Queen of Peace Parish

Welcome!

We, the Catholic community of Queen of Peace Parish, centered in the Eucharist, strive to grow in our faith and our relationship with God as a welcoming people, working for peace and justice through service to others.

OUR LADY,
MOTHER OF THE CHURCH
8747 W. Lawrence Avenue
Chicago, IL 60656

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, (773) 775-6660
(773) 775-6694

RECTORY OFFICE HOURS:

Mon.- Thur.:	9:00 am - 7:00 pm
Friday	9:00 am - 5:00 pm
Saturday:	9:00 am - 1:00 pm

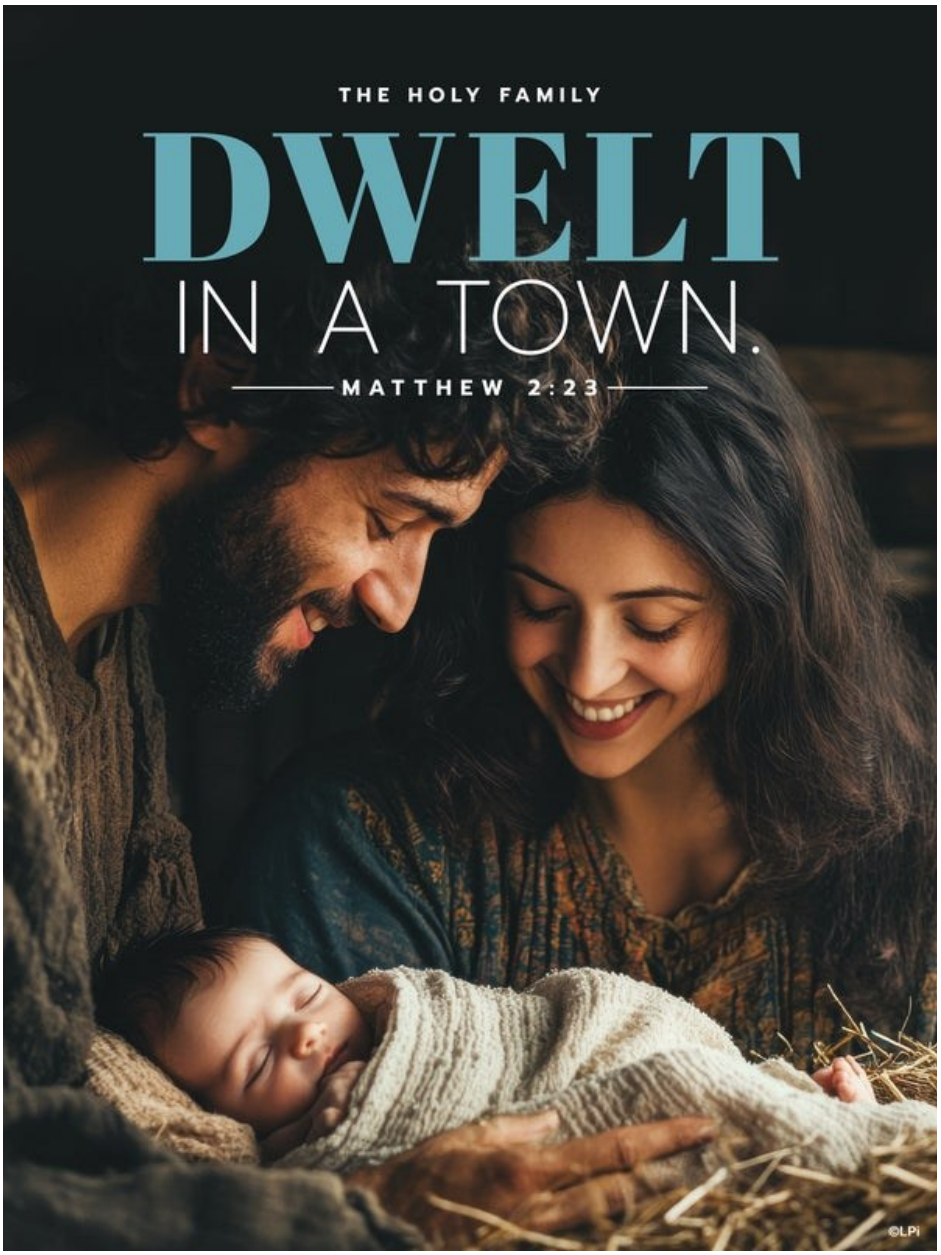
MASSES:

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

CONFESSIONS 3:30 pm on Saturday

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

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



December 28th, 2025 | Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph



FROM THE DESK OF FR. RICH

This weekend, we celebrate the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph.

