



Saint Paul
the Apostle

DECEMBER 28, 2025



THE HOLY FAMILY



“Rise, take the child and his mother and go to the land of Israel,
for those who sought the child’s life are dead.” - Mt 2:20

SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT - ALL GOD'S FAMILY!

BY MARY PENICH

I took a few minutes to enjoy our Christmas Tree, the village, and the crèche that rest beneath it. My childhood memories include similar scenes in my parents' home and those of numerous family members. None of our Christmas Trees were complete until the little town of Bethlehem rested beneath them. I began this tradition in our home when my husband and I married. Happily, Mike embraced it our first Christmas together. Today, he continues to serve as village planner. I unpack houses, trees and Nativity figures. Then, I step back as Mike positions himself on the floor to fashion this year's scene.

While considering Mike's handiwork, it occurred to me that the peace and joy we associate with that first Christmas weren't always tangible to Mary and Joseph. They didn't choose to travel to have their child. It was



Caesar Augustus who required all citizens to return to their cities of origin to register for a census. Because Joseph's roots were in Bethlehem, he and Mary traveled there to register. The town teemed with people who'd come for the

same purpose. It's no wonder Joseph and Mary had difficulty finding a place to stay. Though we aren't privy to the details, the scriptures tell us that a compassionate innkeeper allowed the couple to stay in his livestock shelter.

Though they certainly would have preferred a warm room and clean bed, Mary and Joseph were grateful for the quiet cave they finally secured. Poor Mary would deliver her baby with some privacy. What were they thinking as they prepared to welcome Jesus into their lives? What were nearby shepherds thinking when something in the night sky alerted them to a baby's cry in the night? Again, the scriptures tell us it was to these humble outcasts that Mary and Joseph first introduced their child. Though many may have considered themselves far more worthy, it was those shepherds who welcomed Jesus into this world.

As it happened, the difficult circumstances surrounding Jesus' birth were just a small taste of the hardship that would follow for the Holy Family. Later, Magi from distant lands followed a star that led them to Joseph's and Mary's home. They persisted with the hope that they might be given a glimpse of the newborn king. Mary and Joseph were certainly amazed by their visit. They may have followed this encounter with a prayer for counsel. How would they raise this amazing child?



Not long after the Magi's departure, an angel

came, perhaps in answer to Mary's and Joseph's prayer. This messenger warned Joseph of King Herod's wrath and instructed him to flee to Egypt with Mary and little Jesus. They remained in exile there until Herod's death. Though Joseph intended to return to their original home, a second angel warned of another tyrant. This is the reason Joseph finally settled his family in Nazareth. When we visited Nazareth a few years ago, Mike and I determined that this was an excellent development. What a peaceful and hospitable community it seemed to have been!



When I turned my eyes back to the Town of Bethlehem resting beneath our Christmas Tree, reality's chill took hold of me. Though many have shared joyful and peaceful moments before our family Christmas Tree, our little village and crèche, life in Jesus' world was filled with hardship. I turned my eyes upward to acknowledge that life in this world continues to be plagued with the same. At that moment, it occurred to me that this is today's message: Though Joseph and Mary nurtured Jesus, our brother, our savior, and our king, their family wasn't spared the difficulties that come with life on this earth. Though God showered them with love all the days of their lives, God also gave them the freedom to make the best of their lives as only they could. The two thousand years since bear witness to Joseph's and Mary's efforts. Jesus' message would never have touched our hearts if Joseph and Mary hadn't done their parts. Jesus needed his family just as we need ours...

You know, God fashioned your circumstances and mine with far more loving care than Mike fashioned the little village under our Christmas Tree. God gave Mary and Joseph all they needed to nurture Jesus and each another in the worst of circumstances. Today, we celebrate God's great love in doing the same for you and me. You see, Jesus, Mary and Joseph aren't the only Holy Family whom we celebrate today. God's presence among us and within us makes each of our families holy as well!

As we bid farewell to Christmas, we acknowledge that Jesus, Mary and Joseph experienced the best and worst of the First Christmas. Every year since, our families have done the same. Whatever forms our families take, be they siblings, parents, friends, loved ones here, and loved ones in the hereafter, we are all invited to take a lesson from the Holy Family. Like them, let's turn to God to offer our thanks for our amazing blessings and to seek God's counsel whenever the going gets rough. And, like Joseph, Mary, and Jesus, let's each do our part as only we can!

