

Holy Family

1080 W. Roosevelt
Chicago, Illinois 60608

Parish

A Word from Father Jerry

Dear Parishioners,

We continue our journey through Advent. Our theme, "Crossing the borders that lead to Bethlehem" reminds us that the journey to a deeper relationship with Christ is not easy. We must face certain obstacles and prevail against them to grow spiritually.

Last week we reflected on the reality of fear at how that can keep us from drawing closer to Christ. This week we look at the experience of powerlessness. This sense that I can't do anything about my life or situation can be debilitating. With the help of our Lord we can discover new possibilities and alternatives to those places in our lives that seem beyond our ability to change.

This week is the annual appeal for the retired religious. I am grateful to Sr. Marion who is reflecting at the masses this weekend. Sr. Marion is a BVM and we have been so blessed at Holy Family with generations of religious sisters who ministered in every aspect of our parish's life. The Sisters continue many vital ministries here at Holy Family. Retired religious men and women need our support at this time.

I am grateful to Sr. Otilie, Donna Raclaw and the many volunteers who made the Christmas Sale set an all time record. The sale made almost \$1900. Thank-you. I am also grateful to The Ladies Auxiliary of the Knights of Peter Claver who raised \$450 from their recent Stepper Set for the parish. Thank-you! These generous donations are a big help as we try to meet our expenses. Thanks to all who supported these events. Almost 200 people attended the Stepper Set.

Don't forget to purchase the 2010 edition of the Holy Family Christmas Card or assorted note cards. Proceeds will help offset the cost of decorating the Church at Christmas.

Next Sunday, the Chicago Chorale will perform a concert of sacred music entitled, "Icons and Angels". Dr. John Buchanan the distinguished pastor of Fourth Presbyterian will give a lecture at 1:30, followed by the concert at 2:30. Ticket information can be found on their website.



Rectory

1080 West Roosevelt
Chicago, Illinois 60608

Phone.....(312)492-8442
Fax(312)492-8430
Website..... holyfamilychicago.org

Parish Staff

Administrator..... Rev. Jerry Boland
Pastoral Associate.....

Sr. Eileen Tierney, CND

Deacon Rudolf Kotleba
Director of Gospel Choirs ..Sam Parker
P.C. President..... Odell Gordon
Admin. Asst.....Sharon Van Den Hende

Masses

Monday-Friday..... 7:30 am
(St. Ignatius Chapel)
Sunday..... 9:45 am & 5:00 pm

Confessions

Sunday mornings from
8:45 - 9:15

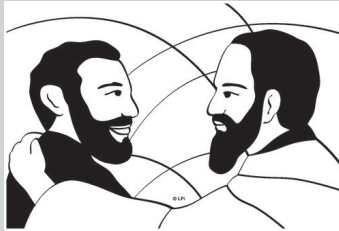
Weddings

Arrangements must be
made at least six
months in advance.



Focus on the Word

The Sunday readings are placed in this bulletin for the benefit of those who might have a hearing impairment, and for your reflection before Mass and during the week. Since an important part of our Sunday worship is hearing the scripture proclaimed, we urge you to LISTEN to the readings as they are proclaimed. Thank you.



Reading 1

Is 11:1-10

On that day, a shoot shall sprout from the stump of Jesse, and from his roots a bud shall blossom. The spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him: a spirit of wisdom and of understanding, a spirit of counsel and of strength, a spirit of knowledge and of fear of the LORD, and his delight shall be the fear of the LORD. Not by appearance shall he judge, nor by hearsay shall he decide, but he shall judge the poor with justice, and decide aright for the land's afflicted. He shall strike the ruthless with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall slay the wicked. Justice shall be the band around his waist, and faithfulness a belt upon his hips. Then the wolf shall be a guest of the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; the calf and the young lion shall browse together, with a little child to guide them. The cow and the bear shall be neighbors, together their young shall rest; the lion shall eat hay like the ox. The baby shall play by the cobra's den, and the child lay his hand on the adder's lair. There shall be no harm or ruin on all my holy mountain; for the earth shall be filled with knowledge of the LORD, as water covers the sea. On that day, the root of Jesse, set up as a signal for the nations, the Gentiles shall seek out, for his dwelling shall be glorious.

