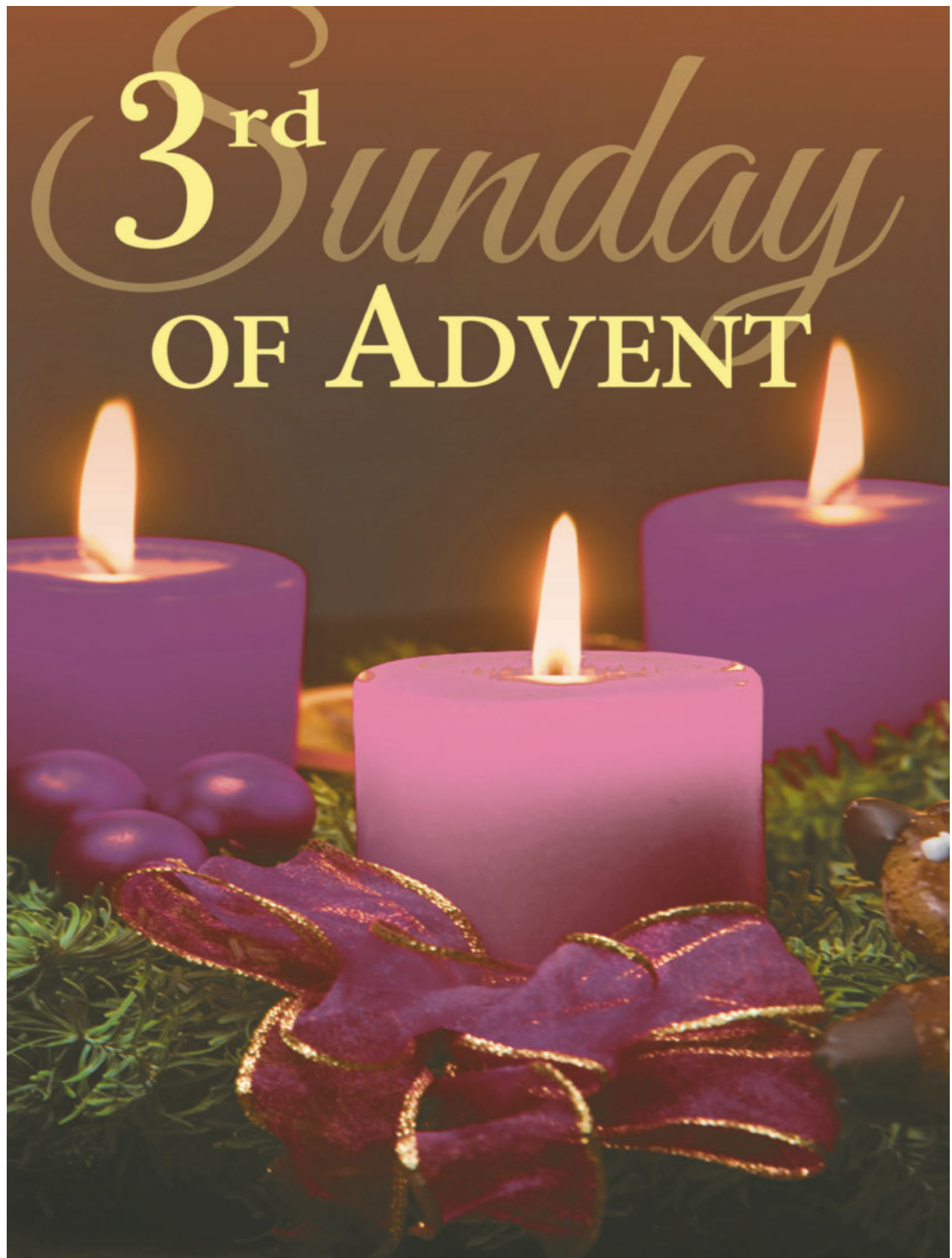


# Saints Thomas Becket and Alphonsus Liguori Parish

Sunday, December 17, 2023 ♦ Third Sunday of Advent

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# 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 MIKE PLATT:**

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**SENIOR DEACONS:**

Deacon Steve Stecker & Deacon Cal Blickle

### PARISH OFFICE:

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**LIZ MIKA:** Office Manager

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**DOREEN KELLY:** Dir. of Ministry & Evangelization

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**BEATA BOSAK:** Dir. of Lifelong Faith Formation