©2025 MARY PENICH - ALL RIGHTS RESERVED

To Read Fr. Chris' Weekly Letter
please visit our website: www.saintpaultheapostle.church

YOUR SUNDAY WORSHIP AID

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

GOSPEL MEDITATION



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 ©LPI

MASS HYMNS

Opening Song: **Gather #380** Once in Royal David's City (IRBY) by Henry J. Gauntlett and Cecil Frances Alexander
At Sunday 5:00pm: **Sing of Mary (PLEADING SAVIOR)**, arranged by Jesse Manibusan

Gloria: **A Joyful Christmas Gloria (GLORIA)**, adapted by Jeanne Cotter and Tony Alonso

Responsorial Psalm: **Blessed Are Those Who Fear the Lord** by Steve Angrisano

Gospel Acclamation: **Christmas Gospel Acclamations on GESU BAMBINO** by Paul Hillebrand
At Sunday 5:00pm: **MASS OF RESTORATION** by Josh Blakesley and Grae McCullough

Preparation Song: **Gather #359** O Little Town of Bethlehem (ST. LOUIS) by Lewis H. Redner and Phillips Brooks
At Sunday 5:00pm: **Spirit & Song #323** Let It Be Done by Chris Muglia

Eucharistic Acclamations: **MASS OF COMFORT AND JOY** by Kevin Keil
At Sunday 5:00pm: **MASS OF RESTORATION** by Josh Blakesley and Grae McCullough

Communion Songs: **Gather #387** What Child Is This? (GREENSLEEVES) | **Gather #371** Silent Night (STILLE NACHT) by Franz Gruber and Joseph Mohr
At Sunday 5:00pm: **Spirit & Song #153** What Child Is This (GREENSLEEVES), arranged by Tom Booth | **Spirit & Song #154** Silent Night (STILLE NACHT) by Franz Gruber and Joseph Mohr, arranged by Tom Booth

Closing Song: **Gather #353** Joy to the World by G.F. Handel and Isaac Watts
At Sunday 5:00pm: **Joy to the World (Unspeakable Joy)** by Chris Tomlin, Ed Cash, Matt Gilder, G.F. Handel, and Isaac Watts

READING I

SIRACH 3:2-6, 12-14

God sets a father in honor over his children;
a mother's authority he confirms over her sons.
Whoever honors his father atones for sins,
and preserves himself from them.
When he prays, he is heard;
he stores up riches who reveres his mother.
Whoever honors his father is gladdened by children,
and, when he prays, is heard.
Whoever reveres his father will live a long life;
he who obeys his father brings comfort to his mother.

My son, take care of your father when he is old;
grieve him not as long as he lives.
Even if his mind fail, be considerate of him;
revile him not all the days of his life;
kindness to a father will not be forgotten,
firmly planted against the debt of your sins
—a house raised in justice to you.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

PSALM 128:1-2, 3, 4-5.

Blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways.

READING II

COLOSSIANS 3:12-17

Brothers and sisters:
Put on, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved,
heartfelt compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness,
and patience,
bearing with one another and forgiving one another,
if one has a grievance against another;
as the Lord has forgiven you, so must you also do.
And over all these put on love,
that is, the bond of perfection.
And let the peace of Christ control your hearts,
the peace into which you were also called in one body.
And be thankful.
Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly,
as in all wisdom you teach and admonish one another,
singing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs
with gratitude in your hearts to God.
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.

GOSPEL

MT 2:13-15, 19-23

When the magi had departed, behold,
the angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said,
"Rise, take the child and his mother, flee to Egypt,
and stay there until I tell you.
Herod is going to search for the child to destroy him."
Joseph rose and took the child and his mother by night
and departed for Egypt.
He stayed there until the death of Herod,
that what the Lord had said through the prophet might
be fulfilled,
Out of Egypt I called my son.

When Herod had died, behold,
the angel of the Lord appeared in a dream
to Joseph in Egypt and said,
"Rise, take the child and his mother and go to the land
of Israel,
for those who sought the child's life are dead."
He rose, took the child and his mother,
and went to the land of Israel.
But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling over Judea
in place of his father Herod,
he was afraid to go back there.
And because he had been warned in a dream,
he departed for the region of Galilee.
He went and dwelt in a town called Nazareth,
so that what had been spoken through the prophets
might be fulfilled,
He shall be called a Nazorean.



Lectionary for Mass for Use in the Dioceses of the United States, second typical edition, Copyright © 2001, 1998, 1997, 1986, 1970 Confraternity of Christian Doctrine; Psalm refrain © 1968, 1981, 1997, International Committee on English in the Liturgy, Inc. All rights reserved. Neither this work nor any part of it may be reproduced, distributed, performed or displayed in any medium, including electronic or digital, without permission in writing from the copyright owner.

GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace to people of good will.
We praise you, we bless you,
we adore you, we glorify you,
we give you thanks for your great glory,
Lord God, heavenly King,
O God, almighty Father.
Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us;
you take away the sins of the world,
receive our prayer;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father,
have mercy on us.
For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit, in the Glory of God the Father.
Amen.

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God,
the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
*who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,*
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried;
he descended into hell;
on the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of God,
the Father almighty;
from there he will come to judge
the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and life everlasting.
Amen.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

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

WEEKDAY PSALMS

Monday: Psalm 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 5b-6
Let the heavens be glad and the earth rejoice!

Tuesday: Psalm 96:7-8a, 8b-9, 10
Let the heavens be glad and the earth rejoice!

Wednesday: Psalm 96:1-2, 11-12, 13
Let the heavens be glad and the earth rejoice!

Thursday: Psalm 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8
May God bless us in his mercy.

Friday: Psalm 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4
All the ends of the earth have seen the saving power of God.

