

St. Liborius Catholic Parish

71 W. 35th Street • Steger, IL 60475
708-754-1363 • www.stliborius.org

St. Boniface Catholic Church

5304 W. Main Street • Monee, IL 60449
708-534-9682 • www.stbonifacemonee.org

Pastor
Fr. Thomas Milota
fathermilota@outlook.com

Parochial Vicar
Fr. Frank Pusateri
fatherfrank@stliborius.org

Deacons
Frank Ciscato
Mark Otten
David Prete

Administrative Assistant
Kathy Short
office@stliborius.org

Coordinator of Faith Formation:
Katie Canty
faithformation@stliborius.org
708-754-3460

Coordinator of Music (St. Liborius)
Chris Prete
mcp.stliborius@gmail.com

Maintenance
Allen Guziejka

Ministry of Care—St. Boniface
Erwin Bogs (ebogs@comcast.net)

St. Liborius Catholic Parish

Office Hours:
Monday, Wednesday,
Thursday 8:30 AM—3:30 PM

Mass Schedule—see page 2

Sacrament of Reconciliation
Saturday 8:30 AM and 3:30 PM
Friday 7:00 AM

Eucharistic Adoration
Friday 8:30 AM—9:30 AM

St. Boniface Catholic Church
Office Hours
Tuesday 8:30 AM—3:30 PM

Mass Schedule—see page 2

Sacrament of Reconciliation
Tuesday 9:00 AM
Sunday 8:00 AM

Eucharistic Adoration
Tuesday 9:00 AM—10:00 AM



Epiphany of the Lord

January 4, 2026

Mass Intentions

Saturday, January 3

4:30 PM • St. Liborius

Eleanor LeMere & the People of the Parish

Sunday, January 4—Epiphany of the Lord

8:30 AM • St. Boniface

Dolores Browne (D) *Req by Barb Mitchell*

10:30 AM • St. Liborius

Deceased Members of the Carlsson Family & the People of the Parish

12:30 PM • St. Boniface (*Spanish*)

The Souls in Purgatory

Monday, January 5

8:00 AM • St. Liborius—Jack Zofkie (D)

8:30 AM • St. Boniface—*Communion service*

Tuesday, January 6

8:30 AM • St. Boniface—Loretta Ivers

7:00 PM • St. Liborius—Jerry Bosco (D)

Wednesday, January 7

8:00 AM • St. Liborius—Rev. David Krolczyk (D)

Thursday, January 8

8:00 AM • St. Liborius—Maeve Adams (D)

8:30 AM • St. Boniface—*Communion service*

Friday, January 9

8:00 AM • St. Liborius—Cathy Ciosek (D)

8:30 AM • St. Boniface—*Communion Service*

Saturday, January 10

8:00 AM • St. Liborius—Ella Kane (D)

4:30 PM • St. Liborius

Harry & Margie Grunhard (D) & the People of the Parish

Sunday, January 11—Baptism of the Lord

8:30 AM • St. Boniface

Libertad Duterte (D)

10:30 AM • St. Liborius

Rosemary Misch (D)

12:30 PM • St. Boniface (*Spanish*)

Vocations to the Priesthood & the People of the Parish

Scripture Readings

Sunday, January 4—Epiphany of the Lord

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

Sunday, January 11—Baptism of the Lord

Is 42:1-4, 6-7; Ps 29:1-2, 3-4, 3, 9-10; Acts 10:34-38;
Mt 3:13-17

Liturgical Ministries Schedule

Due to early bulletin printing deadlines we were not able to include the Liturgical Ministries schedule. We will resume printing it in the January 11 bulletin.