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### SCHOOL OFFICE:

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[p.trumblay@saintalphonsus.com](mailto:p.trumblay@saintalphonsus.com)

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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](http://www.stthomasbecketmp.org)

[stthomasbecket@stbmp.org](mailto:stthomasbecket@stbmp.org)

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

411 N. Wheeling Rd  
Prospect Heights, IL 60070

**847-255-9490**

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### ST. ALPHONSUS LIGUORI

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Prospect Heights, IL 60070

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Prospect Heights, IL 60070

**847-255-5538**

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## 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

This Sunday's Gospel invites us to continue our reflection on the person and mission of John the Baptist. Today we depart from the Gospel of Mark and read a selection from the Gospel of John.

The Gospel for today combines a brief passage from the prologue to John's Gospel with a report about John the Baptist. As in Mark's Gospel, the Gospel of John contains no birth narrative. Instead, John's Gospel begins with a theological reflection that has come to be called the "prologue." This prologue places the story of Jesus in its cosmological framework. It speaks of Jesus' existence with God since the beginning of time. In John's Gospel, Jesus is presented as the fulfillment of the Old Testament and the culmination of the Word, the light that is coming into the world's darkness.

Following this prologue, John reports on the ministry of John the Baptist. We learn about the attention that John the Baptist received from the Jewish authorities. Messengers from the Jewish priests, the Levites and the Pharisees question John about his identity and the meaning of the baptisms that he is performing. John's Gospel uses these questions to establish the relationship between Jesus and John the Baptist. John the Baptist is not the Messiah, nor is he Elijah or the Prophet. In John's denials, we hear echoes of the kind of messianic expectations that were common in first-century Palestine.

The only affirmative response that John the Baptist gives is when he quotes the prophet Isaiah. Upon answering the next question, John announces that the savior they seek is already among them, but as yet unrecognized. John's response highlights for us an important Advent theme: Jesus has already come into the world as our savior. During Advent, we pray that we will be able to recognize Jesus' presence in our midst. Advent also reminds us that Jesus will come again to fulfill the promise of salvation. We pray that we will continue to be watchful as we anticipate that great day.

The third Sunday of Advent is also called *Gaudete Sunday*. *Gaudete*, a Latin word which means "rejoice," is taken from the entrance antiphon for Sunday's Mass. This theme is echoed in today's second reading from the first Letter to the Thessalonians. It is a reminder that Advent is a season of joy because our salvation is already at hand.

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Ewangelia dzisiejszej niedzieli zaprasza nas do kontynuowania refleksji nad osobą i misją Jana Chrzciciela. Dziś odchodzimy od Ewangelii Św. Marka i czytamy fragment Ewangelii Św. Jana.

Dzisiejsza Ewangelia łączy krótki fragment prologu do Ewangelii Św. Jana z relacją o Janie Chrzcicielu. Podobnie jak Ewangelia Św. Marka, Ewangelia Św. Jana nie zawiera narracji o narodzinach. Ewangelia Św. Jana rozpoczyna się refleksją teologiczną, którą zaczęto nazywać "prologiem". Prolog ten umieszcza historię Jezusa w kosmologicznych ramach. Mówi o istnieniu Jezusa z Bogiem od początku czasu. W Ewangelii Św. Jana Jezus jest przedstawiony jako wypełnienie Starego Testamentu i kulminacja Słowa, światła, które przychodzi do ciemności świata.

Po tym prologu Św. Jan relacjonuje posługę Jana Chrzciciela. Dowiadujemy się o uwadze, jaką Jan Chrzciciel otrzymał od władz żydowskich. Posłańcy żydowskich kapłanów, lewitów i faryzeuszy pytają Jana o jego tożsamość i znaczenie chrztu, którego dokonuje. Ewangelia Św. Jana wykorzystuje te pytania do ustalenia relacji między Jezusem a Janem Chrzcicielem. Jan Chrzciciel nie jest Mesjaszem, ani Eliaszem czy Prorokiem. W zaprzeczeniach Jana słyszymy echa oczekiwań mesjańskich, które były powszechne w Palestynie pierwszego wieku.

Jedyną twierdzącą odpowiedzią Jana Chrzciciela jest cytat z proroka Izajasza.