Saturday: Psalm 98:1, 3cd-4, 5-6
All the ends of the earth have seen the saving power of God.

OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK

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

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 27, 2025

5:00pm: Gerry & Chuck Suhling | Domingo Cabuay | Raymond DeSilvia, Sr. | Alice DeSilvia | Raymond DeSilvia | Gerena O. Monis Nieves Arceo | John Carter Bennett | Jolly De Guzman | Lawrence Doan Pham | Maria Dominguez | Augustin Vazquez | Lucila Vazquez

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 28, 2025

7:30am: Rosa Krissek | Cele Bona | Alfredo & Procesa de Leon Felicisimo & Felicisima Pacheco | Bob & Mary O'Brien, Sr. | Rose Marie Pennington | Norman Pennington | Carl Willaby | Dien Phan
9:30am: Edward Rybka | Teresa Rybka | Fr. Jan Rybka | Christine Tarchala | Stanley Kot | Franciszch Sas | Mr. & Mrs. Armand Somera
Dennis Vaseloff | Nancy Jo Vaseloff | Jim Krier | Dorothy Harrison
Obdula Trinidad | Harrison Family

11:30am: Peter Bohdanowicz | Jovita Garcia | Celia J. Auguste
Hector B. Brual, Jr. | Joe & Eileen Tuckey | Arelie R. Punzalan
Jose, Salvador Rendor | Leonardo, Arcio Rendor | Juan Gilma,
Raul Rendor

5:00pm: Ben & Harriet Sutton | Stanley Kwiecinski | Frank & Barbara Dietz | John Ryskiewicz | Raymond Carr

MONDAY, DECEMBER 29, 2025

7:30am: Rachelle Turano Wojcik | Kornelia Macholla

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 30, 2025

7:30am: Tucker & Luke Ohl | Terry Wells | Catherine Berghthold

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2025

7:30am: Rose Poole | Mr. & Mrs. Frank Roccasanto | Dr. & Mrs. Raymond Guzic

5:00pm: Alberto T. Panares | Amelita Parilla | Andrej Plewa & Sean Surke | Antonina & Franciszek Ciszek | Agata & Stanislaw Plewa
Anna Plewa & Jan Tylka | Meghan Cardenas

THURSDAY, JANUARY 1, 2026

9:00am: Cuasay Family | John Konieczny Family | Gerena O. Monis | Scott Kohler | Edward Novick | Adolph & Irene Novick
Marie & Walter Woskowski

FRIDAY, JANUARY 2, 2026

7:30am: Bob, Sr. & Judy Russell | Ron & Pat Rymut | Bill & Irene Wolfe

SATURDAY, JANUARY 3, 2026

5:00pm: Gerry & Chuck Suhling | Raymond DeSilvia, Sr. | Alice DeSilvia | Raymond DeSilvia, Jr. | Gerena O. Monis | Bill Vasilius
Nancy Martin | Lawrence Doan Pham | Thomas Rusnak, Sr.
George Braniff | Helen Rusnak

SUNDAY, JANUARY 4, 2026

7:30am: Walter Krissek | Casis Family | Charlotte V. Siegel | Richard V. Siegel | Richard P. Siegel | Linda Sue Shepard | Jerrolyn McCauley & Joseph McCauley | Helga Rothacker | Maria De La Luz Zermeño
Enrique Zermeño & Tanya Ocampo | Dolores Killian | Kevin Killian
Robert & Bernadine Boyke

9:30am: Craig Nielsen | Michele Dulak Beye | Starzec Family
Robert Chester Buttrey | Edgardo Dayao | Corazon Dayao | Juan Lasala | Aniana Lasala | Doroteo Lasala | Flavia Nonong | Gorman & Paiser Families

11:30am: Ben & Harriet Sutton | Hector B. Brual, Jr. | Juskiewicz Family | Cygan Family | Otto Mozny | Margaret Mozny | Fr. Bernie Beuerle

5:00pm: Carol Hough | Luisa L. Wong | Dolores D. Chow | Karen Ann Dowling

PRAY FOR THE SICK

Rachel Ciullo	Keith Kellogg
Patricia Freeman	Lisa Mischke
Toni Lynn Mengarelli	David Zilligen
Shannon Bremmer	Eduardo Perez
April Grandgeorge	Maria Domitila Zambrano de Polanco
Alma De Torres	Rafael Gloria
Stephanie Rappe	Collen Wishall
Vicki Shafer	Silvia Pinedo
Ruth Blood	Consuelo Vargas
Tom Asma	Juan Miguel Correa
Karla Arce	Gloria de Cardenas
Jeanne Sypien	Helena Sznicer
Glenn Garamoni	George Lawrence
Daniel Schmelz	Michael Miller
Russell Yanow	Cynthia D. Caudell
Victoria Sofia	Glafira Bunsen
Luquez Mogollon	Jackie Herrera-Giron
Kinga Szymoniak	Gino LaBellarte
Chris Lucy	Dianne Scirri
Donna O'Brien	Pat Wilson
Norilyn Querubin	Kimmy Cozart
Rey Querubin	Mark Wilson
Obdulia Elizalde	Pat Gundrum
Jovita Menes	Mary Thachil
Reginald Dulaca	Daniela Gaborik
Melody Cook	Amy Patterson
Brian Smolicek	Melissa Fernandes
Roberto Movilla	Emily Meryer
Shani Stahnke	Kathy Hunt
Abby Swygard	Laura Hopkins
Rod Reyes	Bill O'Brien
Betty Falotico	

