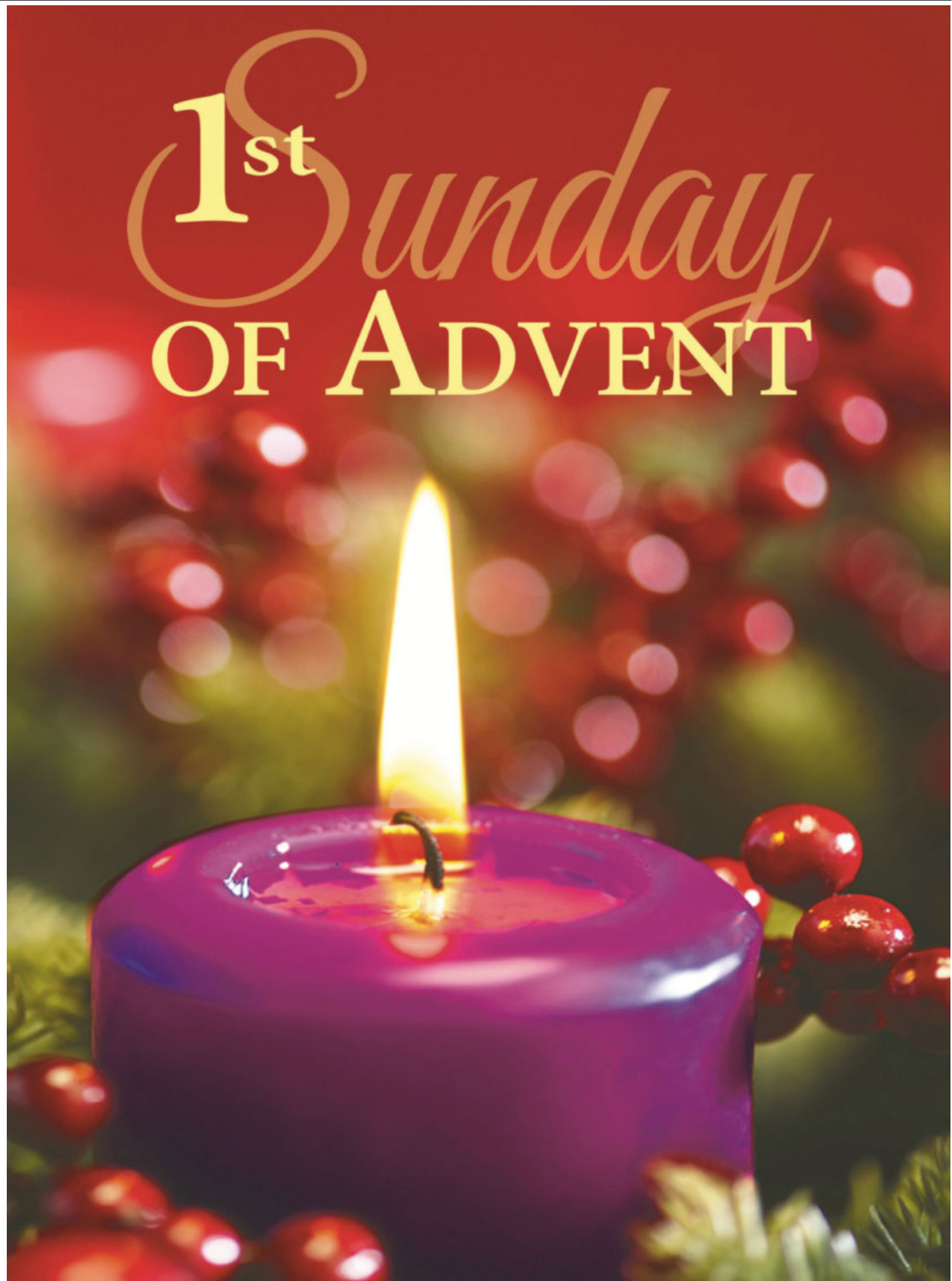


Saints Thomas Becket and Alphonsus Liguori Parish

Sunday, December 3, 2023 ♦ First Sunday of Advent



WELCOME TO THE PARISH OF SAINTS THOMAS BECKET & ALPHONSUS LIGUORI

PARISH STAFF

FR. GREG WOJCIK

Pastor

FR. STEVEN DOMBROWSKI

FR. SLAWOMIR KURC

Associate Pastors

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DEACON JACEK SOSIN:

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DEACON MIKE PLATT:

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SENIOR DEACONS:

Deacon Steve Stecker & Deacon Cal Blickle

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ONE PARISH TWO PLACES OF WORSHIP



ST. THOMAS BECKET

1321 N Burning Bush Ln
Mount Prospect, IL 60056

847-827-9220

www.stthomasbecketmp.org

stthomasbecket@stbmp.org

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

411 N. Wheeling Rd
Prospect Heights, IL 60070
847-255-9490

www.SaintAlphonsusPH.org

ST. ALPHONSUS LIGUORI

411 N Wheeling Rd
Prospect Heights, IL 60070

847-255-7452

www.SaintAlphonsusPH.org

rectory@saintalphonsus.com

ST. ALPHONSUS LIGUORI SCHOOL

411 N Wheeling Rd
Prospect Heights, IL 60070
847-255-5538

www.saintalphonsusschool.com

MASS TIMES

ST. THOMAS BECKET CHURCH

WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Monday—Tuesday

Thursday—Friday: 9am

Wednesday & Friday: 7pm—Polish

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil Mass: 4pm

Sunday: 9am & 12:30pm

7:30am & 10:45am—Polish

CONFESSION

Friday: 5:30pm—6:45pm

ADORATION

Friday: 5:30pm—7pm

ST. ALPHONSUS LIGUORI CHURCH

WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Monday to Thursday: 8:15am

Friday & Saturday: 8:30am

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

1st Saturday Healing Mass: 8:30am

Saturday Vigil Mass: 5pm

Sunday: 8:30am & 11:00am

CONFESSION

Saturday: 4pm-4:45pm

ADORATION

Tuesdays: 6pm-7pm

OFFICE HOURS

Monday and Friday:

9am—4pm

Tuesday—Wednesday—Thursday:

9am—4pm

Today we begin the season of Advent, which marks the start of a new liturgical year for the Church. The readings for Sunday Mass are arranged on a three-year cycle. Each year features a different Gospel—Matthew, Mark, or Luke. Readings from the Gospel of John are interspersed throughout all three years. With this year's first Sunday of Advent, we begin Cycle B of the Lectionary, which focuses our attention on the Gospel of Mark. This week and next week, our readings from Mark's Gospel present two important Advent themes: the Lord's return at the end of time and John the Baptist's preparation for Jesus.