The book of Sirach was written by a wise teacher who lived 200 years before Christ. Sirach ran a school for young people in Jerusalem. In today's passage, he advises his students on the proper way to honor their parents.

The letter to the Colossians was written around the year 80 A.D. A major concern in this letter is how the Christian community appears to outsiders. The author offers guidelines so that Christian families will live in such a way that others will notice the difference.

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This past Thursday and throughout the Christmas Season, we as Christians continue to celebrate the great event of Christ's birth. There were among us many family members, friends, and relatives of our parish members. There was also the return of many in our parish who join us only a few times during the year. To each of you, I say welcome! And we are glad that you were and are here with us. The journey of faith is not an easy one. I encourage you to open your hearts and to accept the invitation of taking another look at your faith and its practice in the context of the larger Christian community that gathers weekly here at Queen of Peace Parish. Perhaps this might mean looking at your church from a different perspective. Maybe it might mean asking yourself what **you** can better do to bring about Christ's presence among us, rather than solely expecting the Church to do this for you. After all, WE, together, are Christ's Body, the Church here on earth.

Talk to any fully participating and worshipping member here at Queen of Peace, and they will tell you of the great gift Church membership is to them.

I also want to express my gratitude to all in our parish for instilling something so important in me. HOPE! This, in fact, was one of the significant themes of the past Advent Season. Your willingness to take on the daily challenges of parish life, your enthusiasm and desire to meet the growing needs of our community, and the time, energy, and support you give to not only our parish but to one another, give me and our staff reason to keep on looking toward a brighter future for our parish. I have always believed in the old adage that a parish and church are what we are willing to make them, and how much we are willing to give of ourselves to better serve God's people. We are truly blessed here at Queen of Peace as we see all the great things God is accomplishing here through our community, one person at a time. Thank you for helping me and the great majority of us here to continue to be hope-filled.

Merry Christmas to all in our parish community!

Fr. Rich Yanos



ST. JOSEPH COMMITTEE



SCHEDULED MEETINGS

All meetings are held in the Shaunessy Center Meeting Room at 7:00PM on the following dates:

- **Wed., January 7, 2026**
- **Wed., February 4, 2026**
- **Tues., February 25, 2026**
- **Wed., March 11, 2026**
- **Wed., March 25, 2026**

CONTACT PERSONS:

Russell Sparacino
Cell: 708-557-5059

Sal Sparacino
Cell: 630-768-8375

The St. Joseph Committee sponsors two events: a Mass on St. Joseph's Day and a St. Joseph's Table.

The St. Joseph's Table is a community event that honors St. Joseph by raising funds for charity. Traditionally non-meat foods are served to the public for which a donation is accepted, and bakery items are sold from the St. Joseph display table.

The St. Joseph's Day Mass is a special evening Mass and the traditional blessed St. Joseph Bread and St. Joseph Prayer Cards being distributed after the Mass during a small reception in the church vestibule.

EVENT

The St. Joseph's Table will be on Saturday, March 21st, with setup on Friday, March 20th. The St. Joseph's Day Mass will be on Thursday, March 19th, at 7:00 pm.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Full Committee member, help with planning and acquiring donations.
Event Volunteers (March 20th and 21st), help with set up, take down, food serving and packaging, kitchen duties, clean up and greeters.

DONATIONS

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

Mass Intentions

Saturday, December 27, 2025

8:30 am Mass at St. Eugene Church

Mark Mucek - Death Anniversary
S.I. For the Family - Thanksgiving

4:30 pm Saturday Vigil Mass at St. Eugene Church

Carmella Calace, Juan Diaz
Living & Deceased Members of the Cazolas & Olen Families
Francesco Centineo, Agnes & Ludwig Komperda
Angeline Komperda, Pozzie & Heredia Families
S.I. For Rev. Greg Rom - Health & Blessings
Carol Sparacio, Frederick Tomzik

Sunday, December 28, 2025

8:30 am Mass at St. Eugene Church

Juan Diaz, Anna Dolcimascolo, Josef Krol
Deceased Members of the Fornek & Wrobel Families
Josef Miklewicz, Ben Pacyna - Death Anniversary
Ruben Purificacion - Birthday Remembrance

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

Maria Carrozza, Dominick Di Cristofano
Carmela Iannotta, Felice Iannotta
Deceased Members of the Kot & Feret Families
Janice Lambrecht, Fred Nuccio - Birthday Remembrance
Eileen Sullivan, Tom Szczech, Jr.
Tom & Josephine Szczech, Jr.

