
Girgins Fam., Florence Panfil,
Jude & Minn Fams.,
Sammy Vizzini 7th Anniv.

Thursday, January 12, 2022

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

Richard Samp

Friday, January 13, 2023

9:00 am Mass at St. Eugene Church

Juan Diaz
Spec. Int. Joshua Hadary, Jude & Minn Fams,
Stephen O'Donnell

Saturday, January 14, 2023

8:30 am Mass at St. Eugene

Rufina Faustino 7th Anniv.

Saturday, January 14, 2023

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

Marty Collins, Jean & Jerry Czop, Juan Diaz,
Elmer & Grace Frelka, Wayne Greco,
Martin & Kathrina Hoog, Gregory Smits

Sunday, January 15, 2023

8:30 am Mass at St. Eugene Church

Juan Diaz, Ted & Jean Fornek
Michael & Clare Miller
Don Patano, Maria & Matthias Rempala
Jane Szorc,
Louise Zittman,

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

Donato Parente, Pietro Pisello
Jadwiga Harriet Swider
Mario Agosta, Johnny, Lill, Peggy,
Roe Rosaleen Waters & Suzanne Rudden
Special Intention for Isia, Pedro A. Prejoles
Raul Esparza, Sr. & Jose Jaime Esparza - 23rd Death Anniv.

11:30 am Mass at St. Eugene Church

People of the Parishes
Owen & Ellen Bonner, Vincent Evola,
Witold Gadomski & Fam.,
George & Pearl Giovannoni,
Krys, Dabros, & Wytrol Fam.,
Theresa Link, John McGuane,
John Tomasso



Schedule of Liturgical Ministers

Date	Celebrant	Extraordinary Minister	Altar Server	Lectors
Saturday, 1 / 14 **5 pm - St. Eugene**	Rev. Greg Rom	D. Sulimowski - WB F. Klus - B MB Glynn – C M. Pollowy - O M. Meo - WO	C. Vizzini E. Burzawa L. Parrillo-Hall A. McGovern	P. Brown
Sunday, 1 / 15 **8:30 am - St. Eugene**	Rev. Ed Pacocha	D. Dusynski - WB R. Kennedy - B J. Kolaski - C C. Hill - O S. Kumiega - WO	F. Craven M. Marrinan D. Luna A. Boccia	M. Egan
Sunday, 1 / 15 **10:00 am - OLMC**	Rev. Rich Yanos Deacon Chris Virruso	R. Catalano - C M. Walsh - T	D. Flynn T. Molas G. Pilch J. Pilch	J. Colon - 1st K. Kelch - 2nd
Sunday, 1 / 15 **11:30 am - St. Eugene**	Rev. Jacek Dada	L. Feist - WB C. Paulini - B R. Sparacino - C F. Pacia - O C. Bobka - WO	A. Acierno C. Wallace A. Tekampe E. Hesnan	S. Sparacino



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



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, 2023, 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 the Pope and His January Intention—Educators

Pope Francis says, "We pray that educators may be credible witnesses, teaching fellowship rather than competition and helping the youngest and most vulnerable above all." Thank you to 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. Begin the new year by contacting the rectory office to add your name to this list of Rosary Guild members.

Devotion to Our Mother of Perpetual Help

We pray this every Tuesday, right after the 7 a.m. Mass.

Living Rosary

Living Rosary members 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, the Crucifixion. Start the new year out by signing up with the rectory office to pray a decade daily

Joyful Mysteries	*Luminous Mysteries*	*Sorrowful Mysteries*
Annunciation—Ted M.	Baptism of Jesus—Barb R.	Agony in the Garden—Jean R.
Visitation—Barb R.	Miracle at Cana—Mary M.	Scourging at the Pillar—Jean R.
Birth of Jesus—Josephine N.	Jesus Proclaims Kingdom-Ted M.	Crowning with Thorns—Mary M.
Presentation—Karen R.	Transfiguration—Emily A.	Jesus Carries His Cross—Ted M.
Finding of Child Jesus—Mary M.	Institution of Eucharist—Emily A.	



This week's at Our Lady, Mother of the Church

Sanctuary Lamp Is in memory of

STEFANIA REBACZ



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.

The Friendship Club had a wonderful time at their annual Christmas Party.
We wish all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year!







The Friendship Club
will be meeting on
Tuesday, January 10, 2023 at 11:00.
All are welcome to join us
for our New Year's Party.
Our lunch will be
an Italian beef sandwich
with potato chips and jello for dessert.
Our speaker will be Alyssa Flavin,
the Executive Director of the Senior Assistance Center.
Bingo will be played after lunch.
Hope to see you there.