Today's Gospel is taken from the end of Mark's Gospel, the chapter that immediately precedes Mark's account of Jesus' Passion. Having been questioned repeatedly by the scribes and the Pharisees, Jesus is now questioned by his disciples—Peter, James, John, and Andrew—who want details about his prediction of the destruction of the Temple. Jesus answers with many warnings about the difficulties that the disciples will face.

Today's passage comes at the conclusion of Jesus' warnings to his disciples. Jesus emphasizes the need for watchfulness. The Son of Man will come without warning; only the Father knows the exact hour. The disciples must not be caught unprepared when this time comes.

Scholars believe that Mark's Gospel was written around the time of the destruction of Jerusalem by the Romans in A.D. 70. Mark's audience consisted of Christians who were living in difficult social and political times, times of conflict. They were likely beginning to face persecution as followers of Jesus. In this difficult time, it helped to recall that Jesus had foretold of such difficulties. Early Christian communities took courage from Jesus' warning to remain alert and watchful, and they found in his words a way to persevere through suffering.

Today's Gospel reminds us that Advent is about more than our preparation for the Church's celebration of Christ's birth at Christmas. Advent is also about preparing ourselves for Christ's return in glory at the end of time. Like the disciples and the faithful in Mark's community, we must also stay alert and watchful. Our faithfulness to God, through the good times as well as the difficult times, shows us to be ready for the coming of the Son of Man.

Dziś rozpoczynamy okres Adwentu, który rozpoczyna nowy rok liturgiczny w Kościele. Czytania niedzielnej Mszy Św. ułożone są w cyklu trzyletnim. Każdego roku przedstawiana jest inna Ewangelia – Mateusza, Marka czy Łukasza. Czytania z Ewangelii Jana są przeplatane przez wszystkie trzy lata. Pierwszą w tym roku niedzielą Adwentu rozpoczynamy cykl B Lekcjonarza, który skupia naszą uwagę na Ewangelii Marka. W tym i przyszłym tygodniu nasze czytania z Ewangelii Marka przedstawiają dwa ważne tematy Adwentu: powrót Pana na końcu czasów i przygotowanie Jana Chrzciciela dla Jezusa.

Dzisiejsza Ewangelia pochodzi z zakończenia Ewangelii Marka, rozdziału bezpośrednio poprzedzającego relację Marka o męce Jezusa. Wielokrotnie przesłuchiwany przez uczonych w Piśmie i faryzeuszów, Jezus jest teraz przesłuchiwany przez swoich uczniów — Piotra, Jakuba, Jana i Andrzeja — którzy chcą poznać szczegóły dotyczące jego przepowiedni dotyczącej zniszczenia Świątyni. Jezus odpowiada wieloma ostrzeżeniami dotyczącymi trudności, jakie napotkają uczniowie.

Dzisiejszy fragment kończy się przestrogami, jakie Jezus skierował do swoich uczniów. Jezus podkreśla potrzebę czujności. Syn Człowieczy przyjdzie bez ostrzeżenia; tylko Ojciec zna dokładną godzinę. Kiedy nadejdzie ten czas, uczniowie nie mogą zostać przyłapani na nieprzygotowaniu.

Uczeni uważają, że Ewangelia Marka została napisana mniej więcej w czasie zniszczenia Jerozolimy przez Rzymian w roku 70 AD. Słuchaczami Marka byli chrześcijanie żyjący w trudnych czasach społecznych i politycznych, w czasach konfliktu. Jako naśladowcy Jezusa prawdopodobnie zaczęli doświadczać prześladowań. W tym trudnym czasie warto było przypomnieć sobie, że Jezus przepowiedział takie trudności. Wczesne wspólnoty chrześcijańskie nabrały odwagi po przestrodze Jezusa, by zachować czujność i uwagę, i w jego słowach znalazły sposób na wytrwanie w cierpieniu.

Dzisiejsza Ewangelia przypomina nam, że Adwent to coś więcej niż tylko przygotowanie do kościelnej celebracji narodzin Chrystusa w Boże Narodzenie. Adwent to także przygotowanie się na powrót Chrystusa w chwale na końcu czasów. Podobnie jak uczniowie i wierni we wspólnocie Marka, my również musimy zachować czujność i uwagę. Nasza wierność Bogu, zarówno w dobrych, jak i trudnych chwilach, pokazuje, że jesteśmy gotowi na przyjście Syna Człowieczego.