Odpowiadając na kolejne pytanie, Jan ogłasza, że Zbawiciel, którego szukają, jest już wśród nich, ale jeszcze nierozpoznany. Odpowiedź Jana podkreśla dla nas ważny temat Adwentu: Jezus już przyszedł na świat jako nasz Zbawiciel. Podczas Adwentu modlimy się, abyśmy byli w stanie rozpoznać obecność Jezusa pośród nas. Adwent przypomina nam również, że Jezus przyjdzie ponownie, aby wypełnić obietnicę zbawienia. Modlimy się, abyśmy nadal czuwali, oczekując tego wielkiego dnia.

Trzecia niedziela Adwentu jest również nazywana Niedzielą Gaudete. *Gaudete*, łacińskie słowo, które oznacza "radujcie się", pochodzi z antyfony na wejście niedzielnej Mszy Świętej. Temat ten powtarza się w dzisiejszym drugim czytaniu z Pierwszego Listu do Tesaloniczan. Jest to przypomnienie, że Adwent jest okresem radości, ponieważ nasze zbawienie jest już w zasięgu ręki.



# Liturgy at St. Thomas Becket Church

## MASS INTENTIONS AT ST. THOMAS BECKET

**MONDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2023**

**9AM—FR. SK** †JOAN E SMITH

SPECIAL: FOR PRIESTS AND THE CHURCH

SPECIAL: FAMILIES WILCZEK, MAJEWSKI, NOWAK, HEFLIN & TAŃCULA

SPECIAL: TOMEK— NEEDED GRACES

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2023**

**9AM—FR. SD** †WALTER L KOLBUS

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2023**

**7PM—FR. GW**

SPECIAL: FOR PRIESTS AND THE CHURCH

SPECIAL: FAMILIES WILCZEK, MAJEWSKI, NOWAK, HEFLIN & TAŃCULA

SPECIAL: TOMEK— NEEDED GRACES

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2023**

**9AM—FR. GW**

SPECIAL: FAMILIES WILCZEK, MAJEWSKI, NOWAK, HEFLIN & TAŃCULA

SPECIAL: TOMEK— NEEDED GRACES

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 22, 2023**

**9AM—FR. SK** †CZESŁAW BARTNICKI

SPECIAL: FOR PRIESTS AND THE CHURCH

SPECIAL: FAMILIES WILCZEK, MAJEWSKI, NOWAK, HEFLIN & TAŃCULA

SPECIAL: CEIL STARZYK—GOD'S BLESSINGS

**7PM—FR. GW** †ZMARLI Z RODZINY NOWAK, WILCZEK I CECUGA

SPECIAL: TOMEK— POTRZEBNE ŁASKI

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23, 2023**

**4PM—FR. GW** †PATRICIA JASON

†MARZENA STOLARZ

†NANCY GULLIKSON †GREG LANGE

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2023**

**4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

**7:30AM—FR. GW**

†MARIA I ANTONI ZAUCHA

†ADELA I WACŁAW POPIELUSZKO

†JÓZEF DOBEK

†MIECZYŚLAW PASIEWICZ

†EUGENIUSZ BRONIEK

†EUGENIUSZ FILIP

†DANIEL GIBAŁA

†ŁUCJA GIBAŁA

**9AM—FR. SD** SPECIAL: PARISHIONERS

**10:45AM—FR. GW**

†MICHALINA WAŃCZYK

†ROBERT MOZDZYŃSKI

†ARTHUR KOSIBA

†KRZYSZTOF KOGUT I ZMARLI Z RODZINY