Prayer to St. Michael the Archangel

Saint Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle.
Be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him,
we humbly pray; And do thou, O Prince of the Heavenly Host, by the power of God, thrust into hell
Satan and all evil spirits who wander through the world for the ruin of souls. *Amen.*

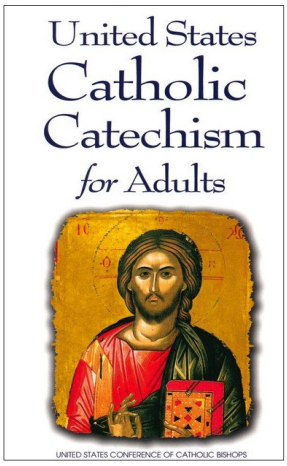


Please Pray for our Deceased Parishioners:

† Pope Benedict XVI
† William Werdrick



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

St. Eugene School Queen of Hearts Raffle

DRAWING EVERY WEDNESDAY 9:00PM
BINGO BEFORE DRAWING AT 7:00PM
@MULLEN'S BAR & GRILL - 8313 W. Lawrence

WILL YOU...



FIND HER?

50/50
PROGRESSIVE
RAFFLE
TICKETS: $5 EACH
Cash only

PROCEEDS BENEFIT OUR SCHOOL

TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE AT THE SCHOOL OFFICE, RECTORY, OR MULLEN'S BAR AND GRILL ANYTIME

54 card deck including Jokers - You pick 1-54!
If the joker is picked, the raffle resets!

Mullen's BAR & GRILL

THIS WEEKEND

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:
Our Sharing Parish
St. Benedict the African

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Second Collection
Next Weekend
Support for our school



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

STEWARDSHIP

Weekend of December 24-25

Physical Contributions:		**$ 17,237.01**
3:00 PM Mass (SE)	$1,524.50	
4:00 PM Mass (OLMC)	$1,819.00	
5:00 PM Mass (SE):	$1,672.00	
10:00 PM Mass (SE):	$1,721.40	
12:00 AM Mass (OLMC)	$ 559.00	
7:30 AM Mass (SE):	$1,894.00	
9:00 AM Mass (OLMC):	$ 345.00	
9:00 AM Mass (SE):	$1,745.00	
11:00 Mass (OLMC):	$ 919.00	
11:30 Mass (SE):	$2,454.11	
Mailed in (All):	$2,584.00	
Electronic Giving Total:		**$ 2,204.00**
Give Central (DS):	$ 368.00	
We Share (OLMC):	$ 185.00	
Give Central (SE):	$ 1,651.00	
Christmas Contribution:		**$ 64,769.00**
Divine Savior	$ 45.00	
OLMC	$ 4,486.00	
St. Eugene Church	$60,238.00	
Total:		**$ 84,210.01**

Weekend of December 31- January 1

Physical Contributions:		**$ 17,096.50**
4:00 PM Mass (SE):	$3,171.00	
8:30 AM Mass (SE):	$2,150.50	
10:00 AM Mass (OLMC):	$3,264.00	
11:30 AM Mass (SE):	$3,483.00	
Mailed in (All):	$5,028.00	
Electronic Giving Total:		**$ 2,692.01**
Give Central (DS):	$ 371.01	
We Share (OLMC):	$ 490.00	
Give Central (SE):	$1,831.00	
Christmas Contribution:		**$ 9,381.00**
Divine Savior	$ 880.00	
OLMC	$ 360.00	
St. Eugene Church	$ 8,141.00	
Total:		**$ 29,169.51**



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.



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

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament



St. Eugene Church
Mondays
4:00 pm - 6: 00 pm.
Benediction at 5:45 pm

"United with the angels and saints of the heavenly Church, let us adore the most Holy Sacrament of the Eucharist. Prostrate, we adore this great mystery that contains God's new and definitive covenant with humankind in Christ."