The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm

Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace for ever.

Reading 2

Rom 15:4-9

Brothers and sisters:

Whatever was written previously was written for our instruction, that by endurance and by the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to think in harmony with one another, in keeping with Christ Jesus, that with one accord you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Welcome one another, then, as Christ welcomed you, for the glory of God. For I say that Christ became a minister of the circumcised to show God's truthfulness, to confirm the promises to the patriarchs, but so that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written: Therefore, I will praise you among the Gentiles and sing praises to your name.

The Word of the Lord

Gospel

Mt 3:1-12

John the Baptist appeared, preaching in the desert of Judea and saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!" It was of him that the prophet Isaiah had spoken when he said: A voice of one crying out in the desert, Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths. John wore clothing made of camel's hair and had a leather belt around his waist. His food was locusts and wild honey. At that time Jerusalem, all Judea, and the whole region around the Jordan were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the Jordan River as they acknowledged their sins.

When he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to his baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? Produce good fruit as evidence of your repentance. And do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father.' For I tell you, God can raise up children to Abraham from these stones. Even now the ax lies at the root of the trees. Therefore every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire. I am baptizing you with water, for repentance, but the one who is coming after me is mightier than I. I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fan is in his hand. He will clear his threshing floor and gather his wheat into his barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

The Gospel of the Lord

Sunday, Dec. 19 we will have our Advent celebration of reconciliation at the 9:45 Mass. Following the liturgy there will be a light lunch in Damen Hall. The cost is \$5 per person. At Noon, Gerry Dignan will offer a Christmas Concert in the sanctuary of the Church. There are no tickets, just a free will offering to support Gerry and Denise Dignan's music ministry.

Final plans are being made for the Children's Christmas Party on Saturday, Dec. 18th.

Next Sunday, the Steering Committee of the Parish Pastoral Council will meet after Mass.

Have a Blessed week,

Our deepest gratitude to all those who donated items to the Christmas sale and to all who purchased lovely, new items. It was an example of community working and enjoying a good time. We hope you got a jump start on your Christmas shopping.

Though prices remained low, we made an amazing total of \$1,856.65

We thank those who spent countless hours setting items up in attractive ways.

Special thanks to Donna Raclaw for recruiting expert volunteers and coordinating the sale.

Liturgy

Dec. 5, at 9:45 am

Presider Reverend Jeremiah Boland
Cross Bearer.....Virginia Clayton
Candle Bearers.....Tom O'Malley
& Katie Terone
Banner Carrier.....Willie Ramsey
Lectors.....LaShonya Wilson
& Sr. Eileen Tierney
Responsorial Psalm.....Marilyn Reidy
Communion Ministers.....Jerry Hossli,
Diane Allen, Rita Gardner, Debra
Higgins, Betty Ferguson, Donna Raclaw,
Sr. Mary Therese Freymann
Altar Servers.....Marlayna Gandy
& Amare Wilson

Next Sunday, Dec. 12 at 9:45am

Lectors.....Sr. Marion Murphy
& Sandra Broussard
Altar Servers.....Amber Wilson
& Amare Wilson

December Greeters

Matthew May and Ruthie Jones Clay

Attention - Anyone interested in being a greeter

There will be a brief meeting in the back of church today after the 9:45 Mass for those who are interested in being greeters.

December Collection Ministers

Eastside.....Felix Rubin
East Center.....Julia Haynes
Westside.....Vincent Giampa
West Center.....Sol Giampa

Mass Intentions

Sallie Ree Brunson
Dennis J. Ford, Sr.
Peggy Sansonetti

Sunday Collection

Goal: \$3,000.00

November 21.....\$3,075.17
Difference: +\$75.17
November 28.....\$2,268.55
Difference: -\$731.45
Hospitality.....\$115.21

This Sunday the second collection is for religious retirement.