11:30 am Mass at St. Eugene Church

People of the Parish
Pietra & Saverio Arcuri
Michelle Babbs, S.I. For Aaron Barr
Ralph & Trudy CryerSr. Michaeline Kwit
Benny Martin, Mary Lou Oberheim
Paolo & Vincenza Scianna, Tom Scianna

Monday, December 29, 2025

9:00 am Mass St. Eugene Church

Dorothy & Elmer Chanski
Juan Diaz
Carol Lynne Johnson
Vince & Mary LaPietra's Families

Tuesday, December 30, 2025

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

Maria & Giacomo Daniello
Maria Bartolotta
Jolanta Gumkowska
Theodore Marszalek, Sr.

Wednesday, December 31, 2025

9:00 am Mass St. Eugene Church

S.I. for Nicole, Mike, Damian, Matthew & Family - Thanksgiving
Starr Ballog
Particia & James Conlon
Bernice Cwiklik
Juan Diaz
Gary Serpico
Konrad Sniezek

4:00 pm Vigil Mass St. Eugene Church

Ralph & Trudy Cryer
Edward Swiecicki

Thursday, January 1, 2026

10:00 am Mass St. Eugene

S.I. Blessing for Family
Living & Dec'd Members of Feist & Mikulski Families
Bruno Janus - Death Anniversary
Jan Milulski
Rosa Russo - 106th B-Day
Adela & Wincenty Dmochowski
Viola & Gilmore Thompson

Friday, January 2, 2026

9:00 am Mass St. Eugene Church

Souls in Purgatory
Wieslawa Karczmarczyk

Saturday, January 3, 2026

8:30 am Mass at St. Eugene Church

William Barry
Phyllis & Arthur Bastian
John Kula
Theodore Marszalek, Sr.
Jude & Minn Families
August Samp
S.I. for Rev. Ed Pacocha Healing & Blessing

4:30 pm Saturday Vigil Mass at St. Eugene Church

People of the Parish
Eugeniano Guieb
Myron Masley
Walter & Helen Wojtas

Sunday, January 4, 2026

8:30 am Mass St. Eugene Church

S.I. For Living Members of the Family
Stanislawa & Jan Bazula
Rev. Francis Schouten

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

Maria Carrozza
Tadeusz & Maria Knurek
Stefania & Jan Kulon
Zofia & Czeslaw Pilch
Edward Rebacz
Andy Walczak
Anna Walczak
Sharon J. Wolanik

11:30 am Mass St. Eugene Church

Phyliss Babbs
Dec'd Members of the Castro & DiGangi Families
Frank Esposito
Carmel & Calogero Farina
Mario Ferruzza
Gaetana Giovenco
Norman & Barbara Nowaczyk
Pepple & Cerkoney Families
Rosa & Vicenzo Scaletta



Date	Celebrant	Extraordinary Minister	Altar Server	Lectors
Saturday, 12/31 4:00 PM - SE	Rev. Rich Yanos	OPEN - WB B. Berggren - B Celebrant / F. Klus - C U. Pawlowski - O OPEN - WO		C. Bobka
Sunday, 1/1 10:00 AM - SE	Rev. Jacek Dada	C. Mikicki - WB L. Feist - B Celebrant / C. Bobka R. Sparacino - O M. Unger - WO		S. Sparacino
Saturday, 01/03 4:30 PM - SE	Rev. Rich Yanos	L. Feist - WB F. Klus - B Celebrant - R. Cantel - C T. Crivlare - C A. Cisek - WO B. J. Gebhardt - Cup B MB Glynn - Cup O	L. Parrillo-Hall S. Martinez	C. Bobka
Sunday, 01/04 8:30 AM - SE	Rev. Jacek Dada	P. Draniczarek - WB B. Czybek - B Celebrant - Cardela - C G. Bermas - O C. Jesiolowski - WO B. Ndiwe - Cup B M. Cozzo - Cuo O	B. Villena A. Czubek C. Czubek	M. Egan
Sunday, 01/04 10:00 AM - OLMC	Rev. Rich Yanos	M. D'Alessandro - T D. Flynn - T Celebrant - G. Henderson - C C. Capps - Cup T R. Catalano - Cup A	G. Pilch J. Pilch	L. Muehlfelder - 1st P. Vega - 2nd
Sunday, 01/04 11:30 AM - SE	Rev. Jacek Dada	T. Moore - WB B. Berggren - B Celebrant - J. Mroszczak - C F. Pacia - O M. Holder - WO P. Paettsch - Cup B U. Pawlowski Cup O	N. Labek E. Switalla M. Clancy	C. Giacalone