Please know that we pray for all of the sick at every Mass. However, if you would like your name or that of a sick loved one to be included in the list above, please email or call Catherine in the Parish Office: info@spa.church or 847-918-0600



In loving memory of our recently deceased parishioners. May God's perpetual light shine upon them.

*David Michael Jahn
Thomas Franklin Donahue
Karen Louise Swazas
Marie Ann Simpson
Antonio Alforque
Lawrence Dean Pham
Mary E. Grosskopf*

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 27, 2025

8:30AM VISITATION - JAHN
 9:30AM FUNERAL - JAHN
 11:00AM RECONCILIATION
 12:30PM BAPTISM - MCCULLOUGH
 1:30PM BAPTISM - DIAZ
 5:00PM MASS

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 28, 2025

7:30AM MASS
 9:00AM OCIA
 9:30AM MASS
 11:30AM MASS
 1:00PM BAPTISM - REYES
 4:00PM TEEN CHOIR REHEARSAL
 5:00PM MASS

MONDAY, DECEMBER 29, 2024

7:30AM MASS

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 30, 2024

7:30AM MASS
 8:00AM HOLY HOUR

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2025

NEW YEAR'S EVE

7:30AM MASS
 5:00PM NEW YEAR'S EVE MASS

THURSDAY, JANUARY 1, 2026

NEW YEAR'S DAY

9:00AM NEW YEAR'S DAY MASS

FRIDAY, JANUARY 2, 2026

7:30AM MASS

SATURDAY, JANUARY 3, 2026

6:30AM MEN'S LEGACY/PAUL'S GARAGE
 11:00AM RECONCILIATION
 12:30PM BAPTISM - POTTS
 1:00PM BAPTISM -RICE
 1:30PM FIRST SATURDAY PRAYER GROUP
 5:00PM MASS

SUNDAY, JANUARY 4, 2026

7:30AM MASS
 9:00AM OCIA
 9:30AM MASS
 11:30AM MASS
 4:00PM TEEN CHOIR REHEARSAL
 5:00PM MASS

JANUARY 3/4 | LITURGY SCHEDULE

	USHERS	LECTORS	COMMUNION MINISTERS		GREETERS	PRESIDER
SATURDAY 5:00PM	G. Johnson A. Barrie A. Rusnak T. Rusnak OPEN x 2	Jane Bena Andy Thiel	P. Balmes T. Boswell J. Hauck	C. Wicinski E. Wicinski	D. Wells H. Gloria	
SUNDAY 7:30AM	R. Dizon G. Aranas P. Mikols P. Rothacker S. Bilas T. Shurtleff	Catherine Karl Jan O'Brien	T. Burns K. Calendo L. Holland	D. Mumm D. Nieman	M. Zorc R. Zorc	
SUNDAY 9:30AM	T. Mengarelli P. Mengarelli B. Kibitkewki D. Scheffler K. King R. Reed	Mike Kana Lisa Seifried	C. Anderson J. Bautista R. Gbur	M. Klemann S. Corr	D. Shuppert R. Shuppert	
SUNDAY 11:30AM	G. Galano S. Fragassi C. Haines C. Karl P. Watson R. Cuasay	Arleen Siap Emery Colcol	S. Estorque M. Fernandes G. Galano	T. Denecke- Dattalo A. Richardt	A. Brown R. Guziec	
SUNDAY 5:00PM	B. Marchioni J. Plamoottil K. Deniz M. Deniz C. Johnson OPEN	Cathy Roberts Teen or Lector 1	C.Karl T. Marchioni JJ Plamoottil	T. Robb A. Wattlelet	J. Cruz T. Marloww	

DONATIONS SUMMARY

Week of December 22, 2025

Sunday- \$23,968
Online Sunday- \$10,539
Christmas- \$2,783
Sharing- n/a
Online Sharing- \$1,497
SVdP- \$235
Online SVdP- \$1,341
Holiday Dinners - \$100
Campaign for Human Development- \$605
Retirement fund for Religious- \$1,880



Month to Date - December

Sunday- \$53,852
Online Sunday- \$23,040
Christmas- \$3,433
Sharing- \$1,190
Online Sharing- \$2,222
SVdP- \$1,699
Online SVdP- \$1,902
Holiday Dinners - \$292
Campaign for Human Development- \$918
Retirement fund for Religious- \$2,205



First Saturday Prayer Group

For the last 20 years, the First Saturday Prayer group have prayed together without fail all the decades of the rosary every first Saturday of the month. Prayers for January 3, 2026 will be in the Chapel 1:30PM-4PM.