Liturgy at St. Thomas Becket Church

MASS INTENTIONS AT ST. THOMAS BECKET

MONDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2023

9AM—FR. SK SPECIAL: FOR PARISHIONERS

12PM—FR. SŚ SPECIAL: ZA KSIĘŻY I KOŚCIÓŁ
SPECIAL: ZA RODZINY: WILCZEK, MAJEWSKI,
NOWAK, HEFLIN & TAŃCULA

7PM—FR. SŚ SPECIAL: ZA PARAFIAN

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2023

9AM—FR. SD †ANNE KILLIAN †ANNA BETZ

12PM—FR. SŚ SPECIAL: ZA KSIĘŻY I KOŚCIÓŁ
SPECIAL: ZA RODZINY: WILCZEK, MAJEWSKI,
NOWAK, HEFLIN & TAŃCULA

7PM—FR. SŚ SPECIAL: ZA PARAFIAN

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2023

7PM—FR. SK †ZOFIA PAWULA

SPECIAL: ZA KSIĘŻY I KOŚCIÓŁ
SPECIAL: ZA RODZINY: WILCZEK, MAJEWSKI,
NOWAK, HEFLIN & TAŃCULA

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2023

9AM—FR. GW SPECIAL: BLESSINGS FOR
FAMILIES: WILCZEK, MAJEWSKI, NOWAK,
HEFLIN & TAŃCULA

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2023

9AM—FR. SK

SPECIAL: FOR PRIESTS & THE CHURCH
SPECIAL: FOR FAMILIES: WILCZEK,
MAJEWSKI, NOWAK, HEFLIN & TAŃCULA

7PM—FR. GW †WACŁAW PIKUS

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2023

4PM—FR. GW

†MARZENA STOLARZ †JOHN PHISTER

†CHRIS ROCCO †ETHEL POLZIN

†FRANCIS WALIN-CURTIS †AGNES KENDALL

†BARBARA WYDRA †NANCY GULLIKSON

†STEFANIA BARTNICKA †GREG LANGE

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2023

7:30AM—FR. SK

†MARIA I ANTONI ZAUCHA

†ADELA I WACŁAW POPIEŁUSZKO

†MIECZYŚLAW PASIEWICZ

†EUGENIUSZ FILIP

†MARIAN SZEWCZYK

†GERTRUDA MAŁEK

SPECIAL: RODZINA SZEWCZYK—BOŻE BŁ

9AM—FR. SD †RORY FIEDLER

10:45AM—FR. SK

†ARTHUR KOSIBA

†ROBERT MOZDZYNSKI

12:30PM—FR. SD †ADAM KULIG

TABERNACLE LAMP AND BREAD AND WINE

AT ST. THOMAS BECKET

for the week of December 3rd
are offered in the intentions of:



†ANNE KILIAN & †ANNA BETZ

Offering made by the family.

Deceased loved ones are remembered in a special way by donating in their name for the weekly **Altar Bread and Wine** or the **Tabernacle Candle**. Specific family occasions, such as wedding anniversaries, birthdays, baptisms can also be honored. Suggested donation is \$30 for each. Please contact the parish office to select a date or email Liz at: e.mika@stbal.org

MINISTRY SCHEDULE FOR DEC 9/10 AT ST. THOMAS BECKET

MASS TIME	PRESIDER	LECTOR	EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS
4:00pm ENG	Fr. Sławomir Kurc	Scott S	JoRene A Joe C
7:30am POL	Fr. Greg Wojcik	Rafał K	Barbara S Piotr J Maria T
9:00am ENG	Fr. Sławomir Kurc	Brian G	Daisy K
10:45am POL	Fr. Sławomir Kurc	Halina W	Halina W Christine K Adam S
12:30pm ENG	Fr. Steve Dombrowski	Don S	John W Kamila K

W następną niedzielę, 10 grudzień, będą dostępne
ŚWIECZKI NA STÓŁ WIGILIJNY w cenie \$5.

Siostra Magdalena ze zgromadzenia Sióstr Misjonarek Chrystusa
Króla będzie naszym gościem w imieniu
DOMU SAMOTNEJ MATKI im. Św. RODZINY.

Dom Samotnej Matki, przez ostatnie 15 lat, służył pomocą prawie
150 mamom i 190 dzieciom. Dom utrzymuje się tylko i wyłącznie z
donacji ludzi dobrej woli. Bóg Zapłać za wsparcie ich pracy.

Liturgy at St. Alphonsus Liguori Church

Masses / Observances	Mass Intentions	Presider	Readings
Saturday, 12/2, 8:30am Healing Mass	Parishioners of Sts. Thomas Becket & Alphonsus Liguori Parish	Fr. Greg, Fr. Steve, Fr. Slawomir	Dn 7:15-27/Dn 3:82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87/Lk 21:34-36
Saturday, 12/2, 5:00pm	†Kenneth R. Marcotte, †George Fine, †Joseph Boffa, †Heinrich Knaup, †Julian Mamalio	Fr. Slawomir Kurc	<i>See Sunday's Readings Below</i>
Sunday, 12/3, 8:30am 1 st Sunday of Advent	†Turansky & Kozmel Families, †Maria Kozmel, †Joan Daley Lee, †John C. Kuhn, †Frances Neary	Fr. Greg Wojcik	Is 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7/Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19 (4)/1 Cor 1:3-9/Mk 13:33-37
Sunday, 12/3, 11:00am	†Michael Whelan, †Irene Hendricks, †Rick Rice, †Thomas Naples	Fr. Greg Wojcik	
Monday, 12/4, 8:15am St. John Damascene, Priest and Doctor of the Church	Parishioners of Sts. Thomas Becket & Alphonsus Liguori Parish	Fr. Slawomir Kurc	Is 2:1-5/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4b, 4cd -5, 6-7, 8-9/Mt 8:5-11
Tuesday, 12/5, 8:15am	†Kevin Doherty, †Pedro Alfaro Sorto, †Dan Quiry	Fr. Steven Dombrowski	Is 11:1-10/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17/Lk 10:21-24
Wednesday, 12/6, 8:15am St. Nicholas, Bishop	†Jean Perkowitz, †George Hawel, †Albert Hawel	Fr. Greg Wojcik	Is 25:6-10a/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6/Mt 15:29-37
Thursday, 12/7, 8:15am St. Ambrose, Bishop and Doctor of the Church	†Peter Wisniewski, For Priests & the Church	Fr. Greg Wojcik	Is 26:1-6/Ps 118:1 and 8-9, 19 -21, 25-27a/Mt 7:21, 24-27
Friday, 12/8, 8:30am & 7:00pm The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary	(8:30am) †Joseph Loblaco (7:00pm) †Peter Wisniewski	Fr. Steven Dombrowski	Gn 3:9-15, 20/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/Eph 1:3-6, 11-12/Lk 1:26-38
Saturday, 12/9, 8:30am St. Juan Diego Cuauhtlatoatzin	Parishioners of Sts. Thomas Becket & Alphonsus Liguori Parish	Fr. Steven Dombrowski	Is 30:19-21, 23-26/Ps 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/Mt 9:35—10:1, 5a, 6-8
Saturday, 12/9, 5:00pm	†Kenneth R. Marcotte, †George Fine, †Joseph Boffa, †Donald Deuling	Fr. Steven Dombrowski	<i>See Sunday's Readings Below</i>
Sunday, 12/10, 8:30am 2 nd Sunday of Advent	†Kay & Irene Hackett	Fr. Steven Dombrowski	Is 40:1-5, 9-11/Ps 85:9-10, 11 -12, 13-14 (8)/2 Pt 3:8-14/Mk 1:1-8
Sunday, 12/10, 11:00am Youth Mass	†Michael Whelan, †Irene Hendricks, †Thomas Naples	Fr. Greg Wojcik	

