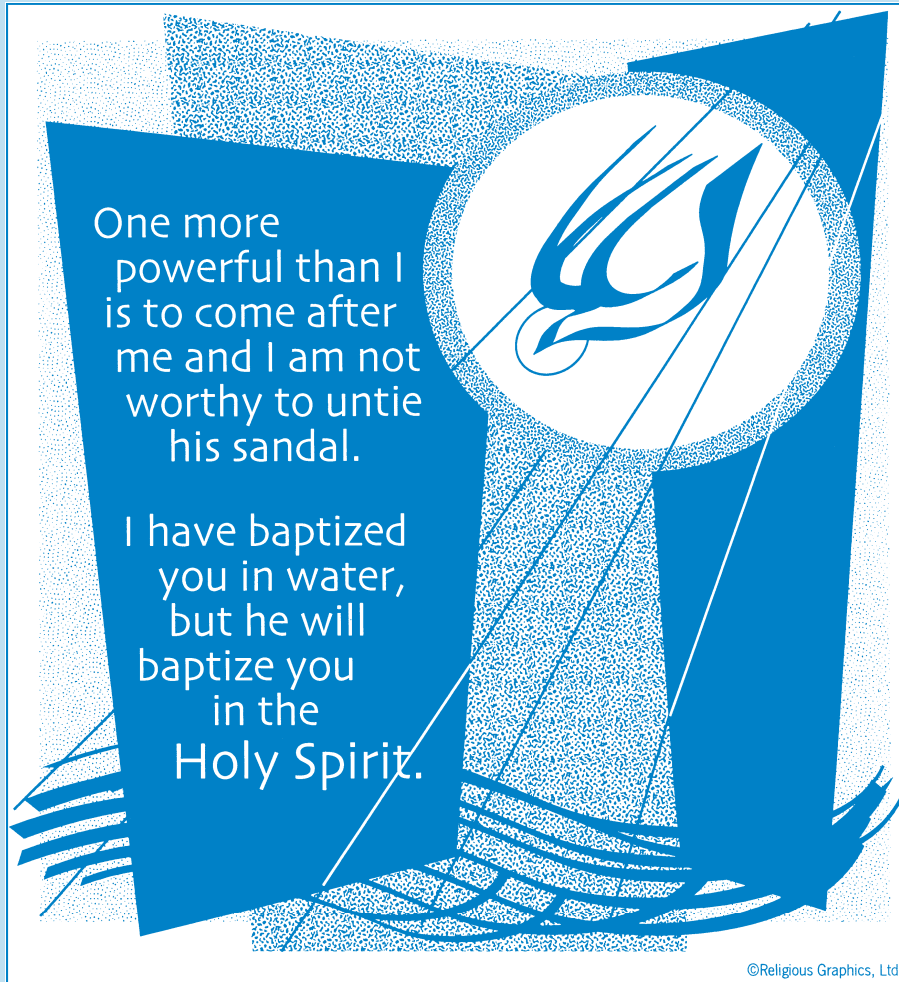


December 7, 2008
Second Sunday of Advent



OUR LADY OF KNOCK
CHURCH



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Please accept my deep appreciation for all who helped make our Pot of Gold Raffle a success. Prize winners are listed elsewhere in the bulletin.

In your Advent Journey, you are encouraged to participate in any of our "Sharing – Giving and Receiving" projects. They include: the Giving Tree, non-perishable food items for our friends at the Calumet City Resource Center, gently used or new winter clothing items (caps, scarves, sweaters, coats, etc), and baby items (wipes and diapers). There are also several baskets for prayer requests with the idea of leave one and take one. Any of these small steps can make for an inspirational Advent Journey.

Next week our Education Commission of the Parish Pastoral Council will have a mini-ministry fair in the gathering space at the rear of the church. There will be displays and information about each of the organizations and an opportunity to volunteer if an activity catches your eye. Groups represented in this Commission include: Footsteps in Faith, Focus on the Positive, Rite of Christian Initiation, People of the Eucharist, SPRED, Baptismal Preparation Program and Bible Study. Please stop by after any Mass. Refreshments will be available.

By the way, several of the organizations listed above are providing events this week. Look for their announcements elsewhere in the bulletin.