LECTOR TRAINING

Training for Lectors will be held at St. Eugene Church Worship Site on following dates:

January 17th at 10 am – 12pm – Practices for Sunday Readings (second group)

The training for the Lectors will be conducted by Charlene A. Soby from Holy Name Cathedral.

All lectors are REQUIRED to attend. This training is MANDATORY.
Please call Fr. Jacek Dada for more information.



"Faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the Word of Christ"

Rosaries for Universal Peace

January 1, 2026 is the World Day for Peace. This year's theme is "Peace be with you all: Towards an 'unarmed and disarming' peace." This week, please pray at least one Rosary for universal peace. Rosary Guild members include Emily A., Lori G., James H., John I., Lita J., Evelyn K., Terri K., Lonnie M., Mary M., Ted M., Josephine N., Emilie P., Stefania P., Jean R., Demi S., and Shirley S.

Living Rosary

Pray a decade or more of the Rosary each day for the triumph of the Immaculate Heart of Mary for the glory of the Most Holy Trinity, and in honor of Saint Philomena, patron of the Living Rosary. If you would like to sign up to pray a decade of the Living Rosary, please contact the parish office.

Joyful Mysteries	Luminous Mysteries	Sorrowful Mysteries	Glorious Mysteries
Annunciation - Ted M.	Baptism of Jesus - Barb R.	Agony in the Garden - Jean R.	Resurrection - Lita J.
Visitation - Barb R.	Wedding at Cana - Mary M.	Scourging at the Pillar - Jean R.	Ascension - Marsha G.
Nativity - Josephine N.	Proclaim the Kingdom - Ted M.	Crowning with Thorns - Mary M.	Descent of Holy Spirit - Mary M.
Presentation - Karen R.	Transfiguration - Emily A.	Carrying of the Cross - Ted M.	Assumption of Mary - Mary M.
Finding in the Temple - Mary M.	Institution of Eucharist - Emily A.	Crucifixion - Demi S.	Coronation of Mary - Mary M.

Attention Ministers and Ushers:

We will be offering a class on the technique of Hands-only CPR and the use of the AED. (This is not a CPR certification Course)

When: January 18, 2025 9:30 am – 11:30 am

Where: Queen of Peace Parish, St. Eugene's worship site, Narthex

Hands-only CPR involves performing chest compressions without the breathing component of CPR, which simplifies the technique for untrained persons who may be passing by at the time of an emergency. The knowledge of this technique could save a life. Mark your calendar and notify the parish office if you plan to attend.