†EMILIA GOLEC I ZMARLI Z RODZINY

**NO 12:30PM MASS**

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2023**

**CHRISTMAS EVE**

**4PM—FR. SD**

†VERA & LEN CAMPOBASSO

†LEO FASOLA

†NANCY GULLIKSON

†GREG LANGE

**9PM—FR. GW**

†SEBASTIAN MICUN

SPECIAL: TOMEK— POTRZEBNE ŁASKI

**12AM—FR. GW**

†TADEUSZ DUDA

†MARIANNA MIZIELIŃSKA

†REGINA I STEFAN KORNEĆ

†HENRYK KUPIŃSKI

†ZMASRLI Z RODZINY: KORNEĆ, KUPIŃSKI, KARŁUK, OLECHNO, SKOLIMOWSKI I MIKULSKI

†KAZIMIERZ BESKUR

†WIKTOR ŁAGOWSKI

**MONDAY, DECEMBER 25, 2023**

**CHRISTMAS**

**7:30AM—FR. SK**

†MARIA I ANTONI ZAUCHA

†ADELA I WACŁAW POPIELUSZKO

†MIECZYŚLAW PASIEWICZ

†EUGENIUSZ FILIP

†EWA I JÓZEF KOŁODZIEJ

†ZMARLI Z RODZINY RUSEK I KOŁODZIEJ

†EDWARDA, EDWARD I MAREK MYŚLIWIEC

†JÓZEF KARDAŚ

SPECIAL: TOMEK— POTRZEBNE ŁASKI

**9AM—FR. GW** †JOHN & KATHY KEANE

†PATRICIA JASON

†RORY FIEDLER

**10:45AM—FR. SK**

†KAROLINA BŁACHANIEC

†KAMIL WOWCZUK

†ARTHUR KOSIBA

**12:30PM—FR. GW**

†BLANCHE & JOHN MCGRATH

†HELEN LASCOLA

†DECEASED FROM FAMILY BUREK, PAWLAK & KRUS

**BARDZO PROSIMY O ZAMAWIANE INTENCJI  
WCZEŚNIJ NIŻ TUŻ PRZED SAMĄ MSZĄ ŚW.  
SPECJALNE KOPERTY SĄ DOSTĘPNE W KOŚCIELE,  
MOŻNA TEŻ ZADWONIĆ DO BIURA: 847-827-9220  
LUB EMAIL DO ELŻBIETY: E.MIKA@STBAL.ORG.  
SERDECZNIE DZIĘKUJEMY.**

## MINISTRY SCHEDULE FOR DEC 23/24/25/26 AT ST. THOMAS BECKET

MASS TIME	PRESIDER	LECTOR	EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS
Dec 23 4:00pm ENG	Fr. Greg W Dcn Dan M	Mira L	Mira L JoRene A Dcn Dan M
Dec 24 7:30am POL	Fr. Greg W Dcn Jacek S	Dorota P	Dorota P Łukasz B Dcn Jacek S
Dec 24 9:00am ENG	Fr. Steve D Dcn Dan M	Jeff P	Jeff P Gail M Dcn Dan
Dec 24 10:45am POL	Fr. Greg W Dcn Jacek S		Dcn Jacek S
Dec 24 4pm ENG	Fr. Steve D Dcn Dan M	Scott S	Kathleen S Noelle M Dcn Dan M
Dec 24 9pm POL PASTERKA	Fr. Greg W		
Dec 25 12am POL PASTERKA	Fr. Greg W		
Dec 25 7:30am POL	Fr. Sławomir K	Lidia J	Piotr J
Dec 25 9am ENG	Fr. Greg W	Gail L	Gail L Daisy K
Dec 25 10:45am POL	Fr. Sławomir K		
Dec 25 12:30pm ENG	Fr. Greg W	Kamila K	Kamila K Lee M Marlena K
Dec 26 9am ENG	Fr. Steve D		
Dec 26 7pm POL	Fr. Sławomir K		

**BARDZO PROSIMY SŁUŻBĘ LITURGICZNĄ O ZAPISANIE SIĘ  
DO POMOCY PODCZAS OKRESU ŚWIĄTECZNEGO.  
LISTA ZNAJDUJE SIĘ W POKOJU LEKTORA.  
BÓG ZAPŁAĆ!**

## Advent Reconciliation

### AT ST. THOMAS BECKET

Thursday, December 21:

9:30am-11am (3 priests)

Thursday, December 21:

5:30pm –8pm (13 priests)

Friday, December 22:

5:30pm-6:45pm (1 priest ONLY)

### AT ST. ALPHONSUS LIGUORI

Saturday, December 16 & 23

4pm-4:45pm (1 priest)