Our Stewardship

November Special Collections

St. Liborius

| | |
|---------------------------|------------|
| Scholarship Fund..... | \$501.00 |
| Building Fund..... | \$480.00 |
| Comfort Fund..... | \$294.00 |
| Votives..... | \$251.36 |
| Human Development..... | \$2,309.00 |
| Seminarian Education..... | \$1,190.00 |
| World Missions..... | \$150.00 |
| All Saints Day..... | \$1,111.00 |
| All Souls Day..... | \$1,233.00 |
| Thanksgiving..... | \$1464.00 |
| Christmas Flowers..... | \$80.00 |

St. Boniface

| | |
|---------------------------|------------|
| Maintenance..... | \$1,201.00 |
| Seminarian Education..... | \$907.00 |
| Human Development..... | \$764.50 |
| World Missions..... | \$7.00 |
| All Saints Day..... | \$1,461.50 |

Due to early bulletin printing deadlines, the Sunday Offertory for the weekends of December 20/21 & 27/28 and the December Special Collections will appear in the January 11 bulletin.

Thank you for your generosity!



From Our Pastor

Dear Parishioners of Saint Liborius parish and Saint Boniface church,

What did the angels sound like?

An ancient form of prayer meditates on a particular passage of the gospels by placing oneself within the scene recounted. “Who are the people around me?” “How do my surroundings appear?” “What are the smells and sounds?” “What are the people saying, thinking?” One must be careful that one does not place too much of self into the passage thereby losing the authenticity of the message, but it can also open a door to a more personal encounter with the Lord.

Hence, I wondered: when the angels sang to the shepherds keeping watch by night, what did they sound like? We know what they said: “Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests.” What was the melody? Was there harmony? Instruments? What did the angels sound like?

Ronnie Van Zant or Taylor Swift or Guido

Did they sound like [Buddy Holly](#), [Ronnie Van Zant](#) and [Elvis Presley](#)? (The electronic version of this bulletin article possesses a special feature. If you click on most of the names, they will give you an auricular sense of what I mean. N.B. you may need to skip the ads.) If not these deceased rock stars, maybe the angels sounded like [Guido of Arezzo](#), Saint Benedict of Nursia and Hildebrand? (Yes. The man who invented musical notation was named Guido.) Perhaps, we need to go further back and think of [Plato](#) on the aulos, [Socrates](#) on the lyre and Aristotle on vocals? That would totally rock and is the fruit of the author’s classical education! But, we may be getting too far afield. Let’s try an ancient [Jewish chant](#) from the synagogue? I know this would be very popular among Gen Z. Perhaps...Yes...I have it: [Taylor Swift](#), [Lady Gaga](#) and [Beyonce](#)!

Everyone knows that Angels sound like Angels

Unfortunately, it appears that we have not advanced the discussion on the sounds of angels. If there is one thing we know for certain, the angels made none of these sounds. No matter how wonderful our children’s choir was at the 4 pm Mass on Christmas Eve, the angels did not even sound like this. Because, as well we all know, angels sounded like angels, not human beings. God only revealed to us what they said and the purpose of their song. He did not reveal their sound. Although I am partial to the sound of “Sweet Home Alabama” and some other people, I love dearly, partial to Taylor Swift, we know they sounded like angels. None of us reading this article were present to hear the angels sing. Sorry, Swifties! Angels sound like angels.

What we do know

We do know the reason the angels sang. They sang to glorify the Lord and move the shepherds to seek the Savior of the world. We also know that the shepherds did not refuse to seek out the Lord truly present in His manger, because the music was not interesting, exciting or entertaining enough. None of the shepherds said to themselves, “I’m not going to see the Son of God, because He’s not playing my favorite song.” Quite on the contrary, the shepherds forgot themselves and turned toward the Lord.

“Fiat!”

We find this lesson throughout scripture. This is the key to the Christian life. Isn’t it? Mary did not say to the angel, “I don’t like your message. It doesn’t fit with my taste.” No. She said, “Let it be done to me according to your word.” When the angel told her that her cousin was with child, she did not say, “My feet hurt. What did she ever do for me?” No. She went in haste to the hill country (on foot) to assist her. When the three wise men (not Marlon Brando, [Joe Pesci](#) and Robert De Niro) were told to return home by a different way, they did not say, “That’s out of our way. [I’ll do it my way](#).” No. They did as the Lord commanded and did not return to Herod. Most important of all, the act by which Christ saved the world was an act of obedience (ah...don’t say that word). “Let not my will but yours be done.” Even God was obedient to God.