Computers may be on the gift list for many families this Christmas. I would like to share a few websites that you might find enlightening:

www.childrenmatterwork.org,
www.feministsforlife.org, and
www.catholicscomehome.org.

For my own Advent Journey, I am trying to make time for a little more scripture reading and reflection. For Advent Journey for our housebound, Fr. Don and I will provide an opportunity for Confession, Communion, and the blessing of the sick. If someone in your home has been unable to get to church lately, please give me a call and we will add them to the lists provided us by Sr. Alban.

Remember to celebrate Mary's Feast of the Immaculate Conception at 7 AM, 8:30 AM, or 7PM on Monday.

Please pray for me as I do you.

Fr. Pat



THE GIVING TREE

Beginning this weekend, those who would like to purchase a gift for a child are invited to take a name from the "Giving Tree." Purchase a gift for that child and return the gift with the same name tag to the tree no later than Sunday morning, December 21st.

We are very grateful to all who take part in this program. Families so greatly appreciate all you do for them.

For more information, please call Sr. Alban, (708) 862-3011.



FOCUS ON THE POSITIVE THURSDAY, DECEMBER 11TH

The next Focus on the Positive presentation will take place on Thursday, December 11th. Guest speaker will be our own Sr. Alban.

Sr. Alban will give a prayerful reflection on the Season of Advent as we prepare for the coming of our Savior.

The presentation will take place in the parish hall beginning at 7PM and concluding at 8PM. Delicious Christmas goodies will be served.

There is no fee. All are most welcome. For more information, please call the rectory at (708) 862-3011.



WOMEN'S GUILD DECEMBER MEETING

Please join the Women's Guild on Tuesday, December 9th at 7 PM in the Parish Hall for their annual Christmas Pot Luck Dinner. Please bring a dish to share such as a vegetable, salad or dessert. Don't forget to bring your Kris Kringle gift.

In addition to the Christmas Gala, there will be great door prizes as well as the Split-the-Pot. Please join us as we celebrate this wonderful season. Hope to see you there, and please bring a friend!!

POT OF GOLD WINNERS

Many thanks to all who purchased tickets in this year's Pot of Gold. Following is a list of the lucky winners:

\$10,000	Canarini Family
\$ 2,500	Donald Maleski
\$ 500	Lillian Sudar
\$ 100	Patricia Isek
\$ 100	Margaret Strug
\$ 100	Ken Novak
\$ 100	Marlene Hill
\$ 100	Susan Braasch
\$ 100	Tom Zakrzewski
\$ 100	Ron Kadlec
\$ 100	Daniel Jercha
\$ 100	Mary Lou Castaneda
\$ 100	F. Radavich

MASS & HOLY HOUR OF GRACE

There will be a special Holy Hour at St. Paul Church, 206 East 25th Street, Chicago Heights, on the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, Monday, December 8th from 12 Noon to 1PM.

There will be hymns, the Rosary, special prayers and Benediction.

A Mass will precede the Holy Hour at 11AM to fulfill your holy day obligation.



MARKET DAY

The next Market Day pick up will be Wednesday, January 7th from 4-5PM in the Parish Hall. Order forms are available at the doors and can be returned to the box in the vestibule or to the rectory.



HAIL MARY
Full of Grace

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**OUR LADY OF KNOCK
PARISH COUNCIL**

The Parish Council meets once a month on the fourth Tuesday at 7PM in the Ministry Center. The purpose of the Council is to promote cooperation among the Parish leadership.

The Parish Council is divided into 4 commissions: Spiritual Life, Social Life, Catholic Education and Human Concerns. Four times a year the Commissions meet to share information about their ongoing ministries. The Commissions met on September 15th to update active ministries and to consider the concern for Evangelization.

As baptized members of the Church each of us is responsible to evangelize, to share the gospel values with others. Each commission created a goal to reach out to people and to invite and encourage them to participate in parish life.

Council members are Father Patrick Lyons, Diane Biegel, Joe Blake, Bill Burke, Sharon Ekpenyong, Dolores Gonzales, Marlene Hill, Tom and Cathy Knetl, Barbara Marlow, Jory Menclewicz, Lorraine Przybyl, Juanita Towns, Michelle Zaversnik.