- Pope John Paul II

BAPTISMS 2022

Divine Savior - Our Lady, Mother of the Church - St. Eugene
QUEEN OF PEACE PARISH

January

Mila Helena Toczydlowski

March

Marena Starr Kalamaris
Alaya Grace Cabot
Leo-kai Hunter Mayor-cosinas

April

Louis John Dzialo
Dominic Massimo Messa
Ava Helena Fabyan
Mamadinova Uryskul

May

Marc Malacat Malecki
Aria Grace Vine
Gia Mailene Casciano
Maverick Nole Mijares
Viktoria Malinowska

June

Riley Ann Hunter
Dominic Ernesto Mantuano
Jack Michael Walls
Lily Beatrice Ellison
Charles Henry Hill

July

Delfina Patricia Ingratta
Lily Elizabeth Draniczarek

August

Jonathan Michael Cabrales
William Matthew Cabrales
Francesco Lorenzo Di Piazza
Jovani Nicholas Tomasso
Lucas Andrew Wojcik
Juliana Louise Baker

September

George Jendruczek
Matthew Jendruczek
Thomas Michael Gill
Mia Bella Levine

October

Gino Salvatore Aiello
Micah Anthony Aiello
Neenah Alarcon-guerra
Leonardo Thomas Alaimo
Dante Eric Hite

November

Mateo Salvador Alcaraz
Ofelia Lourdes Alcaraz
Olivio Kuczek
Eloise Marie Klemmer
Vihaan Emmanuel Patel
Maximus John Summerville
Antoni Wojnarowicz
Alanna Elliott-meneghetti
Nathan Joseph Elliott-meneghetti

December

Natalie Cecilia Goch
Elise Rose Wlezien

Ignation Silent Weekend Retreat

St. Ignatius Loyola was led by God to help people experience His love. To achieve this result, Ignatius created the " Spiritual Exercises ", a program which offers an opportunity to find a more profound and personal relationship with God

Fr. Michael Sparough, S.J. and Fr. Al Johnson, two dynamic preachers will lead us in this endeavor. All adults of Queen of Peace parish are invited the weekend of **Feb.24-26** to the Bellarmine Jesuit retreat house located on an 80 acre wooded and rolling hills estate in Barrington, IL. The Jesuit staff provides a very comfortable environment to take a brief respite from life. Arrive between 4-6 PM on Friday the 24th and depart Sunday between 12-1 PM.

For more information (car-pooling, suggested donation, accommodations) please contact Ralph Cantal 708-452-6438, 708-362-0631 cell. Please don't wait to make your reservation since this weekend is for both men & women. It will quickly reach capacity allocated.

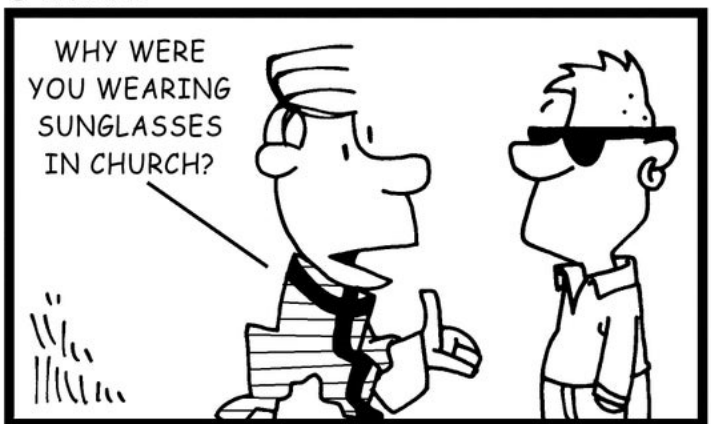
Queen of Peace
(fka as Divine Savior Norridge, St. Eugene and
Our Lady Mother of the Church)
Contact Ralph Cantal at 708-362-0631

What are the Spiritual Exercises?