Stay well! Terri, RN

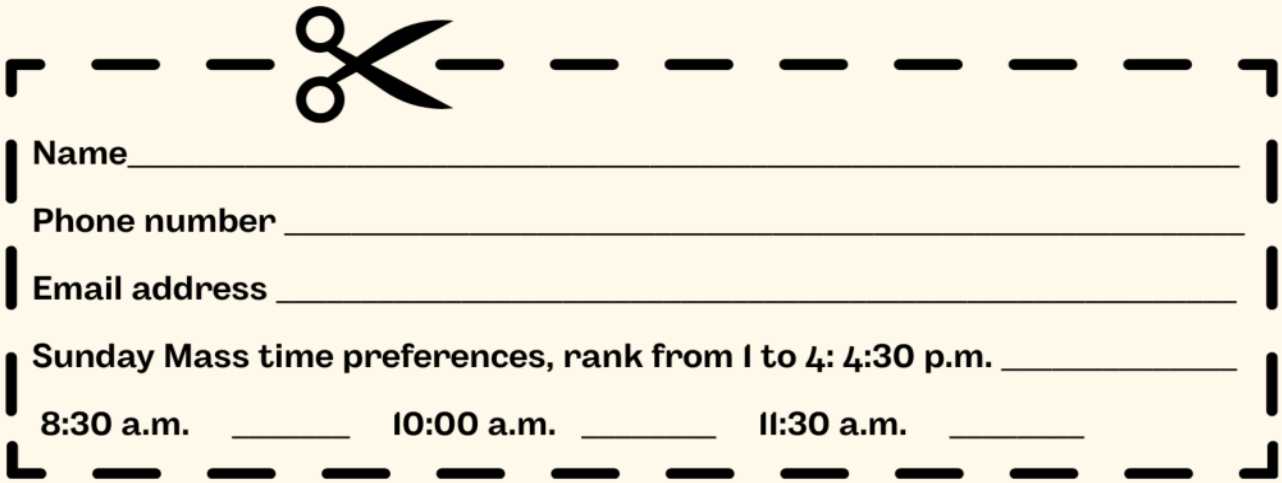


MAKING A GOOD START AT THE NEW YEAR

Queen of Peace Parish is looking for parishioners to become extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion, who help distribute Holy Communion on Sundays and Holy Days. In February, Father Jacek Dada and Father Robert Carlton will provide formation for both new and current extraordinary ministers.
Below is a prayer by Saint Richard of Chichester.

Thanks be to thee, my Lord Jesus Christ,
for all the benefits thou hast given me,
for all the pains and insults thou hast borne for me.
O most merciful redeemer, friend and brother,
may I know thee more clearly,
love thee more dearly,
and follow thee more nearly, day by day.
Amen.

If you would like to become an extraordinary minister, please fill out the information on the form below, and drop the form in the Sunday collection basket or bring it to the parish office.



Name_____

Phone number _____

Email address _____

Sunday Mass time preferences, rank from 1 to 4: 4:30 p.m. _____

8:30 a.m. _____ **10:00 a.m.** _____ **11:30 a.m.** _____



NOVEMBER 30, 2025

4:30pm SE	$1,315.00
8:30am SE	$1,703.50
10:00am OLMC	$1,972.00
11:30am SE	$2,006.00
Online Collection	$3,842.01
Sunday Total	**$10,838.51**

Please note that the mailed-ins will be reported for the December 14th timeframe.

DECEMBER 7, 2025

4:30pm SE	$3,678.00
8:30am SE	$1,379.50
10:00am OLMC	$1,222.00
11:30am SE	$2,226.00
Online Collection	$3,867.01
Sunday Total	**$12,372.51**
School Support	$1,286.00

Please note that the mailed-ins will be reported for the December 14th timeframe.

DECEMBER 14, 2025

4:30pm SE	$3,200.00
8:30am SE	$2,326.50
10:00am OLMC	$1,994.00
11:30am SE	$2,078.00
Online Collection	$3,132.01
Mail ***	$ 8,211.00
Sunday Total	**$20,941.51**
Retirement for Religious	$5,081.75

***Please note that this figure covers the periods spanning from November 30 - December 14, 2025.



SECOND COLLECTIONS

December 28

Repair & Maintenance

January 1

Solemnity of Mary

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

St. Eugene Church
Mondays 4 - 6 pm.

Benediction at 5:45 pm.



Visit www.parishesonline.com to subscribe to our parish bulletin

Please Pray for our Deceased Parishioners:

† Thomas Larsen
† Jacqueline Connolly



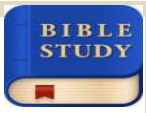
May the souls of the faithful rest in peace.

Thank you for supporting our parish!

You can scan QR code to go directly to GiveCentral and support our Parish.

SCAN ME

Bible Study



Wednesday in St. Eugene School-room 110 from 10:00 to 12:00. Questions or comments please feel free to email Frank at fjlizak@comcast.net Hope to see you there!

Knights of Columbus



If you are interested in joining the Knights of Columbus, please contact Joe Marley at 708-702-2726 Marley-j@comcast.net



Bulletin Submissions:

Bulletin requests must be sent 2 weeks prior to the desired bulletin weekend to mgeurtsen@archchicago.org
We reserve the right to edit.
Submissions will be placed in the bulletin if space allows and pending administration approval. Please call the parish office for the holiday schedule. *Thank you.*

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Come join us to make a difference in peoples lives. We crochet shawls, lap robes, baby blankets, crosses and even scarves and hats when there is a need. If interested we meet the first and third Wednesday of every month.
Any questions please reach out to Pam at 773-685-7586 or 773-848-4586.