\*\*\*\*\*

*Spowiedź Adwentowa  
w jęz. polskim w naszej parafii:*

*Czwartek, 21 grudzień:*

*9:30am-11am (3 księży)*

*Czwartek, 21 grudzień:*

*5:30pm-8pm (13 księży)*

*Piątek, 22 grudzień:*

*5:30pm-6:45pm (TYLKO 1 ksiądz)*

\*\*\*\*\*

### SPOWIEDŹ W JĘZ. POLSKIM POZA NASZĄ PARAFIĄ:

17 GRUDZIEŃ —3-5pm

Św. Tomasz z Villanova w Palatine

21 GRUDZIEŃ —Św. Jan Brebeuf w Niles

Saturday: 4pm - 5pm

Monday - Friday 6:30pm—7pm





# Liturgy at St. Alphonsus Liguori Church

Masses / Observances	Mass Intentions	Presider	Readings
<b>Saturday, 12/16, 8:30am</b>	Parishioners of Sts. Thomas Becket & Alphonsus Liguori Parish, For needed graces & God's blessings for Natalia	Fr. Greg Wojcik	Sir 48:1-4, 9-11/Ps 80:2ac and 3b, 15-16, 18-19/Mt 17:9a, 10-13
<b>Saturday, 12/16, 5:00pm</b>	†Kenneth R. Marcotte, †George Fine, †Joseph Boffa, †Amico & Petro Families	Fr. Slawomir Kurc	<i>See Sunday's Readings Below</i>
<b>Sunday, 12/17, 8:30am</b> 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent	†Ann Polchlopek, †Wally Gengler	Fr. Greg Wojcik	Is 61:1-2a, 10-11/Lk 1:46-48, 49-50, 53-54 (Is 61:10b)/1 Thes 5:16-24/Jn 1:6-8, 19-28
<b>Sunday, 12/17, 11:00am</b>	†Michael Whelan, †Irene Hendricks, †Edward Kocal, †Julie & Jack Harrington, †Sam & Maria Raineri, †Frances Pirrone, †Michelle & Jim Flaherty, †Tom Conway, †Deceased Members of the Connor Family, †Jack Van Dermeir	Fr. Greg Wojcik	
<b>Monday, 12/18, 8:15am</b>	Parishioners of Sts. Thomas Becket & Alphonsus Liguori Parish	Fr. Slawomir Kurc	Jer 23:5-8/Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19/Mt 1:18-25
<b>Tuesday, 12/19, 8:15am</b>	†Ralph Reinhofer, †Connie & Harry Mishlove, For needed graces & God's blessings for Thomas	Fr. Steven Dombrowski	Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17/Lk 1:5-25
<b>Wednesday, 12/20, 8:15am</b>	†Jean Perkowitz, †George Hawel, †Albert Hawel, †Deceased of Wilczek, Nowak & Cecuga Families	Fr. Slawomir Kurc	Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6/Lk 1:26-38
<b>Thursday, 12/21, 8:15am</b> St. Peter Canisius, Priest and Doctor of the Church	†Deceased Members of the Kelly Family, †Phyllis Rossback, For Priests & the Church	Fr. Greg Wojcik	Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a/Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21/Lk 1:39-45
<b>Friday, 12/22, 8:30am</b>	†Peter Wisniewski	Fr. Greg Wojcik	1 Sm 1:24-28/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd/Lk 1:46-56
<b>Saturday, 12/23, 8:30am</b> St. John of Kanty, Priest	For needed graces & God's blessings for Thomas	Fr. Slawomir Kurc	Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14/Lk 1:57-66
<b>Saturday, 12/23, 5:00pm</b>	†Kenneth R. Marcotte, †George Fine, †Joseph Boffa, †Kudjer & Wurtz Families	Fr. Steven Dombrowski	<i>See Sunday's Readings Below</i>
<b>Sunday, 12/24, 8:30am</b> 4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent	†Parishioners of Sts. Thomas Becket & Alphonsus Liguori Parish	Fr. Slawomir Kurc	2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29 (2a)/Rom 16:25-27/Lk 1:26-38
<b>11:00am</b>	†Michael Whelan, †Robert Mallek	Fr. Slawomir Kurc	
<b>Sunday, 12/24, 3:00pm</b> Christmas Eve	†Margaret Ferrara, †Irene Hendricks, †George Ryan, †Mary & Albert Tuffey, †Robert Mallek, †Jackie Weber, †Ed & LaVerne Kocal, †Stephanie Ostrowski, †David Ostrowski, †Heinz & Jane Runge	Fr. Greg Wojcik	
<b>6:00pm</b>	†Stephanie Ostrowski, †David Ostrowski, †Heinrich Knaup, †Frank Deniston, †Margaret Ferrara	Fr. Steven Dombrowski	
<b>10:00pm</b>	†Joseph, Marie & Jeanne Topham, †Ray Revera, †Mary Fouts Conlon, †Margaret Ferrara, †Stephanie Ostrowski, †David Ostrowski	Fr. Steven Dombrowski	