SILENT WEEKEND RETREAT FOR ADULTS

RETREAT MASTERS: FR. AL JOHNSON & FR. MICHAEL SPAROUGH, SJ





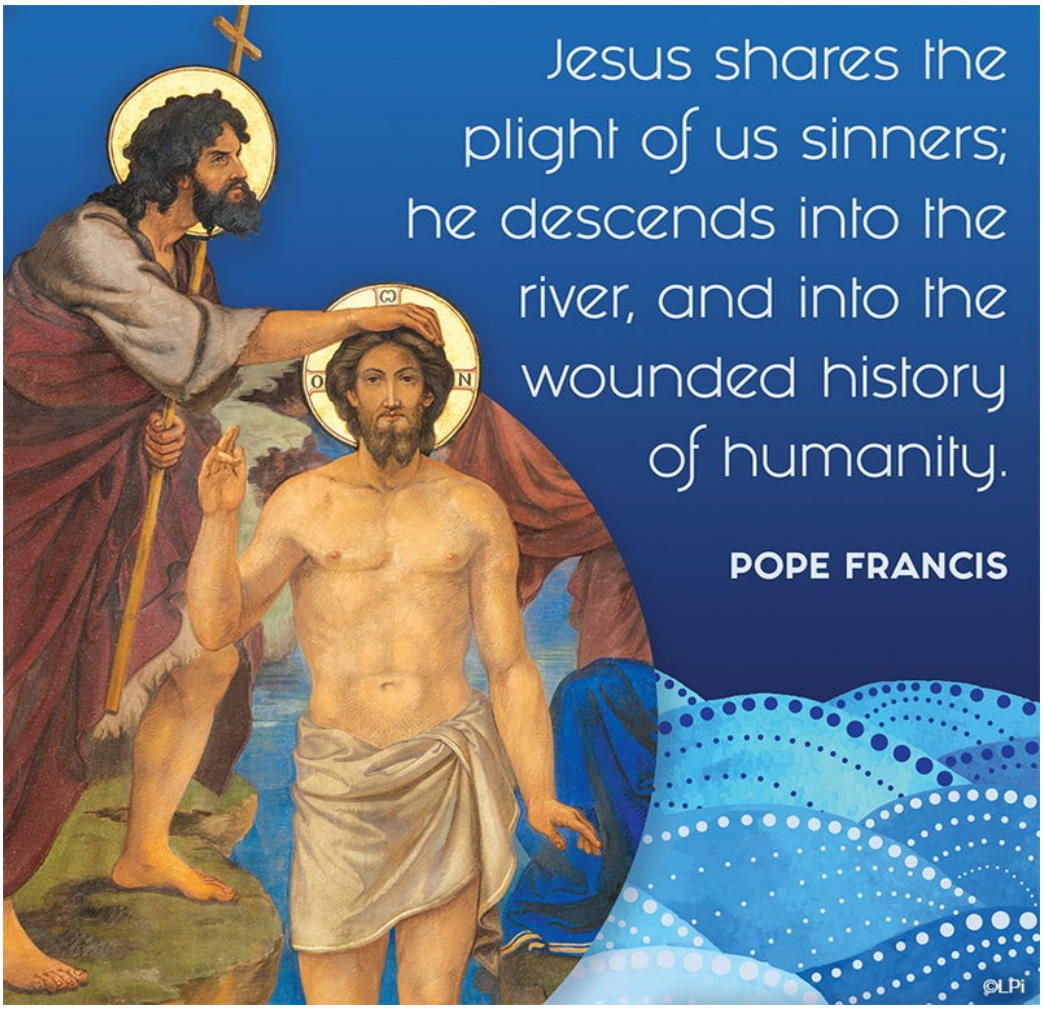




PRAYER REQUESTS

Lord God, we place our worries in your hands. We place our sick under your care and humbly ask that You restore your servant to health again. Above all, grant us the grace to acknowledge your will and know that whatever you do, you do for the love of us.
We thank You and praise You through Jesus the Christ. Amen.

Pat Apida
Annabella Amato
Virginia Bongiorno-Lawrence
Anthony Bongiorno
Angela & Rocco D'Alessandro
Don Feist
Bob & Carol Gasiorek
Maureen Johnson
Wieslawa Karczmarczyk
Rose Mary Maratto
Michael C. & Virginia Muscarello
Michael J. Muscarello
Karen Pavlis-Karasawa
Karen Palvis - Karasawa
Mrs. Lucyna Piechowicz
Joe Portenlanger
Pat Schippers
Shirley Schindler
Peter Schroeder
Dolores Scorza
Maria Slomski
Daniel Staniec
Emily Steckiewicz
Lavergne Suchor
Bob Schu
Tom Szczech
Halina Szlaga
Dolores Wilk



BULLETIN REQUEST

Bulletin Submissions:

Due Friday by noon, one week prior to publication. Please call t he parish office for the holiday schedule. Thank you.

The Combined Parishes Office:

St. Eugene Rectory
7958 W. Foster Avenue. Chicago, IL 60656
Ph. (773) 775-6659 Fax (773) 775-2832
churchoffice@st-eugene.org
Please contact the St. Eugene Church Rectory Office for: Sacrament of Baptism, Marriage, Anointing of the Sick, Funerals & Rite of Christian Initiation (RCIA)

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Ph. (773) 625-3369
olmc.rectory@outlook.com

St. Eugene Church
st-eugene.org
7958 W. Foster Avenue. Chicago, IL 60656
Ph. (773) 775-6659
churchoffice@st-eugene.org

St. Eugene Catholic School:

www.steugene-school.org
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Ph. (773) 763-2235
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Verbum Dei Sisters:

7920 W. Foster Avenue. Chicago, IL 60656
Ph. (224) 280-8395
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Pastoral Staff:

Rev. Richard M. Yanos - *Pastor*
ryanos@st-eugene.org SE ext. 112
Rev. Jacek A. Dada - *Associate Pastor*
jdada@st-eugene.org SE ext. 116
Rev. James J. O'Brien - *Pastor Emeritus*
benbradagh@aol.com
Rev. Gregory A. Rom - *Retired Resident Assistant*
grom@archchicago.org SE ext. 114
Rev. Ed Pacocha - *Retired Assistant*
Deacon Ted & Mrs. Mary Marszalek
tmarszalek@archchicago.org
Deacon Chris Virruso
cvirruso@archchicago.org

Facilities & Office:

Ms. Marsha Geurtsen - Office Manager
mgeurtsen@archchicago.org
Ms. Lydia Hilado - Director of Music & Communications
lhilado@st-eugene.org SE ext. 109
Mr. Vincent Hilado - Assistant Director of Music
vhilado@st-eugene.org
Mr. Dennis Dayson - Music Director
olmc.musicministry@outlook.com OLMC ext. 33
Mr. Romulo Jara & Mr. John Lemus - Maintenance
Mr. Boguslaw Krolikowski - Maintenance
Mrs. Barbara Meier - Receptionist
barbara@st-eugene.org
Ms. Terri Kaisling - Parish Nurse Mon., Tuesday & Wed.
terri.kaisling@ascension.org OLMC ext. 28
Mrs. Lois Feist - Receptionist
Ms. Christine Jassak - Receptionist
Mrs. Patricia Wagner - Receptionist
churchoffice@st-eugene.org



Then they opened they treasures and offered him

GIFTS OF GOLD, FRANKINCENSE, AND MYRRH.

Matthew 2:11

January 8, 2023 • The Epiphany of the Lord

SPREAD THE GOOD NEWS

Epiphany is a day when popular customs mostly overshadow scriptural accuracy. Matthew's Gospel never refers to kings coming to see Christ, nor to their number (only the gifts are enumerated), nor to their names. Matthew tells us only that some "magi" came with gold, frankincense, and myrrh. Magos referred to members of the Persian priestly class; later it had the connotation of magicians and astrologers. Matthew's magi report that they have seen a star rising; its light was visible to them far beyond the boundaries of Israel, an early and significant symbol for Jesus, the Light of the World. At the end of Matthew's Gospel (chapter 28), the followers of Jesus worship him, an act foretold in the actions of the Magi today. The eleven are told to make disciples of "all nations," nations symbolized by the Magi. Today we hear our own mission: to worship Jesus Christ, and to spread his Good News everywhere, every day.

STAR OF WONDER

In our day-to-day lives, we can experience epiphanies: new perceptions, unexpected insights, sudden changes in direction. In the liturgical year, Epiphany celebrates the appearance of a star in the heavens, a remarkable star followed by the Magi to Jesus, Mary and Joseph. They are not so different, our daily epiphanies and the Epiphany celebrated today. The arrival of the Magi certainly changed Mary and Joseph's perceptions of the world, the same way a helpless, tiny baby likely altered the Magi's insights as to what a star in the heavens would reveal. The story of the Magi—and the story of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph—is filled with unexpected changes in direction, as God's plan continues to vary when it encounters people who cooperate with it, and others who attempt to thwart it. A deep and long reflection on this day we call Epiphany will uncover numerous epiphanies.

STAR OF LOVE

Like all of the Christmas season, Epiphany celebrates God's eternal and infinite love. In a special way, this day shows how God's love is truly all-inclusive. The magi were not Jews, not part of the Chosen People who expected that the Messiah was coming to save only them. Early on in his Gospel, Matthew tells us that God's love will not be limited by our human presumptions or boundaries. We still struggle with the fact that God is constantly epiphan-izing us to grow beyond the limits of our experience or expectations, to move beyond the boundaries of the world around us. Let us pray that we might be given epiphanies to help us find grace where we didn't believe it existed, to aid us in understanding that God's love is most often shown by who is included, not who is excluded. May we open our eyes and hearts to know that the Christ-light shines everywhere.

TODAY'S READINGS

Isaiah 60:1–6
Psalm 72:1–2, 7–8, 10–11, 12–13
Ephesians 3:2–3a, 5–6
Matthew 2:1–12

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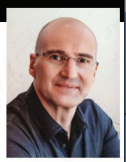
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