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Sacraments

Sacrament of Baptism

All parents asking for their children to be baptized must attend a Baptismal Prep class. Classes are held on the third Thursday of every month at 6:30 p.m. @ St. Liborius in the Church, with a reminder notice in the parish bulletin. If a child has already been baptized here no need to attend class again.

Please register for the class by calling the St. Liborius Parish Office at 708-754-1363. Godparents are also encouraged to attend the class. Baptisms are celebrated on Sundays immediately following the 10:30am Mass. Families and attendees of the Baptism are encouraged to attend Mass as the Baptisms will commence immediately after Mass.

Sacrament of Marriage

Marriage preparation must begin a minimum of six months prior to the actual wedding date. Contact the parish office—St. Liborius (708-754-1363) or St. Boniface (708-534-9682) to begin the process.

Anointing of the Sick

Anointing of the Sick is the sacrament that is received by those who are ill or suffering. By the sacred anointing and the prayer of the priest, the whole Church commends those who are sick to Christ.

Due to the Privacy Act, hospitals can no longer inform us when a parishioner is admitted to the hospital. A close relative needs to call either Parish Office—St. Liborius (708-754-1363) or St. Boniface (708-534-9682) to request an anointing.

Our Parish School:

Mother Teresa Catholic Academy
24201 S. Kings Rd., Crete.
Phone: 708-672-3093
www.mtcacademy.org

Dr. Kevin Burns, PhD, President

Mrs. Annie Murray, Principal
amurray@mtcacademy.org

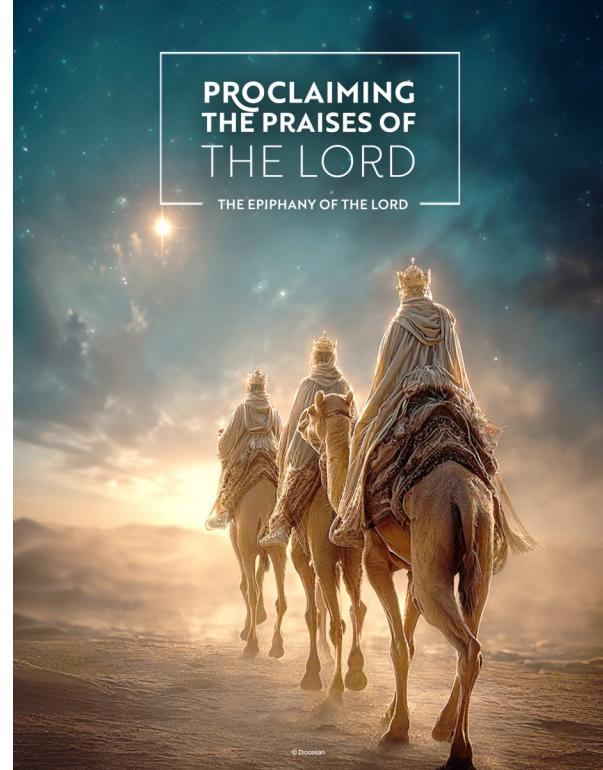
All parishioners of St. Liborius / St. Boniface are invited to attend the weekly school Masses at Mother Teresa Catholic Academy on Thursdays at 9:45am when school is in session.

January School Masses: January 8, 15, 22, 29

Please Pray For...