## PLEASE NOTE!

**Mass Intentions for Christmas are DUE by 12/18**



## Altar Bread and Wine

**This Week's Altar Bread and Wine is in Loving Memory of:  
Dr. Stanislaw Sr. & Marie Maslanka  
Offered by: The Maslanka Family**

# HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

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

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

SATURDAY, DEC 23 - Vigil Mass 4pm (St. Thomas Becket)

SATURDAY, DEC 23 - Vigil Mass 5pm (St. Alphonsus Liguori)

SUNDAY, DEC 24 - 4<sup>th</sup> 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 - 4<sup>th</sup> 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)

SATURDAY, DEC 30 - Vigil Mass 4pm (St. Thomas Becket)

SATURDAY, DEC 30 - Vigil Mass 5pm (St. Alphonsus Liguori)

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)



Saint Alphonsus Liguori School

ST. ALPHONSUS LIGUORI SCHOOL

# CHRISTMAS CONCERT

12/20 | 6:30 PM

ST. ALPHONSUS LIGUORI CHURCH





## Religious Education

# *O COME, O COME EMMANUEL!*

Sunday is the day on which we celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus. Sunday is the Lord's Day. We gather for Mass, rest from work, and perform works of mercy. People all over the world gather at God's Eucharistic table as brothers and sisters.

Last Sunday, December 10<sup>th</sup> we celebrated the beginning of the second week of Advent – the week of PEACE.

During the 11:00 a.m. Family Youth Mass celebrated by our pastor, Fr. Greg Wojcik, we had the opportunity to witness a great event - **the Rite of Enrollment for the Confirmation Candidates** from our Religious Education Program and St. Alphonsus School.

### **What is the Rite of Enrollment for Confirmation?**

The Rite of Enrollment is a ceremony in which the Candidates make their official commitment to enter into preparations for the Sacrament of Confirmation. It is also a sign to the larger community that all of us have a role in the formation of anyone in the parish. Likewise, it shows candidates and their families that they are part of the larger faith community.



Prior to the Rite of Enrollment our Confirmation Candidates were asked to seriously and prayerfully think about what will be required of them during this time of preparation.

During the ceremony, after the homily, the candidates were called by name to come to the altar, and a dialogue began between our pastor, Fr. Greg, and the candidates, after which they were asked to read together the commitments they had made in preparation for receiving the sacrament of Confirmation. After reading their commitments, Fr. Greg, collected the signed contract from each candidate. All the candidates returned to their seats and the Liturgy of the Eucharist began.

After Mass, everyone was invited to come to school gym and taste delicious pancakes and have their picture taken with Santa.

Thank you all for the great participation in our family Mass.

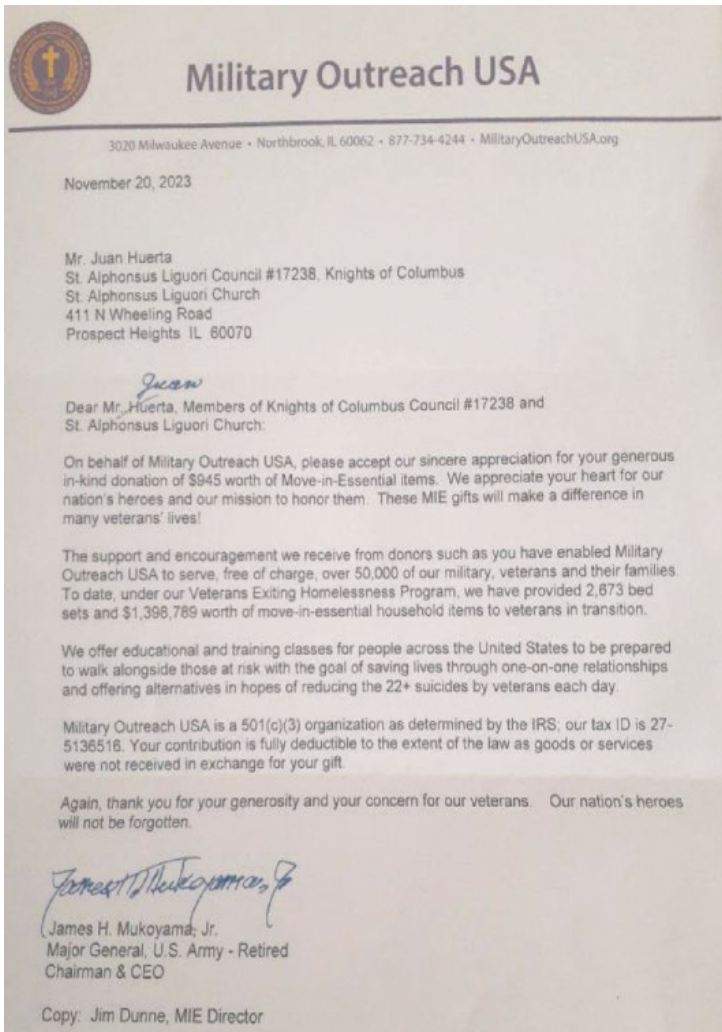
God bless You!