Circle of Women

We, the Circle of Women, are women rooted in faith, called to share our faith with one another. The group meets monthly on Saturday mornings, from 9:30 to 11:00 A.M. at St. Paul's lower level.

The next meeting is on January 10, 2026.

Each month is a different topic, each session is separate so consistent attendance is not required. Come as you are, share with us, or just listen if that is what you need. Our cornerstones come from the word saint: safe, accepting, inclusive, nurturing and trust.

Our space is sacred and what we share at Circle of Women stays at Circle of Women.

All women are welcome- bring your friends!

Happy New Year



The Women's Fellowship Angel Trees are displayed in the gathering space. You may donate by taking an envelope from the tree or online via our website. All donations will be used to support our Parish, food pantries, Aid for Women, and the needs of our neighboring communities.

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO | 



RENEWAL WORKSHOPS

Making Space: Welcoming everyone for Ash Wednesday

Tuesday, January 13 | 12 – 2 p.m. and 7 – 9 p.m. | Online

Small groups during Lent offer an incredible opportunity to increase engagement and invite your community into intentional discipleship. Explore the basic elements needed to turn a typical small group into a transformative experience of encounter with Jesus.

For more information and to register, visit renewmychurch.org/renewal-workshops or scan the QR code.





SPRED Grateful for your Support

SPRED catechists and friends would like to thank the church community for its generous support of the holiday candy sale. We exceeded our expectations of the sale, and we are grateful that we can continue to serve our special needs children and adults. The candy sale will be back in the spring just in time for Easter.



Sr. Cres Lopez of the Missionary Sisters of the Evangelization, one of our Simbang Gabi charity recipients, recent visited and joined us in First Saturday Prayer!

Knowing Christ



January 2-4, 2026
*Ignatian, Silent
Weekend Retreat for Men*

If I desire to follow Jesus Christ in my life, I have to come to know him. On this retreat, we will follow in the footsteps of St. Ignatius of Loyola in seeking to be a companion of Jesus. Through prayer, reflection, and sacred silence, we will open our hearts to encounter him more intimately.



Retreat Leader: Fr. Chris Manahan, SJ
Assists the Provincial in caring for Jesuits in the Midwest Province; previous director of the Jesuit Retreat House on Lake Winnebago at Oshkosh, WI.

To register for this retreat, scan the QR Code or visit jesuitretreat.org/retreats



847-381-1261 • JesuitRetreat.org • Barrington, IL

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO



Vicariate I | Spring 2026

ADULT CONFIRMATION

Are you an adult who missed receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation?

Preparation for Confirmation for Vicariate I parishioners will be offered weekly on Mondays beginning Monday, March 16, 2026, 7-9 p.m.

St. Edna Parish, Door #2
2525 N. Arlington Heights Rd.
Arlington Heights



Confirmation Mass at St. Edna Parish on Wednesday, May 20, 2026, at 7 p.m.

Registration closes on Monday, Feb. 27, 2026.
Cost: \$70/person.

Contact Lorie Crepeau for information and registration: lcrepeau@stedna.org
847.398.3362, ext. 325.



ARCHDIOCESAN COUNCIL OF
CATHOLIC WOMEN
ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

GOLDEN ROSE AWARD

This event honors high school girls who are extraordinary examples of faith in action.

St. Paul the Apostle is looking for our 2026 candidate. Please let me know if you would like to read the criteria to be our Golden Rose. This terrific breakfast event is Saturday, February 7, 2026, at Chevy Chase Golf Club. Contact: jlatz@spa.church



(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC -
BENEATH THE SURFACE

Other Plans

I don't know exactly what kind of life Mary and Joseph envisioned when they were first betrothed — back in those simple times when they were just like any other couple who had hopes, dreams and no angels telling them what to do.

Whatever their plans were, I think it's safe to say that the future God had in store for Mary and Joseph was not one either of them expected. I would imagine they both anticipated something a little quieter. A little more stable (no pun intended). A little less tumultuous.

It exhausts me simply to read through the chaos of their movements in today's Gospel. Flee to Egypt, return to Israel (but not Judea! Herod's son is there! Divert to Galilee! Divert!). Settle in Nazareth (let me remind you, this is all happening with a baby in tow, and without the aid of a minivan).

Take a deep breath, but don't get too comfortable — now it's almost time to lose your kid in Jerusalem. Then you'll have about 20 years off before he starts raising people from the dead, and that's when things start to get really crazy.

The story of the Holy Family is the ultimate example of the phrase "God had other plans." If any four-word sentence encapsulates what we can expect from the Christian life, it is this.

I thought I was meant for that job, but God had other plans. I thought I would live in this place, but God had other plans. I thought I was supposed to become this person, but God had other plans.

We can do all the right things. We can make all the right choices. We can say, over and over again until our voice wears out, "Thy will be done." But all we can know for sure is that God has other plans.

— Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

©LPI

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S CLUB OF LAKE COUNTY

For all Catholic Women in Lake County, Illinois

We have been in existence for over 75 years.