The Friendship Club



Meets on the 2nd & 4th Tuesdays at 11am at OLMC.
For more information about upcoming meetings or with any other questions, please contact Debra by calling 773-398-4472 or email at dltimmreck@gmail.com



This week's at Our Lady, Mother of the Church
SANCTUARY LAMP
is in memory of

NICOLA TROIANO

THE SOCIAL CONCERNS MINISTRY WILL BE COLLECTING

PERSONAL CARE ITEMS

JANUARY 17TH AND 18TH

WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT

These personal Care Items will benefit those served at The New Hope Community Food Pantry and the Resurrection Micropantry.

This drive is in honor of the Queen of Peace, whose feast day is Saturday, January 24.

MOST NEEDED ITEMS:

- Deodorant
- Small Hand Sanitizers
- Individual toothbrushes
- Toothpaste
- Bar soap
- Body wash
- Sanitary napkins



Your contributions are greatly appreciated.

DROP OFF LOCATION:

Our Lady, Mother of the Church and
St. Eugene Church

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

The Vicar for Deacons

Have you ever considered the call to be a Deacon of the Catholic Church?



Join us at **7 p.m.** on
January 19, 2026 at:
Office of the Diaconate
816 Marengo
Forest Park, IL 60130

We will provide an overview of the **Deacon Formation Program**, **the application process** and **information on the ministry of a deacon.** Men, single or married, are invited to attend. Wives are strongly encouraged to accompany their husbands. For more information and to register for this session, contact the Office of the Diaconate at **708.366.8900**.

"Whom shall I send? Who will go for us? 'Here I am, send me!'" –Isaiah 6:8





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
Ralph J. Amelio
Victoria Amelio
Peter Badagliacca
Patricia Basili
Judy Bauer
Don Bellisario
Ludwika Bialo
Bronislaw Bialo
V. Bischof
Gabriella Bongiorno
Virginia Bongiorno-Lawrence
Johnmar Castillo
Gracie Carey
Karen Cazolas
Victoria Chrabasz
Mary Ciliak
Mark Corrado
Camile Conrick
Jacqueline Connoly
Sharon Crowley
Susan Curtin
Angela D'Alessandro
Joseph Duna
Kurt Feiereisel
Scott Feiereisel
Carol Fijalkiewicz
Matthew Fijalkiewicz
Tony Fiore
Rich Garcia
Bob Gasiorek
Harry Gelardi
Patricia Gelfond
Claudia Heiberger
Susan Hennessy
Jeff Herden
Bonnie Herden
Renee Holm
Terry Katz
Arthur Kopeck
Harry Krawczyk
Thomas Landeck
James LaPietra
Abagail Lim
Allie Lim
Frank Lizak
Rose Mary Maratto
Mickey Margelewski
Dcn. Ted Marszalek
Stanisław Mazek
Azucena Melendrez
Lena Menconi
Dolores Michalek
Judy Mitrenga
Linda Morton
Norman Mosk
Michael J. Muscarello
John Nelson
Joey Notaro
Anthony Notaro
Rev. James J. O'Brien
Donie Odulio
Catherine O'Hara
Catherine O'Keefe
Blanca Pacia
Camille Pavlis
Karen Pavlis - Karasawa
Kevin Pemberton
Jackie Pomis
Maria Pulice
Rita Rogers
Jean Rogers
Bill Ruhl
Tom Ryan
Diane Rizzuto
Luis A. Sanchez
Pat Schippers
Shirley Schindler
Dolores Scorza
Peter Schroeder
Robert Shelton
Maria Slomski
Anita Sison
Daniel Staniec
Emily Steckiewicz
Rachael Stowe
Mae Stryker
Lavergne Suchor
Dave Tudron
Paul Tscherwenka
Ernesto Vergara
Jack Wagner
Nancy Wesclitz
Dolores Wilk