**Beata Bosak**

*Director of Lifelong Faith Formation*



# Stewardship: Giving our Time, Talent & Treasure





## 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.



WORK HARD BE KIND  
PROUD OF YOU  
SHINE BRIGHT TODAY!  
DINO-MITE  
HOUSE OF GREAT JOYS  
SMILE  
JUST BE YOUR AMAZING



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. January 7th 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](mailto: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](mailto:LovingLunches2020@gmail.com) regarding dates or if you would like more information about Loving Lunches donations.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090D4EA4A628A5F49-46568396-volunteer>

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

## Sunday Donations

Due to the early holiday publication schedule, the weekly collection reports will be announced in the next available bulletin.



## Altar Servers Needed

Grades 4-8



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature & Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Sign up with this form  
or use the QR Code to sign up  
on the Parish Website.



Questions?  
Contact Altar Server Coordinator: Doreen Kelly  
[d.kelly@stbal.org](mailto:d.kelly@stbal.org) | 847-255-7452 x 157

Saint Alphonsus Liguori Parish | 411 N. Wheeling Rd., Prospect Heights, IL



## Ministry News & Events



### *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.

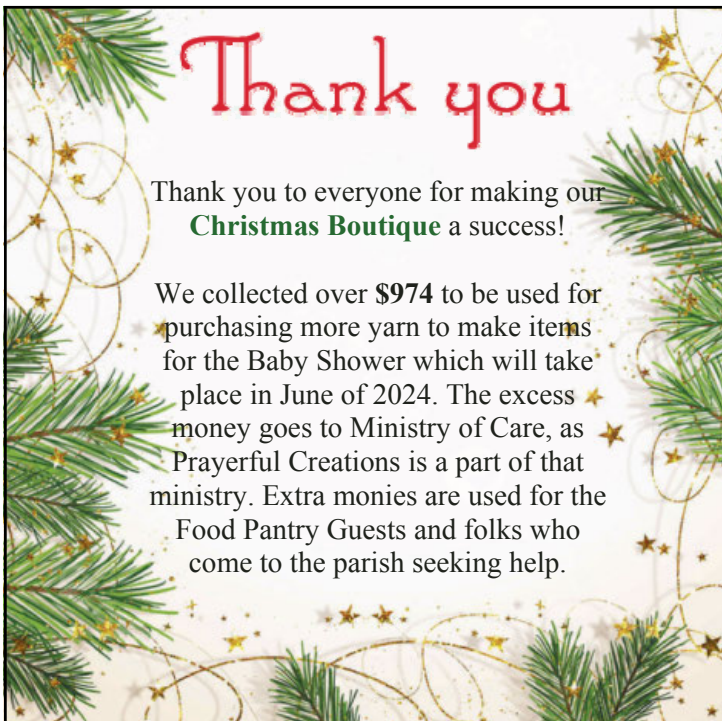
**Suggested Donation - \$25 per Flower Memorial**

Donor's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

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



Thank you to everyone for making our **Christmas Boutique** a success!

We collected over **\$974** to be used for purchasing more yarn to make items for the Baby Shower which will take place in June of 2024. The excess money goes to Ministry of Care, as Prayerful Creations is a part of that ministry. Extra monies are used for the Food Pantry Guests and folks who come to the parish seeking help.



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

#### **Upcoming Meetings: Youth Ages 12-18**

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

Wednesday, January 10 • 6-8pm (Rectory - Burke Hall)

#### **Upcoming Meetings: Polish Youth Group**

Friday, January 19 • 6-8pm (Rectory - Burke Hall)

Friday, January 26 • 6-8pm (Rectory - Burke Hall)

Scan QR Code for more information.  
Questions? Call Beata Bosak  
847.255.9490 ext.116





## Senior Fun Club Membership

January 2024 – December 2024

We invite all members to renew their membership for the year. And we would like to invite all seniors 55+ to join the Fun! We meet on the **Second Wednesday** of the Month at 9:00am at St. Alphonsus Liguori, in the Meeting Rooms off the Narthex. Casino Trips...Shrine Trips...Wonderful speakers and topics...Bingo...and much more!