Meetings: Rosary and Potluck lunch every month—2nd Thursday (regular attendance is not mandatory)

Where: A parish in Northern Lake County

Special Events: Memorial Mass and Lunch, Christmas Lunch, Valentine Lunch & Installation Lunch. Summer bus pilgrimages to nearby shrines

Any age : Most are between 50 and 90

Membership for the year is \$10. if interested or for more info please email cwlakecounty@gmail.com

On behalf of all who received the beautifully written Christmas cards, thank you for your thoughtfulness! The cards were delivered to various assisted living and memory care facilities the week of December 21st. Each facility expressed their sincere thanks and gratitude for remembering their residents!
God Bless!

We will not be offering the Precious Blood from the 1st Sunday of Advent until Palm Sunday, for health reasons during cold and flu season, to avoid potential virus transmission. A Catholic does not have to receive both the Body and Blood of Christ, as receiving either one is a full reception of the sacrament. Receiving only one form is a valid and common practice, and provides the same graces as receiving both; we receive the entirety of Jesus in the Eucharist.

During the Communion Procession:

1. Approach the Priest, Deacon, or Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion.
2. The Sacred Host will be lifted and shown to you, and the Priest, Deacon, or Communion Minister will say, "The Body of Christ".
3. Extend your hands or tongue and say "Amen".
4. Whether you receive on the tongue or the hands -- DO NOT MOVE -- until the Sacred Host is placed on your tongue or hands.
5. PLEASE DO NOT step to the side, but consume the Host immediately in front of the priest, deacon, or Communion Minister.
6. Then, you can return to your seat.

- If you do not receive communion and want a blessing, come, cross your hands over your chest to receive the blessing.

Thank you for your understanding and for enhancing Catholic beliefs.

PRAYER FOR EVERYBODY AND EVERYDAY

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.



A big thank you to all for your tremendous generosity in providing holiday meals to our veterans and the needy families within our local community. As a parish, we collected over \$14,000 and provided 300 holiday dinners through Holy Family, St. Anastasia, and Midwest Veterans food pantries.



We will continue to support our local food pantries by distributing the remaining money throughout the coming year to feed those within our community who remain food insecure.

Words like "thoughtful...caring...giving" are not enough to describe your level of generosity. Again, a very special thank you to an awesome parish!

CATHOLIC TRIVIA - JUST FOR FUN!

Question:
Which saint is the patron saint of priests?

Answer:
St. John Vianney

©LPI

SAINT BIO

St. Basil the Great | January 2

St. Basil the Great (329 – January 1, 379) shares his feast day with his lifelong friend St. Gregory of Nazianzen. These accomplished men fought against heresies that threatened the foundations of the early Church, shaping doctrines around Christ's divinity and the nature of the Holy Trinity.

St. Basil was born at Caesarea of Cappadocia, to a family already deeply rooted in Christianity, going back to the time of widespread persecution in the 1st and 2nd centuries. Following in the footsteps of his father, Basil studied in Caesarea as well as Constantinople and Athens, training in the law and rhetoric. He became a popular teacher. However, his sister persuaded him to give up academia for monastic life. Before inviting St. Gregory to start an order with him, St. Basil traveled through Egypt, Palestine and Syria visiting monasteries, learning everything he could and formulating his own ideas about monastic rule. His rule is still followed today, and he is known as the Father of Eastern Monasticism.

His time in the monastery was relatively short, it was only five years before he was called to play a greater role in the Church. Ordained as a priest, by around 370 he was made bishop of Caesaria. It was in this role that he fought against the heresy of Arianism which denied the divinity of Christ, even defying an emperor! He also fought against other early Trinitarian heresies. But these important doctrinal stands were not what defined Basil. He was passionate about caring for the poor and sick, pastoral care, and fighting against institutionalized prostitution. He would preach twice a day to large crowds, and opened a complex with a hospital, orphanage, and shelter for the poor. In addition to influential monastic rules, sermons, and doctrinal treatises, more than 300 of his letters still exist. St. Basil the Great, pray for us!

Lpi

St. Paul the Apostle is working to open a **Legal Aid Clinic** on Feb. 7, 2026.



**Administer
Justice**

We are especially in need of Attorneys to serve for 4 hours, one Saturday morning, a month to advise clients on a pro-bono basis on a variety of common legal matters, including landlord/tenant, debt collection, immigration, child custody, estate planning, criminal records, and more.

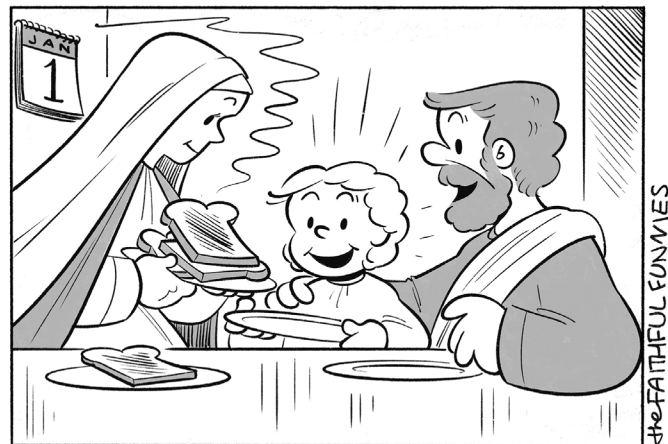
Attorneys work with the client to develop a next steps plan to address the problem and provide peace of mind. Training is provided to all attorneys at no charge.