****ENVELOPES****

Please see Sr. Marion BEFORE the 9:45 or 5 Mass on 12/12/10 to pick up your envelopes for next year.

Please Remember in your Prayers:

Kerry Crowe, Denny Flerlage, Fr. Jim Hasse, Jesse Hernandez, James Patrick Higgins, Lucas & Keira Hilker, Mildred Jackson, Lettece Lee, Philip Mendoza, Phillip Miller, Valerie Parks, Bob Rice, Carol Roman, Patti Tierney, Lupe Torres, Jerry Walton, Christine Watson, Sr. Caritas Wehrman, SSND, and Thomas Williams

Bereavement Committee Workshop

Today Sr. Eileen will present the first of a 2 part workshop for members of the Bereavement Committee and anyone else interested in learning methods & materials used in planning the funeral liturgy with the next of kin. We will gather after the 9:45 mass in the Parish Center.



Please join Holy Family Honors and Junior Knights & Daughter's in our Annual Sock Drive for the Homeless! Starting Sunday, December 5th and continuing until Sunday, December 19th, Holy Family will be collecting New - White - Athletic Socks for donation to our homeless brothers and sisters through our relationship with The Night Ministry. This is the fourth year for our sock drive. There are many places where white socks can be purchased in bulk – let's pass on some bargains! These socks are a small thing but mean a lot, and feel good, to the homeless people we will reach. Please see Odell if you have any questions or have a large donation.

THANK YOU! The committee for the Stepper Set would like to thank everyone for helping to make the event a success. Mark your calendars for the next dance, which will be on 2/11/11.

DON'T FORGET - Holy Family Children's Christmas Party, Saturday, 12/18 from 11 am - 2 pm.

CHRISTMAS CARDS and note cards are now available for purchase in the back of church and also online at www.holyfamilychicago.org

OUR OWN HOLIDAY TRADITION -

Our tradition here at Holy Family is to help those members of our church family who are having a difficult time during the Christmas season. The Holy Family Giving Tree, located at the back of the church this week, is laden with star ornaments. Each represents the wishes of someone in the parish who needs our help. The "wish" for a Christmas present is written on the back of the star. If you are able to help out this Christmas, please take a star (adults only, please), purchase the gift requested, wrap the gift, attach the star to the gift, and place the present under the tree (which will be moved to the right hand side of the altar) by Dec. 13th. This has been a difficult year financially for so many. Won't you help us make this Christmas a little merrier for those who need help this Christmas?

Altar Server Training will be held Sunday, December 12th following the 9:45 am Mass. Please see John King today if you plan to participate in this training session.

Calendar

- Dec 12 - Chicago Chorale Concert and Lecture
Steering Committee Mtg after 9:45 Mass
- Dec 18 - Holy Family Children's Christmas Party. 11 am - 2 pm
- Dec. 19 - Reconciliation at the 9:45 am Mass
Musical reflection on Advent and Christmas with Gerry Dignan
- Dec. 24 - Mass for the Vigil of the Nativity of the Lord at 5 pm with historic pipe organ and brass.
9:30 pm Christmas Carols - Holy Family Gospel choir
10 pm Solemn Liturgy for the Nativity of the Lord
- Dec. 25 - Mass for the Celebration of the Nativity of our Lord at 9:45 am
- Dec. 26 - The Feast of the Holy Family 9:45 am mass and celebration of the 20th Anniversary of the saving of the Church
5 pm Mass for the Feast of the Holy Family.
- Dec. 31 - New Year's Eve 5 pm Mass
- Jan. 1 - New Year's Day 9:45 am Mass
- Jan. 2 - The Feast of the Epiphany 9:45 am and 5pm Mass