Anyone who has suggestions can contact any council member.

The next mini-ministry fair will be December 13-14. The Education Commission will be available in the church vestibule.



ATTENTION—HELP NEEDED

Our Parish needs Lectors. For various reasons we have lost 3 or 4 lectors this past year. If you feel this is a ministry for you, please give it a chance and volunteer. Remember when you are proclaiming "the Word of the Lord" you are doing it for our parish and the people in the pews, your parish friends.

If you think you may be interested in this ministry or if you have any questions, please call the rectory 708-862-3011 or contact Bill Burke at 708-895-5230.



FOOTSTEPS IN FAITH

Thank you to everyone who joined us for the Advent Lunch of Sharing and Prayer. We enjoyed the story about Humphrey, the sticker craft project, and the delicious potato soup cooked by Deacon Tom.

During this holy season of Advent the students and catechists will be waiting and preparing for the **Comings** of Christ; His coming to the world as a child to show us the way to the Father through His life, death, and resurrection and, more importantly, His coming to judge us at the end of the world. We will examine and explore the ways that we can serve God by serving His people. One way that we will do that will be with a clothing drive.

We will also be joining the parish in praying for the intentions of someone else and asking that someone pray for us. At our Gatherings we will be reading the Scriptures of the season and trying to discover how they apply to us today. Have a prayerful Advent.

Next Sunday is the Education Commission Ministry Fair after all of the Masses in the gathering area of the church. We hope that you will stop by and see what Footsteps is doing.

Peace,
Cathy

DATES TO REMEMBER

December

11th – People of the Eucharist, 9:00 AM,
Refreshments will be served.

25th – Blessed Christmas

28th – No classes

January

4th – Christmas parties

OPLATKI

Oplatki wafers are available in the vestibule. A donation of \$2 per package of two is asked.

SHEDSOMELIGHT

Christ Our Savior Catholic School

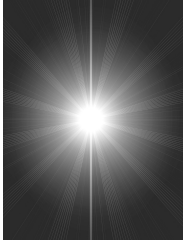
During the month of November, Mrs. Kieknapp's Preschool class was busy learning about the first Thanksgiving. They studied about the lives of the Pilgrims and Indians. The children had their own Thanksgiving feast and prayer service. At their feast, the preschoolers ate cornbread with "Pilgrim butter" that they made all by themselves.

Friday, November 21 was a G.R.E.A.T. day for the fourth grade class at the West Campus. After six weeks of instruction lead by Officer Kim Abogunrin of the South Holland Police Department, the class completed their studies of Gang Resistance Education And Training. They learned to be G.R.E.A.T. citizens who treat others with respect. To culminate their weeks of study, they had an official graduation ceremony. Each student received a certificate, a T-shirt, a backpack and mini radio with headphones. Some students took on a special project called "Let's Talk About It." This project had the students talk with their parents about what it was like when they were growing up and then prepare a report about childhood then versus childhood now. Students completing the extra project received a calculator. The ceremony was capped off with a pizza party. We congratulate Mrs. Gifford's fourth grade class on participating in this G.R.E.A.T. experience! The East Campus fourth graders will begin their G.R.E.A.T. program at the end of January. Officer Holstein of the Calumet City Police Department will be the instructor.

The teachers and students celebrated the beginning of the Advent season with a prayer service on Monday, December 1. The focus of our weekly "In Giving We Receive" prayer service was the gift of faith. Deacon Herb Drazba of St. Jude Church provided a reflection on the reading (Ephesians 3:15-19) and the story *Spinner McClock and the Christmas Visit*.

If you are interested in being a substitute teacher at Christ Our Savior Catholic School, please contact either campus office: West: 708-333-8173 or East: 708-862-4143.