We are also in need of interpreters who speak various languages to translate for clients as needed.

Training for interpreters is also available free of charge.

For more information, contact legalclinic@spa.church with your name, email address, and phone. One of the co-team leaders will be in touch.

"What did the Holy Family eat on New Year's Day?"



"Toast!"



847-347-0832

EMERGENCY AND TRANSITIONAL ASSISTANCE, FISCAL SUPPORT, HELP WITH LOCATING AVAILABLE RESOURCES AND OTHER SERVICES AIMED AT ADDRESSING ALL ISSUES A PERSON OR FAMILY MAY BE FACING WITH THE INTENT OF SUPPORTING SUSTAINED POSITIVE CHANGE.

Crisis Support Resources

DOMESTIC ABUSE

A Safe Place Hotline: 847-249-4450

Sexual Abuse: 847-872-7799

PREGNANCY SUPPORT:

Aid for Women: 847-249-2700

POST-ABORTION

EMOTIONAL SUPPORT:

Project Rachel: 800-SWE-CARE

EMERGENCY SHELTER:

PADS: 847-689-4357

Catholic Charities: 847-782-4000

COUNSELING:

Holbrook Center: 312-655-7725

SUICIDE PREVENTION

Emergency: 911
988

FOOD PANTRIES:

Avon Township: 847-546-1446

Holy Family: 847-782-4166

Saint Anastasia: 847-623-2112

Warren Township: 847-244-1101



Saint Paul the Apostle

847-918-0600
6401 GAGES LAKE RD
GURNEE, IL 60031

PARISH OFFICE

MONDAY THROUGH THURSDAY
HOURS: 9:00AM - 5:00PM
FRIDAY HOURS: 9:00AM - 12:00PM
847-918-0600

BUSINESS OFFICE

HOURS: 9:00AM - 4:00PM
MONDAY & WEDNESDAY
FRIDAY HOURS: 8:30AM - 12:00PM
847-918-0600

FAITH FORMATION OFFICE

MONDAY THROUGH THURSDAY
HOURS: 8:30AM - 3:00PM
FRIDAY HOURS: 8:30AM - 12:00PM
847-816-8677

MASS SCHEDULE

WEEKDAY MASS:
MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY
7:30AM

SATURDAY EVENING:
5:00PM

SUNDAY:
7:30 | 9:30 | 11:30AM | 5:00PM

ADORATION

TUESDAY/THURSDAY MORNINGS
8:00AM

RECONCILIATION

SATURDAYS IN THE BLESSED
SACRAMENT CHAPEL
11:00AM

CLERGY

FR. CHRIS CIASTOŃ | PASTOR
frchris@spa.church

FR. MARTIN SZCZYPULA | ASSOCIATE PASTOR
frmartin@spa.church

FR. JOE CURTIS | WEEKEND ASSISTANCE
frjoe@spa.church

FR. JOHN GUTHRIE | WEEKEND ASSISTANCE
jguthrie@usml.edu

DEACON MICHAEL PENICH
mpenich@spa.church

DEACON IVAN SIAP
isiap@spa.church

DEACON BOB BIRCK
bbirck@spa.church

DEACON ROD REYES
rreyes@spa.church

DEACON ANDY BAKER
abaker@spa.church

DEACON BRENT BERTKE
bbertke@spa.church

PARISH OFFICE

CATHERINE KARL | OFFICE MANAGER
info@spa.church

BUSINESS OFFICE

JOE PERRY | BUSINESS MANAGER
jperry@spa.church

FAITH FORMATION & CATECHESIS

TAMMY OBERSTAR | ADMIN ASSISTANT
toberstar@spa.church

MARY JO URQUHART | ADMIN ASSISTANT
murquhart@spa.church

AMY RUSSELL | K-6 CHILDREN'S COORDINATOR
arussell@spa.church

CASSIE BERTKE | CONFIRMATION COORDINATOR
cbertke@spa.church

TOM WATTELET | YOUTH & ADULT MINISTER
twattelet@spa.church

MUSIC LITURGY

RUTH PECK | DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRY
rpeck@spa.church

JULIE JESTER | DIRECTOR OF LITURGY AND MUSIC MINISTRY ASSISTANT
jjester@spa.church

ANCILLARY STAFF

CESAR VICARIO | FACILITIES MANAGER
cvicario@spa.church

JERRY SIMPSON | LITURGICAL PROJECTIONS COORDINATOR
jsimpson@spa.church

KERI SEKANY | BULLETIN EDITOR
bulletin@spa.church



Connie J. Crawford, O.D., P.C.
Parishioner
James R. Crawford, O.D.
Laura L. Cretors, O.D.
Christian J. Crawford O.D.
Annika C Crawford O.D.