Kathy Boswell, Bill Brennan, Joan Cleghorn, Ris Dancer, Rachel Dombroski, Don & Kathy Dornhecker, Tammy Downen, Liz Greene, Barbara Gromala, Julie Hoyda, Kate Kendrick, Peter Klakow, Terri Koepke, Nancy Koepke, Patti Koopman, Louise Kopaczewski, Tim Kornacki, Dennis and Brenda Lileikis, Amber Mangan, Anthony Mangan, Bethany Mangan, Corrie Mangan, Ivy Mangan, Jeremy Mangan, Maykala Mangan, Nasya Mangan, Jimmy Martin, Brenda McCann, Fr. John McGeean, Angela Mills, Barb Mitchell, Bill Moran, Elyse M., Carmin M., John Novak, Fred Nunez, Victoria Nunez-Stuckart, Lloyd Pierce, Nancy Pilotto, Chad Pinnegar, Robert Prete, William P., Eligha Sain, Luis Santiago, Ray Smith, Bob Staniec, George Stelma, Arnie Szudarski, Julie Szudarski, Mary Truss, Kenyada Wilson, Bill Wogan, RW, Fred Zagone, SJ, Colleen Zwolinski, Debbie Zwolinski, Raymond A. Zwolinski,

- Crete Police, Detectives, Fire and Paramedic Departments
- Monee Police, Detectives, Fire and Paramedics, and Emergency Management Agency
- Steger Estates Fire and Paramedic Departments
- Steger Police, Detectives, Fire and Paramedic Departments



FROM OUR PASTOR

...CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

Want to be different? Then try this.

The greatest countercultural Christian act ends up not to be brilliance or talent or success or even generosity. It is: "Speak Lord, your servant is listening." We easily convince ourselves that what the Lord wants just happens to be what I want. In our contemporary world, the greatest injustice has become not murder or infidelity or indifference, not even racism or assault, but telling someone they should not do something they want to do or be something they want to be. Please notice I did not say the greatest sin is being told "not to perform a bad act." I said, "Today the greatest sin seems to be telling someone they should not do what they want to do."

The Christian, however, does not ask themselves, "What do I want to do?" The Christian asks, "What does God want me to do?" "What did He create me to do and to be?" "What has God revealed to be true and what does this require of me?" Rarely, is this question answered with the common wisdom or the moral imperatives presented to us by our secular examples. Christ invited us to seek not happiness but blessedness; not entertainment but joy; not self but other; not earth but heaven; not self but Christ truly present. We find many reasons not to approach God's altar and kneel before Him... not to keep Him before our eyes. If we are honest with ourselves, we find these reasons, at best, lacking.

As you begin this New Year, have you asked yourself how you can become more Christlike or more like yourself? We may not know what the angels sounded like, but we do know the reason they sang and the reason was not "I".

Prayers.

In Christ,
Fr. Milota



Building a Community
of Saints & Scholars

24201 S. Kings Rd.,
Crete, IL
708-672-3093
info@mtcacademy.org

MOTHER TERESA CATHOLIC ACADEMY

OPEN HOUSE

Wednesday, January 14, 2026 12:15-6:00pm
Tuesday, January 27, 2026 12:15-6:00pm

Come and see what we have to offer you and your child!

Scholarships and multiple student discounts are available for qualifying students!

Registration is
required. Please
use the QR code
below:



MOTHER TERESA CATHOLIC ACADEMY'S



**TOYS FOR TOTS
EVENT ON
DECEMBER 19TH**





**Knights of Columbus
Fish Fry Dinner
St. Liborius Catholic Church
Steger, IL**

FRIDAY, JANUARY 9, 2026

All you can eat
dinner includes:
Fried fish,
coleslaw,
mac & cheese,
french fries,
green beans,
bread & butter,
and coffee



3440 HALSTED ST. STEGER, IL

THE DAUGHTERS
OF ST. LIBORIUS
OFFER A VARIETY OF
DESSERTS AND HOME
BAKED TREATS AT EACH
FISH FRY TO FUND THEIR
VARIOUS CHARITABLE
PROJECTS. YOUR
GENEROSITY IS
APPRECIATED!

Fish dinner (all you can eat).....\$12
Fish dinner to go.....\$11
Extra fish to go.....\$3
Kid's fish dinner.....\$5
(Ages 10 and under)
Mac & Cheese.....\$1
French Fries.....\$1
Hot Dog.....\$1
Pop/Water.....\$1

cash only please

Please note that the Knights of Columbus monthly Fish Fry in January will be held on January 9 due to the Christmas & New Year's holidays.