This Weekend's Gospel: Mark 13:33-37

Jesus said to his disciples: "Be watchful! Be alert! You do not know when the time will come. It is like a man traveling abroad. He leaves home and places his servants in charge, each with his own work, and orders the gatekeeper to be on the watch. Watch, therefore; you do not know when the lord of the house is coming, whether in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or in the morning. May he not come suddenly and find you sleeping. What I say to you, I say to all: 'Watch!'"

Altar Bread and Wine

**This Week's
Altar Bread and Wine is
in Loving Memory of:
Gary Levar
Offered by:
Franz &
Levar Families**



Stewardship: Giving our Time, Talent & Treasure



Please give to those who have given a lifetime.

Retirement Fund for Religious

Please donate at your local parish or by mail at:

National Religious Retirement Office
3211 Fourth Street NE
Washington DC 20017-1194

Make check payable to Retirement Fund for Religious.

retiredreligious.org

Visit retiredreligious.org/2023photos to meet the religious pictured.
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**WANT TO VOLUNTEER?
NEED SERVICE HOURS?**
Make lunches or kindness cards for the homeless

The Loving Lunches initiative was founded by Ann Marie Frank, Owner of AMA Academy of Performing Arts in Des Plaines, as a way to fill a growing need in our community.



320 Lunches are made each week and delivered on Mondays and Wednesdays directly to Chicagoland's homeless community!

We are back assembling lunches October - May on the first Sunday of the month after the 11 o'clock Mass. December 3rd will be the next one. There are 25 slots available for assembling lunches and making kindness cards. **Please consider donating.** We are in need of food and/or monetary donations. Information along with a list of food items are listed and can be selected on the sign up genius page.

Please bring donated items to the kitchen on the day of assembling. If you cannot attend for any reason please notify us immediately as need to know if we still need to purchase items. If you need to drop off items before that day, would like to add a person to your group (if slots are filled) or have any questions about volunteering at Saint Alphonsus please contact Lori Loquercio at Lloquercio@saintalphonsus.com

Below is the link to the sign up genius page. There is also a link on the parish website. There are available dates to assemble lunches at AMA's Studio. Please contact Ann Marie Frank at Loving Lunches LovingLunches2020@gmail.com regarding dates or if you would like more information about Loving Lunches donations.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090D4EA4A628A5F49-45766168-volunteer>

Loving Lunches is a 501c3 Organization.
Your donation is tax deductible to the extent of the law.



Sunday Donations

St. Thomas Becket

Y-T-D Sunday Collection: \$ 166,381.00

(For Fiscal Year Beginning July 1, 2023)

Weekly Collections: \$ 15,019.00

St. Alphonsus Liguori

Y-T-D Sunday Collection: \$ 214,817.00

(For Fiscal Year Beginning July 1, 2023)

Weekly Collections: \$ 9,700.00



www.SaintAlphonsus.org



USHERS NEEDED

We are in need of additional ushers for the St. Alphonsus Liguori Weekend Masses.

5:00pm Saturday

8:30am Sunday

11:00am Sunday

If interested, please speak with an usher at your Mass, or contact Hernan Fonseca at 847-764-2612.



HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

SUNDAY, DEC 3 - “Season of Hope” Christmas Concert: 3pm (St. Alphonsus Liguori)

SUNDAY, DEC 3 - Polish Advent Mission: 7:30am + 10:45am in Polish (St. Thomas Becket)

MONDAY, DEC 4 + TUESDAY, DEC 5— Polish Advent Mission: 12pm + 7pm (St. Thomas Becket)

FRIDAY, DEC 8 - Immaculate Conception: 9am in English & 7pm in Polish (St. Thomas Becket)

FRIDAY, DEC 8 - Immaculate Conception: 8:30am + 7pm (St. Alphonsus Liguori)

TUESDAY, DEC 19 - “Blue Christmas Service” - 7pm (St. Thomas Becket)

**THURSDAY, DEC 21 - Advent Reconciliation (Bilingual: Eng + Pol): 9:30am—11am
& 5:30pm—8pm (St. Thomas Becket)**

**SUNDAY, DEC 24 - 4th Sunday of Advent in the MORNING:
9am in English NO 12:30pm! 7:30am + 10:45am in Polish (St. Thomas Becket)**

SUNDAY, DEC 24 - Christmas Eve: 4pm in English, 9pm in Polish + 12am in Polish (St. Thomas Becket)

SUNDAY, DEC 24 - 4th Sunday of Advent in the MORNING: 8:30am & 11am (St. Alphonsus Liguori)

SUNDAY, DEC 24 - Christmas Eve: 3pm, 6pm & 10pm (St. Alphonsus Liguori)

**MONDAY, DEC 25 - Christmas Day:
7:30am + 10:45am in Polish, 9am + 12:30pm in English (St. Thomas Becket)**

MONDAY, DEC 25 - Christmas Day: 8:30am + 11am (St. Alphonsus Liguori)

TUESDAY, DEC 26 - St. Stephen: 7pm in Polish (St. Thomas Becket)

SUNDAY, DEC 31 - 7:30am + 10:45am in Polish, 9am + 12:30pm in English (St. Thomas Becket)

SUNDAY, DEC 31 - Anticipated Mass for Mary Mother of God: 4pm in English (St. Thomas Becket)