Family Eye Care
Contact Lenses
Laser Surgery Co-Management
(LASIK)

Evening & Sat. Appointments
31 North Ave., Antioch
847-395-4090



24 HOUR EMERGENCY SERVICE
Full Service Plumber
You Can Trust!
FREE Estimates (847) 672-9928



847-620-5120
Thomas J Robb
Your Local Agent
License #2162638

1113 S Milwaukee Ave Ste 200
Libertyville, IL 60048
trobb@farmersagent.com



BUILD MAX
REMODELING INC.

Windows • Doors
Garage Doors • Kitchens
Baths • Basements & more...

630 742-0951 • Darek Dziejowski • Gurnee, IL
Fully Insured & Bonded - Free Estimates • Reasonable Rates

COMFORTABLE COUNSELING

OVERWHELMED?
LIFE... WORK... SCHOOL...
LET OUR THERAPISTS HELP YOU REACH YOUR GOALS,
BUILD HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS, REDUCE STRESS,
AND FIND PERSONAL GROWTH



CONTACT ONE OF OUR COUNSELORS TODAY
847-748-2019
info@comfortablecounseling.com
111 Barclay Boulevard, Suite 180
Lincolnshire, IL 60069
www.comfortablecounseling.com

Woody's Tree Service

Professional Tree Trimming
Removals • Stump Grinding • Firewood
FULLY INSURED
ASK FOR MARK 847-362-5545
PO Box 91 Libertyville, IL 60048
woody@woodystreeservice.com
woodystreeserviceonline.com

Call for a free estimate!

Bill Juenger - Owner

- Commercial & Residential
- 24-Hour Emergency Service
 - Complete Tree Removal
 - Tree & Shrub Pruning
 - Plant Healthcare
 - Lot & Land Clearing
 - Stump Grinding



whymonster.com **847-595-1954**
25 Year St. Paul Parishioner 10% St. Paul Discount

Beautiful 55+ Active Community
Located in Southwestern Florida

*Close to the Coast 2692 NE Hwy. 70 | Arcadia, FL 34266



Arcadia
village



- 18 Hole Executive Golf Course
- Tennis & Pickle Ball Courts
- Two Clubhouses for Social Activities
- Exercise Room, BBQ Area, Nature Trails
- 2 Large Heated Swimming Pools & Spas

Ron, Owner/Parishioner

New & Pre-Owned Homes | www.arcadiavillage.com
Lakeview and Golf Course View Homes Available
Call or email for more information!
Sales@arcadiavillage.com • 1-800-538-2590



5101 Washington Street, Gurnee
(872) 337-8466
www.destino-ristorante.com

THE ANIMAL
HOSPITAL OF GURNEE, P.C.

Dog • Cat • Horse
Boarding & Grooming

John R. Hanover, DVM
John J. Hanover, DVM
Zoya Malitsky, DVM

847-360-1630

38028 N. Dilley Rd., Wadsworth

ComForCare

HOME CARE

- ♥ Companionship
- ♥ Meal Preparation
- ♥ Light Housekeeping
- ♥ Transportation
- ♥ Personal Care
- ♥ Medication Reminders
- ♥ Safety Supervision
- ♥ Family Respite Care



Patricia "PJ" Arthurs 847-616-8007
comforcare.com/illinois/lake-county

Discover Vibrant
Senior Living

Best-in-class care meets a personalized lifestyle.

ASSISTED LIVING • MEMORY CARE • SHORT-TERM STAYS



Book a tour by
calling 224-476-2282

SunriseGurnee.com



SUE DUNNIGAN
REAL ESTATE AGENT

24 YEAR
ST. PAUL
PARISHIONER

Complimentary
Professional Staging
Comparable Market Analysis
Experienced Negotiator

Contact me today!
224-627-5910
sdunnigan@atproperties.com



Learn more about me!



Gurnee Place
Memory Care

506 Hunt Club Rd.
Gurnee, IL 60031
(847) 855-1380

WADSWORTH
ELECTRIC COMPANY



Family Owned & Operated
QUALITY YOU CAN COUNT ON
Free Quotes:
847-508-8836

Delicious Sandwiches
& Homemade Soups!

Freshly Made Daily at

EUROPEAN FOOD & GIFTS

34500 US-45, Unit S
Third Lake, IL 60030
United States



10% OFF

of the entire order
when You



Like + Share!
Follow us on Facebook for
updates, promotions and more!



and TAG three of your Friends

Dine in • Take out • Call ahead!
Come taste the warmth of Europe in every bite.
Made with fresh ingredients and love
Call us to order today!

Dignity
MEMORIAL

Marsh
Funeral
Home

CREMATION PRE-ARRANGEMENTS

847-336-0127



WWW.MARSHFUNERALHOME.COM • 305 N. CEMETERY ROAD • GURNEE
Owned and Operated by SCI Illinois Services, Inc.



For ad info. call 1-800-950-9952 • www.4lpi.com

St. Paul the Apostle, Gurnee, IL

A 4C 01-4091