All are welcome!



Please Print

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Birthdate \_\_\_\_\_

**\$25/per year**

*Make checks payable to St. Alphonsus*



## Cookies???

How did “cookies” get in my computer??

AND

How and why do I get rid of them???

Come to our

## Senior Fun Club Meeting

**Wednesday, January 10 • 9:00am**

*At St. Alphonsus in the Meeting Rooms  
off the Narthex*

Our **Tech Expert**, Kevin, will tell you all about those Nasty “Cookies,” give us tips to keep our information secure, and how we DON’T want “cookies” in our computers, laptops or tablets!!!!

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Comedy Night**  
JANUARY 27

**Parish Gala**  
FEBRUARY 10

**Chili Cook-Off**  
FEBRUARY 24

*More details coming soon!*

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.**

**OPLATKI**—Blessed Christmas Wafers—at \$5 per envelope of 3 large wafers—are available at the parish offices or either church narthex.

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

## FOOD PANTRY NEWS...



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!**



## Monthly Birthdays

The Daily Mass community invites all parishioners to celebrate birthdays the **first Tuesday** of each month **following the 8:15 Mass** in the meeting rooms.

**JOIN US  
TUESDAY,  
January  
2nd!**

Celebrants are invited for coffee & cake and a special blessing. Even if it's not your birthday come and enjoy the coffee and conversation!



## Healing Mass

Join us for the Sacraments of Reconciliation & Anointing during Mass on **Saturday, January 6 at 8:30am.**

*The Rosary will be led by the American Heritage Girls after Mass.*

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

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

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.

## THIS WEEK ON FORMED

Week of December 17, 2023



### Agape/Love | Advent: Word Studies | The Bible Project

The word "love" is one of the sloppiest words in our language, as it primarily refers to a feeling that happens to a person. In the New Testament, "love" refers to a way of treating people that was defined by Jesus himself: seeking the well-being of others regardless of their response.



### Mary of Nazareth

What would it have been like to have known the Mother of God? Watch this beautiful film portraying the life of Mary in order to contemplate Mary's profound faith and the mysteries of her life.



### O Holy Night, The King is Born: What Christmas Is About | Brother Francis

Celebrate the wonder and joy of Christmas with Brother Francis in this heartwarming presentation of the birth of God's Son! Witness the moving submission of Mary, Joseph, and others as they make way for our Savior.

CREATE A FORMED ACCOUNT WITH OUR PARISH

(1)VISIT FORMED.ORG (2)CLICK SIGNUP (3)SELECT "I BELONG TO A PARISH OR ORGANIZATION" (4)FIND STS.. THOMAS BECKET & ST. ALPHONSUS LIGUORI PARISH BY ZIP CODE 60070 (5)Enter your email – and you're in!



## W KAŻDĄ NIEDZIELĘ ADWENTU ŚPIEWAMY GODZINKI

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

## Open Volleyball!

Join us for Volleyball for Anyone 18 +



**WEDNESDAYS  
Dec. 20 - 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 Blickle, 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.*



*Sending Prayers*

### 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*

### ~ 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*

LCp1. 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*

**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 30<sup>th</sup>** 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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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 **1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> 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](http://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.

## The Sacred Heart of Jesus



January 12-14  
2024

Ignatian, Silent  
Weekend Retreat  
for Men

The Spiritual Exercises of St Ignatius are closely related to the Sacred Heart, especially through the Pope's Prayer Network. In this retreat, we'll pray to unite our hearts more deeply with the Heart of Jesus.

Retreat Leader  
Fr. Joe Laramie, SJ



Scan to register!



847-381-1261 | [JesuitRetreat.org](http://JesuitRetreat.org)

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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:  
WINGS 24 hr. Hotline and Counseling Services and Emergency Shelter 847-221-5680 • National Domestic Violence Hotline 24 hr. 800-799-7233  
• National Dating Abuse Helpline, (including teens) 866-331-9474 • Visit [www.ndvh.org](http://www.ndvh.org) In an Emergency dial 911

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