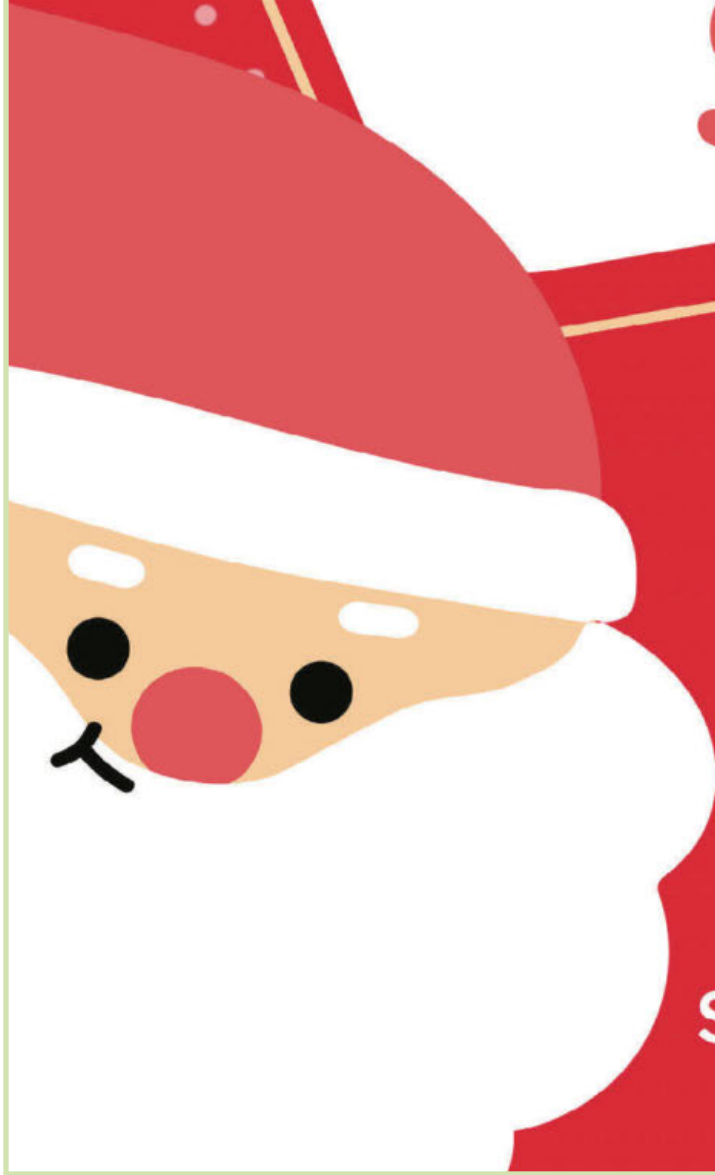
SUNDAY, DEC 31 - Regular Sunday Masses: 8:30am + 11am (St. Alphonsus Liguori)

MONDAY, JAN 1 - Mary, Mother of God: 9am in English, 7:30am + 10:45am in Polish (St. Thomas Becket)

MONDAY, JAN 1 - Mary, Mother of God: 8:30am + 11am (St. Alphonsus Liguori)



St. Alphonsus Liguori School Presents
PANCAKE BREAKFAST
WITH
SANTA



\$10 AGES 10+
\$5 KIDS UNDER 10

DECEMBER 10
8 AM - 1 PM
ST. ALPHONSUS GYM

Religious Education

"One Mass is more valuable than all the treasures of the world."

November Family Youth Mass

"All good deeds put together are not as valuable as one Mass." - St. John Mary Vianney

The Mass is the New Testament sacrifice in which the Lord Jesus, under the forms of bread and wine, offers Himself to His Father for us.

In the Mass, the same sacrifice that the Lord Jesus offered to the Heavenly Father on the Cross for our sins is repeated. The difference is only in the way it is offered. On the cross, the Lord Jesus offered Himself in the form of a man in a bloody way, that is, He suffered and died; and in the Mass, He offers Himself in the form of bread and wine in a bloodless way, that is, He does not suffer and die. Both on the Cross and in the Mass, the Lord Jesus offers Himself to God the Father; but in the Mass, He offers Himself through the hands of the priests.

And so it will be until the end of the world. This was strongly emphasized by the Second Vatican Council when it recalled that the Savior "instituted the Eucharistic Sacrifice of his Body and Blood in order to perpetuate in it the sacrifice of the Cross for all eternity until His coming."

The Mass is offered by the priest as an offering to the Lord God the Father on behalf of all the faithful, that is, the entire Church. By offering this sacrifice, the Church worships God in the most perfect way.

All who belong to the Church can enjoy the fruits of the Mass and unite their intentions with those of the Church. The Church recommends that the Mass be offered not only for the living, but also for the souls in Purgatory, because by offering this Sacrifice they will sooner be reunited with God in Heaven.

The Holy Mass is always celebrated as a sacrifice for the glory of GOD.

On Sunday, November 12th, the children and youth of our St. Alphonsus Liguori School and Religious Education Program, along with their parents, actively participated in such a Sacrifice.

The Mass was celebrated by Father Steven Dombrowski - Associate Pastor, assisted by Deacon Mike Platt.

In his homily, Father Steven referred to the words of the day's Gospel, which tells of the five wise and five foolish virgins who awaited the coming of the Bridegroom.

Father Steven spoke to the children about the importance and value of the oil and its significance in our lives. He also asked everyone to close their eyes for a moment and think about what they are thankful to God for. He asked that especially during the upcoming Thanksgiving holiday and Advent time, we thank God for all the graces we have received.

After Mass, everyone was invited to a sweet treat sponsored by families in our Religious Education Program.

We thank you all for your great participation in our monthly Family Youth Mass and wish you many God's blessings.

God bless you All!

Beata Bosak

Director of Lifelong Faith Formation



Christmas Giving Tree 2023

Dear Parishioners,

We have a long tradition of being wonderfully generous in holiday giving. Our **Giving Tree** is a reminder that families are in need of something special this Holiday Season. With this in mind we ask you to be as generous as you have been in the past and donate money this Christmas so we can purchase **GIFT CERTIFICATES**. This year we are joining with St. Thomas Becket in this endeavor so we will be gifting our **FOOD PANTRY GUESTS** as well as **WINGS**.