With God's Blessings,
Cindy Rogers, Principal
Karen Brodzik, Assistant Principal



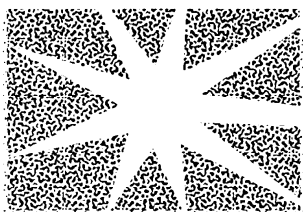
IN PREPARATION, JOE THE PAINTER, AND SEEING YOU SOON

Copyright 2008 by John B. Reynolds (john@jrwrites.com)

So we're having some work done in our house. It's overdue. Rob the Carpenter is driving most of the activity. He has serious skills, this guy. I told someone the other day that if Rob ever got plunked down in the middle of the wilderness, he could build a house. And it'd be an *Architectural Digest* house, too. Tommy the Roofer (recommended to me, by the way, by Mike the Fireman), did the three-shingle tear-down job about this time last year, but he stopped by the other day to fix a little trim work that needed attention. It was nice seeing Tommy again. And now Joe the Painter is working on the downstairs bedroom. I admire the skills that all of these guys bring to the table. Heck. If I could write as well as Rob, Tommy and Joe do what they do, I'm sure I'd be on my eighth or ninth Pulitzer by now. And as it turns out, Joe the Painter is Joe the Prophet of sorts as well, with something timely and very important to say to all of us as we head into this second week of Advent.

But he said it only to me, actually, in a very quiet and personal line of conversation at Mass last Sunday morning. Joe had told me the day prior that he'd be coming over to the house between noon and 1:00 PM to keep the job going. I told him that we should be home then, but if we weren't, to just let himself in (we'd given him a key). He said OK, but he just wanted to tell us his schedule. What I didn't know at the time--and what Joe didn't know--was that we were both going to 10:30 Mass the next day. A Eucharistic Minister, I was scheduled to hand out Communion that morning. The priest gave me the hosts and motioned to me to go half-way back on the left side of the church. "Body of Christ," "Body of Christ," "Body of Christ," I said, hearing in return, "Amen," "Amen," "Amen." Then I looked up with another host in hand preparing to say "Body of Christ" to the next communicant, and there was Joe the Painter, whispering, as I was about to get my own words out, "**I'll be there soon...**"

Joe finished up the work several days later, and he did a great, *great* job. Right now, though, I'm focused on what he said as we stood there, together, with Jesus in our midst. We all know that Advent is a season of preparation. As Catholic Christians, we have to prepare for Christ's coming if we really want to celebrate Christmas morning and all that it represents. In their professional world, painters understand the importance of prep work. Joe, for example, didn't just stroll in and stroll out with a paintbrush in his hand. Our nearly 100-year old plaster walls and ceiling needed way more than paint alone to make them right. Similarly, I'm guessing that we all need more than, say, a haircut or a little make-up to look our deep-down best come Christmas dawn. Per Isaiah, to "Prepare the way of the Lord" means the filling in of valleys and the leveling of mountains--no minor prep work there--and the Baptist brings to fruition Isaiah's call to repentance. "**I'll be there soon,**" Joe the Painter/Prophet said. So will Jesus the Messiah. Prepare we *all* the way of the Lord.



PREPARE

the way of the LORD

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Liturgy Intentions

SUNDAY (2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT)

8:00 AM—Richard Konecki
(Family) (Fr. Lyons)

10:00 AM—Lucille Bakker
(Family) (Fr. Fenske)

MONDAY (IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF BLESSED VIRGIN MARY)

7:00 AM Mass—Ray Daniel Griggs
(Cheryl & Roy Perl)

8:30 AM Mass—Harry Zajakowski
(Family)

7:00 PM Mass—Marianne Johnson
(Harkenrider Family)

TUESDAY (ADVENT WEEKDAY)

7:00 AM Service—Intentions of All Parishioners of
Our Lady of Knock Parish

8:30 AM Mass—Bernadette Fenske
(Fr. Fenske)

WEDNESDAY - NO LITURGIES

THURSDAY (ADVENT WEEKDAY)

7:00 AM Service—Purgatorial Society of
Our Lady of Knock Parish

8:30 AM Mass—Mike & Michael Cipowski
(Family)

FRIDAY (OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE)

7:00 AM Mass—Joseph Chelbana
(Wife Irene)

8:30 AM Service—James Callahan
(Norm & Kathy Szymonik)

SATURDAY (VIGIL: 3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT)

5:30 PM—Philip & Amy Sosnowski
(Leslie & Vivian) (Fr. Fenske)

SUNDAY (3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT)

8:00 AM—Jim Jumonville
(Beverly & Dennis Wilhelm) (Fr. Fenske)

10:00AM—Bill Driscoll
(John Krilich) (Fr. Lyons)



DUSTBUSTERS

Group #2, JO KENNEDY, Captain, please be at the church on Saturday, December 12th at 9AM.

