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Chris Virruso



ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

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

CHURCH ETIQUETTE
In order to fully partake in the Mass, the Priest should be the last one in and the first one out. Dress Appropriately ~ remember, you are in God's house.

UPCOMING BULLETIN EARLY SUBMISSION DATES:

Please send all material for November 22nd Bulletin by Monday, November 16th & for November 29th Bulletin by Friday, November 20th to mgeurtsen@archchicago.org



FROM THE DESK OF FR. RICH

Today, we celebrate the Thirty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time.
By now I'm sure you have all heard the very sad news of Fr. Jim O'Brien's passing. If you didn't get a chance to meet him or to know him, you missed out on the opportunity to know a real "Irish gentleman". I had the pleasure of living with him at St. Eugene's in my early years here. Some of the things I've heard repeatedly about Fr. Jim is how much everyone loved him, how compassionate he was and how much he enjoyed a good time. Over the past few years he was struggling with memory loss, however, even in the midst of this reality, he was always a kind-hearted soul who will definitely be missed by many.
Fr. Jim's funeral arrangements are as follows: He will be waked in St. Eugene Church on Monday night, November 16th from 5:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. There will be a wake service at 7:00 p.m. The following morning, Tuesday, November 17th there will be a visitation from 9:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. in St. Eugene Church with the funeral to follow at 11:00 a.m.
May eternal rest be granted to him, O Lord.

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I've been told that there are many of our parishioners who did not get a chance to read my bulletin article from November 1st regarding the news I shared about my upcoming retirement. For this reason, I've been asked to repeat it. So here it is:

A while back I received the annual request from the Priest's Placement Board that goes out to all priests at this time of the year, asking us to let the Board know what our plans are for the future. In other words, are we planning on requesting extensions at our parishes if our time is up? Or are we looking to make a change in assignments, etc. In my case, I'll be turning 70 in August of 2027 (next year). I'm not sure if you are aware or not but priests in the Archdiocese of Chicago can't even think about or even consider retiring until they reach the age of 70. After much thought and prayer, I've decided to take this leap into the unknown. After 44 years of serving the people of God in the parishes I have ministered at, 30 of those years as a pastor, I think it is time. I sometimes wonder where those 44 years have gone because it seems like just yesterday that I began my first assignment. Given the reality of all my health issues, however, I'd like to give retirement a try. This process begins by sending a letter to the

Cardinal letting him know that you'd like to retire. Well, I've sent my request to the Cardinal and have received his OK. I'm not sure if I'm doing the right thing but I suppose I'll find out soon enough. Don't get me wrong… I absolutely love being a priest and will more than likely have to continue working to survive in retirement, I just feel it's time to step down from leadership, administration, fundraising, management, 30 years of writing weekly bulletin articles, and the myriad of countless "other responsibilities" etc. that come with shepherding a parish community.

I've worked hard all these years and am so proud of all the accomplishments that have been achieved working side-by-side with the parishioners of the parishes I have served at, many of whom have become good friends along the way. For this I am forever grateful.

So, what this all means is that we have eight months left together. After 44 years serving God and His Church, it looks like Queen of Peace will be my last stop on the ministerial train of my life. I anticipate celebrating and enjoying these last months with you all.

I'm also looking forward to a combination "Turning 70 and Retirement Celebration" sometime in June before the official transition date of July 1st. Obviously more information will be coming your way as our parish begins this transition process in the months ahead.

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Next weekend, our parish will take up the annual collection for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development, also known as CCHD. The mission of CCHD is to address the root causes of poverty in the United States through the promotion and support of organizations that help people help themselves.

CCHD supports these local groups as they create jobs, improve neighborhoods, keep schools safe and enriching for their children and raise leaders for the future. CCHD – sponsored programs effectively break the cycle of poverty by building collective power so that people can take action on the issues that affect their lives, families and communities.

Thank you for your continued support.

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Just a reminder…. Thursday, November 26th is Thanksgiving Day. I hope all in our parish are planning to come out to celebrate this day of thanks by joining us for our Queen of Peace Community Mass at 9:00 a.m. that will be celebrated at St. Eugene Church this year on Thanksgiving morning. Remember there will not be the usual 7:00 a.m. Mass this morning as the 9:00 a.m. Thanksgiving Day Mass will be the only Mass of the day so that we can all give thanks together for what our God and this beautiful country of ours provides us. Hope to see you there.

Also, 2027 Parish calendars will be available to you beginning Thanksgiving Day. Please be sure to pick one up. They will then be available at the doors in the weeks following until all are taken.

Have a great week everyone!

Fr. Rich Yanos