In the Church Narthex you will find 2 different envelopes marked **GIVING TREE** for you to choose from. One will be marked **Food Pantry** and the other **WINGS**. Put your gift in the

envelope of choice, and deposit it in the **CHRISTMAS DONATION BOX**.

Make checks payable to St. Alphonsus Liguori Church
Memo: Giving Tree

ENVELOPES can also be sent to/dropped off in the Parish Office or School Office
DEADLINE – Sunday, December 10th

Your generosity will provide a Merry Christmas for others!
Peace and Blessings for the Holidays!



The Women's Guild and Men's Club
of Sts. Thomas Becket and
Alphonsus Liguori Parish,
Invite Everyon 21 + to a

CHRISTMAS PARTY

Sunday, December 10

St. Thomas Becket Fellowship Hall
Doors open at 4pm—Dinner at 5pm

Tickets: \$28 per person (21+)

Available at either church office

Cash or checks payable to: St. Thomas Becket.

Ticket Price Includes: Catered Dinner from Nino's, Beer, Wine, Soda, 'Sweet table' and Entertainment by Jeorge Gables!



*"Blessed are those who mourn,
for they shall be comforted."*

—Matthew 5:4

As much as happiness is a part of life, so is loss, and its burden may feel a little lighter when it is shared. If you have experienced a loss recently or even long ago, we would like to journey with you. Please consider being part of one of our Grief Gatherings.

Anyone is welcome to join us
Tuesday, December 12 from 6:30-7:45pm
in the St. Thomas Becket Fellowship Room

Purpose: to be with you, to listen to you, to learn what we can do to support you

The evening will be hosted by Joanie Fine, who is the assistant facilitator for "To Be Joyful Again" at Holy Family Parish, and Doreen Kelly, Pastoral Minister.

Questions? Contact Doreen Kelly, Pastoral Minister,
847-255-7456, x 157

JOIN OUR YOUTH GROUP!

**Meetings, Mission Trips, Dances, Games,
Cinema Outings, Family Trips And More!**

Upcoming Meetings: Youth Ages 12-18

Wednesday, December 6 • 6-8pm (Rectory - Burke Hall)

Wednesday, December 20 • 6-8pm (Rectory - Burke Hall)

Upcoming Meetings: Polish Youth Group

Friday, December 8 • 6-8pm (Rectory - Burke Hall)

Friday, December 22 • 6-8pm (Rectory - Burke Hall)

Scan QR Code for more information.

Questions? Call Beata Bosak
847.255.9490 ext.116





Wedding Anniversary Announcements

To honor the Sacrament of Marriage, we would like to highlight Wedding Anniversaries in the bulletin quarterly. Return this form to the Parish Office, or call 847-255-7452 x 157.

Names: _____

Anniversary Date _____ Years Married _____

Phone: _____



Christmas Flower Memorials at St. Alphonsus

We always remember our deceased loved ones during the holidays. This year, why not remember them with a Christmas Flower Memorial? Your donation will help beautify our church as well as memorialize your loved one.

Please place your donation in an envelope marked "Christmas Flowers" and drop it in the collection basket at Mass, or bring it to the St. Alphonsus Office by **Friday, December 22**. Names of those memorialized will be listed in a bulletin after the holidays.

Suggested Donation - \$25 per Flower Memorial

Donor's Name: _____

Telephone: _____

In Memory of: _____

Please provide only one individual's name or one family name per Flower Memorial.

CELEBRATE THE TRUE MEANING OF CHRISTMAS

'Season of Hope' Christmas Concert



Join us for a vibrant holiday concert featuring all of your favorite Christmas classics.

SUNDAY, DEC 3 | 3PM | FREE TO ALL
ST. ALPHONSUS CHURCH
411 N. WHEELING RD, PROSPECT HEIGHTS
SAINTALPHONSUSPH.ORG | 847-255-7452

ST. MARY OF THE WOODS IN ASSOCIATION WITH SS. PETER & LAMBERT PRESENTS

HOLY GROUND MOVIE PREMIERE

**Thursday, December 14th
Landmark Glen**

1850 Tower Drive, Glenview, IL 60062

The new documentary, *Holy Ground*, tells the story of Chicago from the perspective of the Catholics. All are welcome to a **FREE** screening. Tickets only available at the box office the night of, but we strongly encourage you to RSVP through "Sign Up Genius." Questions? E-mail holyground@smow.org. *Holy Ground* is not rated; running time of 100 minutes.

**SHOWTIMES
5:30pm & 8:00pm**

St. Alphonsus Liguori Church is also featured in this documentary!



W KAŻDĄ NIEDZIELĘ ADWENTU ŚPIEWAMY GODZINKI

o Niepokalanym Poczęciu
Najświętszej Maryi Panny
o godz. 7:10am

OPLATKI—Blessed Christmas Wafers—at \$5 per envelope of 3 large wafers—are available at the parish offices or after Masses starting this weekend.

POŚWIĘCONE OPLATKI wigilijne w cenie \$5 za 3 są do nabycia przed i po Mszach Św. lub w biurach parafialnych.

Please join us for **A BLUE CHRISTMAS SERVICE** on **Tuesday, December 19th at 7pm at St. Thomas Becket**. This is especially for those hurting during the holidays. Some come because they are mourning the death of a loved one. Some are far from home. Some suffer from illness, addiction, or estrangement. Some are lonely, struggling financially, or in conflict with another.

Before the rush of the holidays, come and spend some healing, quiet, and reflective time with the Lord.

ALL ARE WELCOME.

A Blue
Christmas Service

REKOLEKCJE ADWENTOWE

w jęz. polskim w kościele Św. Tomasza Becketa:

“Jezus Chrystus - wcielone Słowo źródłem
wspólnoty Kościoła”

Rekolekcjonista: ks. Dr. Prałat
Sławomir Śledziewski

Niedziela, 3 Grudzień:
7:30am i 10:45am

Poniedziałek i Wtorek,
4 i 5 Grudzień: 12pm i 7pm



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY



**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8—HOLY DAY
OF OBLIGATION**

STB—9:00am English & 7:00pm Polish

SAL—8:30am & 7:00pm

**UROCZYSTOŚĆ NIEPOKALANEGO
POCZĘCIA NAJŚWIĘTSZEJ MARYJI
PANNY**

PIĄTEK, 8 GRUDZIEŃ—ŚWIĘTO OBOWIĄZKOWE
9am w jęz. angielskim i 7pm w jęz. polskim

Christmas Flower Collection at St. Thomas Becket

Second collection on the weekend of December 18th at St. Thomas Becket will be for the Christmas flowers to beautify our worship space during the Christmas season. Donations can be dropped off anytime at the parish office or in the designated box in the lobby of the church. Donations can be made in memory of a loved one.