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
Ghaleb Azroui
Matthew Calderisi
Timothy Emmett Carolan
Melissa Rose Cortese
James Vincent Degrazia
Patrick Edward Dillon
Zbigniew Dudkowski
Matthew Scott Forrest
Dominic John Guerrieri, Jr.
Major Dirk Haller
Andrew Hopkins
Christopher Jenkins
Bernard Edward Kusinski
Lt. Radoslaw Korzeniak
Antonio James Lim
Payne Manczko
Chris Marchiori
Daniel McLenighan
Daniel Meaney
Keith Miller
Michael Morales
Mike Mroszczak
Thomas Neuhengen
Eric Norwood
Vincent Page
Jasmine Poffenbarger
Chad Pritchard
Nicholas Ranch
Adam Roberts
Joseph Saineghi, Jr.
Holly Schippers
Michael Schippers, Jr.
Sean Sherlock
Sharon Sherlock
Phillip R. Simonsen
Tony Strzalka
Anthony Vanhanselaere

BECOMING THE HANDS OF GOD

In a recent Reflection in Give Us This Day, Carolyn Woo, former CEO of Catholic Relief Services, wrote "...I realized that we are the answer to people's prayers. When people pour out their hopes, fears, and aches to God, God sends us." We see this in your support of food pantries. Whether it is for the food pantry at the Salvation Army, the Quinn Center, or another pantry, by giving our "time, talent and treasure", we become the hands of God, feeding His children.

Thanks to your generosity and participation, a volunteer team packed 90 bags of groceries at the Quinn Center on Sunday, December 7. There were bags left over from the previous month, so we had an inventory of 135.A good thing, too, because 127 bags were distributed on Tuesday, December 9. One hundred thirty-eight (138) families were served with meals and/or groceries that evening. Their Coordinator, Martha Minnich, described it as "a perfect night. The last meals were given out just before closing." And there were still 8 bags of groceries left for emergencies or January's distribution.

Speaking of January, the first bagging session of 2026 will be on Sunday, January 11 at 2:00 pm at St. Eulalia's Quinn Center, just off the parking lot. Enter through Door #4 and go down the stairs. Please join us there if you can!





Interested in Becoming Catholic?



OCIA - ORDER OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS.

WHO IS OCIA FOR?

- NON-CATHOLICS WHO WANT TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THE CATHOLIC FAITH.
- THOSE WHO WANT TO JOIN THE CATHOLIC CHURCH THROUGH BAPTISM, OR PROFESSION OF FAITH
- THOSE WHO WERE BAPTIZED CATHOLIC AS INFANTS BUT NEVER RECEIVED RELIGIOUS EDUCATION, CONFIRMATION, OR FIRST EUCHARIST.

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICE AT 773-775-6660 OR FR. CARLTON AT RCARLTON@ARCHCHICAGO.ORG.

Weekly Prayer

Sunday's Readings

First Reading:
Whoever honors his father atones for sins,
and preserves himself from them. (Sir 3:3)

Psalm:
Blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways.
(Ps 128)

Second Reading:
And whatever you do, in word or in deed,
do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus,
giving thanks to God the Father through him. (Col 3:17)

Gospel:
He rose, took the child and his mother,
and went to the land of Israel. (Mt 2:21)

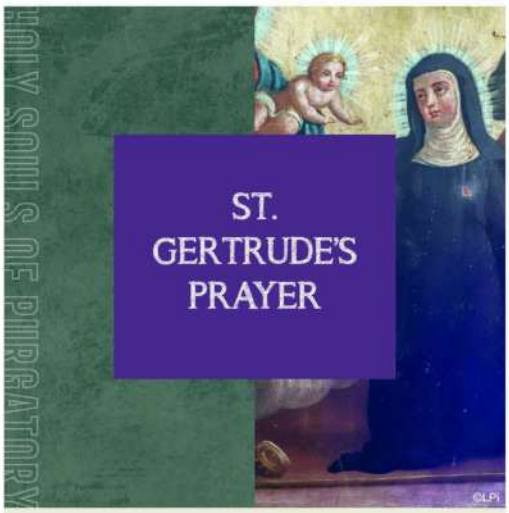
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Live The Liturgy
Inspiration of the Week

God created the Holy Family with a great sense of purpose, because he knew that Jesus would be defined by the woman and man who raised him. Who is our "Holy Family" — the people who will define us? Who has God placed within our lives for a specific purpose?