General cleaning will take place on December 17th at 8AM. All Dustbusters are asked to help and bring a friend if possible.



REST IN PEACE

Your prayers are requested for the souls of Rev. Martin J Neary (our founding pastor), Rev. John Ahern, Rev. Thomas Kelly, Rev. James O'Donnell, Rev. Edward Barron, Rev. Michael McPartlan, **MARIANNE SOLCZAK, KATIE YATSKO**, and all of our beloved dead of past years.



Our Lady of Knock Parish Stewardship Report

SUNDAY COLLECTION November 30, 2008

REQUIRED BUDGET	TOTAL ACTUAL	DIFFERENCE
\$7000	\$5,556	-\$1,444

Fiscal-Year-To-Date

REQUIRED BUDGET	TOTAL ACTUAL	DIFFERENCE
\$154,000	\$131,376	-\$22,624

CHILDREN'S ENVELOPES	NUMBER	TOTAL
	13	\$14.35

No. Of Envelopes Used:	222
Average Donation Per Envelope	\$24.09



A MESSAGE FROM DEACON TOM

A while back I was asked for a clarification of the Immaculate Conception. Since tomorrow is the Feast of the Immaculate Conception (a Holy Day) I thought it appropriate to answer that question today.

Non-Catholics, and even Catholics, often confuse the Immaculate Conception with the Virgin Birth. But the Virgin Birth refers to Christ being conceived in his mother Mary's womb without having sexual relations with a human father, while the Immaculate Conception refers to Mary being conceived in her mother Anna's womb without original sin.

The dogma was not officially defined until 1854, for it took time for the Church to understand it properly and define it. Like all dogmas, including the Trinity, the Incarnation, and the canon of the New Testament, it took centuries before they were understood and defined infallibly.

By God's grace Mary was not only immaculately conceived without original sin, but also preserved from all actual sin (committed sins) during her life.

Mary too, needed Christ for her salvation, just as we do, but she was saved before she sinned, while we were saved after we sinned. It is like one person being saved from a disease by an inoculation to prevent it, and another person being saved from a disease by an operation to cure it – by the same doctor.

Hope your Advent journey is going well! Please keep us in your prayers

Your brother in Christ

Deacon Tom

OUR LADY OF KNOCK PARISH

501—163rd Street, Calumet City, Illinois 60409

Rectory Office: (708) 862-3011

Visit our website at: ourladyofknock.org

Pastor: Rev. Patrick M. Lyons
Pastor Emeritus: Rev. Donald J. Fenske
Deacon Couples: Edward & Carmella Ryan
 Tom & Cathy Knetl
Pastoral Associate: Sr. Alban Hermes, O.P.
 868-1723
DRE: Mrs. Catherine Knetl
 868-1711
Bulletin Editor: Cheryl Marz-Perl
 862-3011
Bookkeeper: Kathy Becker
 862-3011
Secretary: Pat Turner
Weekend Masses: Saturday, 5:30 PM
Sunday: 8:00 AM & 10:00 AM
Weekday Services: (M, T, TH, F) 7:00 AM & 8:30 AM
Holy Day Vigil: 6:00 PM
Holy Day: 7:00 AM & 8:30 AM, 7:00 PM
Confessions: Saturday, 4:30-5:15 PM

Baptisms: Second & Fourth Sundays of the month at 1:00 PM. Preparation Class (required if 1st Child), 1st Tuesday of Month, 7:30 PM.
Marriages: Call Rectory for arrangements at least 4 months prior to planned date.
Change of Address or New Registration: Call Rectory during business hours Monday-Friday, 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM.

Christ Our Savior Catholic School:

Executive Pastor: Rev. Patrick M. Lyons
Principal: Miss Cindy Rogers
 East Campus 708-862-4143
 West Campus 708-333-8173

www.christoursaviorcatholicsschool.org