Names of the deceased and contributors will be published in our bulletin at a later time.

Druga kolekta w weekend 18-go grudnia w kościele Św. Tomasza Becketa przeznaczona będzie na kwiaty wnoszące świąteczny nastrój Bożonarodzeniowy w naszym kościele. Donacje można składać do poznaczonej skrzynki w przed-sionku kościoła lub do biura parafialnego. Donacje można składać ku pamięci bliskich zmarłych. Nazwiska zmarłych i ofiarodawców będą wymienione w naszym biuletynie.

In Memory : _____

Ku pmięci:

Requested By: _____

Ofiarodawca:

Suggested Offering / \$20_____ \$10_____ Other/inna_____



FOOD PANTRY NEWS...



Thanks to your generous donations, 74 families were provided with bags of food from our Food Pantry distribution on November 18.

Please help the Food Pantry by donating the following items:

Canned Soups
Cans/Jars of Fruit
Bottles of Apple/Cranberry Juice
Boxes of Cereal
Peanut Butter
Jam/Preserves
Bags/Boxes of Rice
Mac and Cheese
Bags/Boxes of Pasta
Pasta Sauce
Toilet Paper

**Thank you for your donations
and generosity!**

Nativity Blessing

The Saint Alphonsus Liguori School's Choir sang for the Nativity scene blessing at the North School Park in Arlington Heights last Sunday, November 26th. The Choir was joined by Father Slawomir who performed a blessing and said a prayer. The Choir sang a few songs to celebrate of the Christmas Season.



Women's Guild Meeting

The Sts. Thomas Becket and Alphonsus Liguori Women's Guild enjoyed a fall evening together on Monday, November 20, 2023. After the business portion of our meeting, our guest presenter, Janine, from Lurveys Home and Gardens, created beautiful holiday centerpieces, which were raffled off to lucky Guild members.

Maria Kutrumanes
Women's Guild President



If you would like to receive COMMUNION with **Low Gluten Hosts** (.0002%), please contact the Parish Office at 847-255-7452.

*If you have strict dietary requirements,
please consult your doctor.*

Open Volleyball!

Join us for Volleyball for Anyone 18 +



WEDNESDAYS
Dec. 6 - Jan 31
8:00pm-10:00pm
St. Alphonsus Gym

To Sign Up Contact
Jacek: j.sosin@stbal.org, or
Karol: karolciu@yahoo.com

Please Pray For:

~ Those Requesting Prayers ~

John Balzanto, Shirley Barker, Matthew Fitzgerald Batt, Jamal L. Carraway, Clayton Berrigan, Marie Berrigan, Donald Blicke, Lawrence Boesen, Thomas Boesen, Lola Bondzinski, Anna Braun, Jeanne Brown, Maria Budinger, Maria Cacucciolo, Harriett Ciesil, Jennifer Clyder, Terry Condon, Ann Cozzone, John Doherty, Jack Dugan, Mary Dugan, Joan Fine, Heather Fischer, Tim Ford, Kevin Frei, Caryn Garber, Carol Glab, Peggy Gosch, Mary Graff, Brian Halpin, Kris Hansen, Liz Hardesty, David Hartman, Judy Hartman, Dale Hay, Kathleen Heinz, Salvina Hernandez, Jackie Hipelius, John Hipelius, Jessica Hough, Tom Huene, Jr., Itzy, Tom, Heune, Sr., Pam Jackstis, RFK, Ann Kellerhals, Krzysztof, Mary Ann Kudjer, Kirk Kunzendorf, Pat Laman, Carol Lange, Lucille Lay, Megan Lawler, Patti Lawler, Mary Margaret Lazich, Jim Leonard, Carol Lewandowski, Tony Lewandowski, Bob Linhart, Pat Linhart, Rick Lizars, Harper Lynn, Josephine Mallek, Claudia Marchetti, Mareena Mattison, Wendy Mattison, Michael McDonough, Kathleen McKenna, Jim McGowan, Brian Meschick, Joann Miller, Ann Michals, Gay Miezin, Cathy Moretti, Dick Moretti, Maeve Morgan, Dolores Murbach, Norine Naselli, John Naughton, Susan Naughton, Marilyn Olson, Bernie Olson, Susan Ostrowski, Karen Ralston, Michael Ricard, Mary Roseri, Ning Santos, Mary Jo Sheehy, John Shafer, Pat Schaefer, Stan Shafer, Laura Schuerman, Robert "Bob" Smith, Stanley, Donna Tadda, Natalie Tadda, Barbara Teeple, Justin Thompson, Margaret Turansky, Steve Volkodav, Mickey Wallace, Martha Wieland

To be added to this prayer list, or have your name removed, please call the Parish Office at 847-255-7452.

~ Those in the Military ~

We would like to keep Active Duty Military who proudly serve our country in our prayers.



Capt. Peter Straka, U.S. Army, *son of Timothy and Carol Straka*
 Lt. Ryan Pattullo, USN, *grandson of Maria Wirth*
 Capt. Michael K. Yoshino, U.S. Army, *son of Keith & Kristine Yoshino*
 Col Michael B. Sheridan, U.S. Army, *nephew of Anita Thomas*
 Lt. Col Chiara Sheridan, U.S. Army, *relative of Anita Thomas*
 Maj. Christina M. Rudolph, U.S. Army Reserves, *daughter of Julianne Henington*
 LCpl. Tim Haerr, USMC, *great nephew of Joyce Patton*
 LCDR Patrick Mitchell, USN, *son-in-law of Jean and Tom Spiegelhalter*
 CPO, Matthew Lee, USN, *nephew of Patrick Lee*
 Cpl. Jason Matker, USMC, *grandson of Donald (and Carol) Matker*
 FCA2 Andrew Fonseca, USN, *parishioner*
 Cpl. Eric Fonseca, USMC, *parishioner*
 Sgt. Robert McKavanagh, USMC, *son of Deana McKavanagh*

~ Our Beloved Deceased ~

Eleanor Willwerth
(Mother of Beth)

If you would like the Sacrament of Reconciliation, Anointing of the Sick, or have an emergency requiring a priest, please contact us at 847-255-7452 or 847-827-9220.