Epiphany House Blessing

Epiphany, which is also known as “Little Christmas,” is the feast that celebrates the arrival of the three Magi who came to worship the child Jesus shortly after his birth. It is traditionally celebrated on Jan. 6. However, the Church in the United States celebrates it on the Sunday between Jan. 2 and Jan. 8. Many around the world celebrate this feast with as much pomp and circumstance as Christmas, including the exchanging of gifts.

Traditionally on the feast of Epiphany, Catholics bless their homes by writing the letters C, M, and B and the numbers of the year on either side – so this year it would look like “20+C+M+B+26.”

The letters stand for the traditional names of the three Magi: Caspar, Melchior, and Balthasar. They also represent the Latin blessing “Christus mansionem benedicat,” which means “May Christ bless this house.”

Items needed for the blessing are a piece of chalk, a small bottle of holy water, and the following blessing for the house.

Begin by having all family members gather outside the front door. All make the sign of the cross. One person will then read this prayer:

Leader: Peace be to this house.

All: And to all who dwell herein.



Leader: From the east came the Magi to Bethlehem to adore the Lord; and opening their treasures they offered precious gifts: gold for the great King, incense for the true God, and myrrh in symbol of his burial.

(Enter your home and read the Magnificat, the hymn of praise sung by the Blessed Virgin Mary in Luke's Gospel after being greeted by Elizabeth. During this, sprinkle the area you are in with holy water. After that is complete, pray:)

All: From the east came the Magi to Bethlehem to adore the Lord; and opening their treasures they offered precious gifts: gold for the great King, incense for the true God, and myrrh in symbol of his burial.

Leader: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation,

All: But deliver us from evil.

Leader: All they from Saba shall come

All: Bringing gold and frankincense.

Leader: O Lord, hear my prayer.

All: And let my cry come unto Thee.

Leader: Let us pray. O God, who by the guidance of a star didst on this day manifest Thine only-begotten Son to the Gentiles, mercifully grant that we who know Thee by faith may also attain the vision of Thy glorious majesty. Through Christ, Our Lord.

All: Amen.

Leader: Be enlightened, be enlightened, O Jerusalem, for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee – Jesus Christ born of the Virgin Mary.

All: And the Gentiles shall walk in thy light and kings in the splendor of thy rising, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon thee.

Leader: Let us pray. Bless, O Lord God almighty, this home, that in it there may be health, purity, the strength of victory, humility, goodness, and mercy, the fulfillment of Thy law, the thanksgiving to God the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. And may this blessing remain upon this home and upon all who dwell herein. Through Christ, Our Lord.

All: Amen.

After the prayers are recited, walk throughout your home sprinkling each room with holy water. Then write the initials of the Magi connected with crosses at the top of your front door. Then the numbers of the year. The numbers will be split so that they are on each side of the initials. You will write:

20 + C + M + B + 26

This is a special tradition at the beginning of each year, a way to invite God into your home and place your family under his protection.

Discerning? We can help you foster your vocation to priesthood . . . **Because God Still Calls.**



Scan the QR code or use the
link to learn more and
register!

<https://tinyurl.com/yp7262vx>

If you know of a young man 17+ that you'd like to
nominate, please refer him to the link on the QR code:

February 12-14, 2026



For questions:

vocations@dioceseofjoliet.org

Phone - 815-221-6170

Saint John Vianney College Seminary (St. Paul, MN) is the largest collaborative college seminary in the United States, representing 18 dioceses throughout the nation with more than 100 undergraduate men in formation this year. The event is free of charge.



Veni, Si, Amas

COME IF YOU LOVE

**WOMEN'S DISCERNMENT RETREATS
FOR SINGLE CATHOLIC WOMEN 18-30**

NOVEMBER 7-9, 2025 and MARCH 6-8, 2026



A weekend away with Jesus to receive His love more deeply that you might follow Him more freely...

FOR MORE INFORMATION,
VOCATIONS@ALTONFRANCISCANS.ORG



SISTERS OF ST. FRANCIS OF THE MARTYR ST. GEORGE

Seeking to make His Merciful Love visible