Observances for the week of December 28, 2025

Sunday:	The Holy Family
Wednesday:	St. Sylvester I, Pope; *New Year's Eve*
Thursday:	Mary, The Holy Mother of God, New Year's Day, World Day of Peace
Friday:	Sts. Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops and Doctors of the Church
Saturday:	The Most Holy Name of Jesus
Next Sunday:	The Epiphany of the Lord



Devotions, *Explained!*

St. Gertrude's Prayer is a petition said on behalf of the Holy Souls of Purgatory, offering the Blood of Christ in reparation for the sins of the departed.

Family Blessing

May God bless, protect, unite, mend, and renew our family. Help us to be instruments of healing and holiness, breaking generational curses, rewriting scripts, overcoming tribulation, joining in gratitude, and growing in joy ... together.
Amen.

Readings for the week of December 28, 2025

Sunday:
Sir 3:2-6, 12-14/Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17/
Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5/Mt 2:13-15, 19-23

Monday:
1 Jn 2:3-11/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 5b-6/
Lk 2:22-35

Tuesday:
1 Jn 2:12-17/Ps 96:7-8a, 8b-9, 10/
Lk 2:36-40

Wednesday:
1 Jn 2:18-21/Ps 96:1-2, 11-12, 13/Jn 1:1-18

Thursday:
Nm 6:22-27/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6 and 8/
Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21

Friday:
1 Jn 2:22-28/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/
Jn 1:19-28

Saturday:
1 Jn 2:29-3:6/Ps 98:1, 3cd-4, 5-6/
Jn 1:29-34

Next Sunday:
Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13/
Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12



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Gospel Meditation

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

When I was ten, my dad gathered our family around the table in small-town Vermont and told us we were moving to the big desert city of Phoenix, Arizona. We were leaving behind family, friends, and everything familiar. None of us knew what to expect.

But something beautiful happened. As we made the move together, our family grew closer. In retrospect, I'm amazed at my parents' courage to go on that adventure. Even as a kid I realized our family found, in that challenge, a deeper unity and mutual love.

In today's Gospel, Joseph is told: **"Rise, take the child and his mother, and flee..." (Matthew 2:13, 20)**. First to Egypt, then later to Israel. The Holy Family is frequently challenged to move and change, to adapt to God's will for them, in order to find safety in the midst of threat. It's not just an idiosyncratic story about survival. It's a spiritual pattern for all of us. Every Christian family is called to be a kind of sanctuary, especially in a world full of noise, busyness, and fear.

May I make a practical application for us? The Lord's Day, Sunday, is perhaps the most practical way we imitate this dynamic we see in Joseph and his family. Sunday is not meant to be just like every other day, filled with errands and stress. It's meant to be a day set apart; a holy "escape" into rest, worship, joy, and peace. A day to rise, take your family, and flee, into God's presence

— Father John Muir

Pastoral Staff:

Rev. Richard M. Yanos - *Pastor*
ryanos@st-eugene.org ext. 112

Rev. Jacek A. Dada - *Associate Pastor*
jdada@st-eugene.org ext. 108

Rev. Robert Carlton - *Associate Pastor*
rcarlton@archchicago.org ext. 107

Rev. James J. O'Brien - *Pastor Emeritus*
benbradagh@aol.com

Rev. Gregory A. Rom - *Retired Resident Assistant*
grom@archchicago.org ext. 114

Rev. Ed Pacocha - *Retired Assistant*

Deacon Ted & Mrs. Mary Marszalek
tmarszalek@archchicago.org

Deacon Chris Virruso

Facilities & Office:

Ms. Lisa Keeney - *Operations Director* ext. 102
lkeeney@archchicago.org

Ms. Marsha Geurtsen - *Office Manager* ext. 115
mgeurtsen@archchicago.org

Ms. Lydia Hilado - *Director of Music & Communications*
lhilado@st-eugene.org ext. 109

Mr. Vincent Hilado - *Assistant Director of Music*
vhilado@st-eugene.org

Mr. Romulo Jara - *Maintenance*

Mr. Boguslaw Krolikowski - *Maintenance*

Mrs. Barbara Meier - *Receptionist*
barbara@st-eugene.org

Ms. Terri Kaisling - *Parish Nurse*
Mon., Tuesday & Wed.
tkaisling@primehealthcare.com 773-775-6659

Mrs. Lois Feist - *Receptionist*
Ms. Christine Jassak - *Receptionist*
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Queen of Peace Parish Rectory Office
7958 W. Foster Avenue. Chicago, IL 60656
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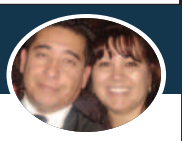
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