Welcome!

New Members: Register by calling the Parish Office at 847-255-7452 or 847-827-9220.

Current Members: Please call to update your phone number, home or email addresses if there are changes.

Welcome to Saints Thomas Becket and Alphonsus Liguori Parish

Add a Person / Update Rank / Remove from List

Contact Deana: 847-255-7452 x 131

d.mckavanagh@stbal.org

Prayer Circle

Ministers offer spiritual and moral support to those experiencing serious concerns in their lives. They want to pray with you for special intentions, such as a serious illness or emergency situation. When called upon, these ministers pass your prayer request to all members. Prayers are kept within the Prayer Circle and are not announced at Mass unless you wish.

If you are in need of this prayer support, please call:

Diane Kachigian
 847-215-2548

Community Events and Support Groups:

Chicago Nativity Scene—

Dear Friends of the Holy Family, Chicagoans and visitors will once again have the opportunity to see our beautiful nativity display **through December 30th** in Chicago's Daley Plaza at the intersection of Dearborn and Washington Street. The Chicago Nativity Scene Committee is now a 501(c)(3) charity organization. Any donation you would care to make to help offset these expenses would be much appreciated and it is also tax deductible. Prior to 2021 we had been able to manage the costs through a small group of generous donors, however, in the last two years the rent for the nativity scene has quadrupled in cost and our insurance is up 185%. Checks may be sent to the **Chicago Nativity Scene** at the address below. Please check out our website, www.chicagonativityscene.com, which has additional information about us including our history, photos, and more. Your support of the display will help remind our fellow Chicagoland residents that the birth of Christ is the true reason for hope and joy during Christmas! **Send Checks To:** The Chicago Nativity Scene 9 South Elmhurst Rd., Box #444 Prospect Heights, IL 60070



Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekends—

Renew your sacrament by deepening your communication, strengthening your relationship and rekindling your romance! For information, please visit www.wwme-chicagoland.org

Pregnant? Need help?—

Call Crisis Pregnancy at 1-800-NO-ABORT (1-800-662-2678) **St. Mary's Services** Offers free confidential counseling to assist women with an unplanned pregnancy, postpartum depression, grief and loss over a miscarriage, stillbirth, post abortion, and/or adjustment to motherhood. Our baby closet is available for all receiving counseling. For information call 847-870-8181.

LOSS: Loving Outreach to Survivors of Suicide—

Loving Outreach to Survivors of Suicide (LOSS) is a non-denominational program that supports individuals who are grieving the loss of a loved one by suicide offered by Catholic Charities. LOSS offers a safe, non-judgmental environment where survivors of suicide can openly talk about feelings, and find resources for healing. Call 312-655-7283 or visit www.catholiccharities.net/loss

Support for Loss of a Loved One—

Grief and Loss Services at Rainbow Hospice and Palliative Care offers one-on-one counseling, support groups and education for anyone who has lost a loved one. For more information visit www.RainbowHospice.org or call 847-653-3141

Widowed Men & Women's Monthly Support Group—

To Be Joyful Again, a non denominational support group for widows, widowers, or anyone who has lost a significant other, meets the **1st and 3rd Thursday of every month at 7:00pm** at Holy Family Parish, 2515 Palatine Road, Inverness. Get the support you need in this difficult time. All are welcome. Contact Peggy Emerson at 224-595-3613 or Bob Boho at 847-438-2884

Joyful Again! Support for Widowed Men & Women—

For upcoming Retreats and Workshops please check us out at www.joyfulagain.org, or call 708-354-7211

NAMI Support Group at St. Emily Parish—

Family members of individuals living with mental health conditions are invited to the National Alliance on Mental Illness Family Support Group the **second Tuesday of each month 7:00-8:30pm** 1400 E. Central Road in Mt. Prospect. Questions? Contact Mary Rose at 847-496-1415

Chicago Behavioral Hospital in Des Plaines, IL—

If you or someone you know is in a crisis and needs help, we are available 24/7 at 844-756-8600. CBH provides a supportive, compassionate and innovative environment of patient centered care for adolescents, adults and seniors. (Free Assessments) *ADD/ADHD, Addiction, Anger, Anxiety, Depression, OCD, Grief & Loss, Suicidal Ideation, Anti-Social Disorder, Trauma, Self-Injury, Bi-Polar Disorder, Dual Diagnosis, School Refusal, Schizophrenia, Bullying, Teen Pregnancy.*

THIS WEEK ON

FORMED

Week of December 03, 2023

What Is the Immaculate Conception?
Join Drs Tim Gray and John Sehorn as they examine Mary under her title of the Immaculate Conception. This dogma of the Catholic faith, promulgated in 1854 by Pope Pius IX, speaks of Mary's conception and what it means to the Church.

St. Nicholas Day | Catholic All Year at Home w/ Kendra Tierney
Kendra shares her favorite recipes and traditions for celebrating the feast of St. Nicholas (a.k.a. Santa!). Learn how to make mulled wine and cider, speculaas cookies, and deep-fried Dutch meatballs

Shalom/Peace | Advent: Word Studies | The Bible Project
"Peace" is a very common word in English, that means different things to different people. It's also a very important word in the Bible that refers not only to the absence of conflict but also to the presence of something else.

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If you are a victim of domestic violence (male or female), or know someone who is, and need help, please contact one of these numbers:
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• National Dating Abuse Helpline, (including teens) 866-331-9474 • Visit www.ndvh.org In an Emergency dial 911

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