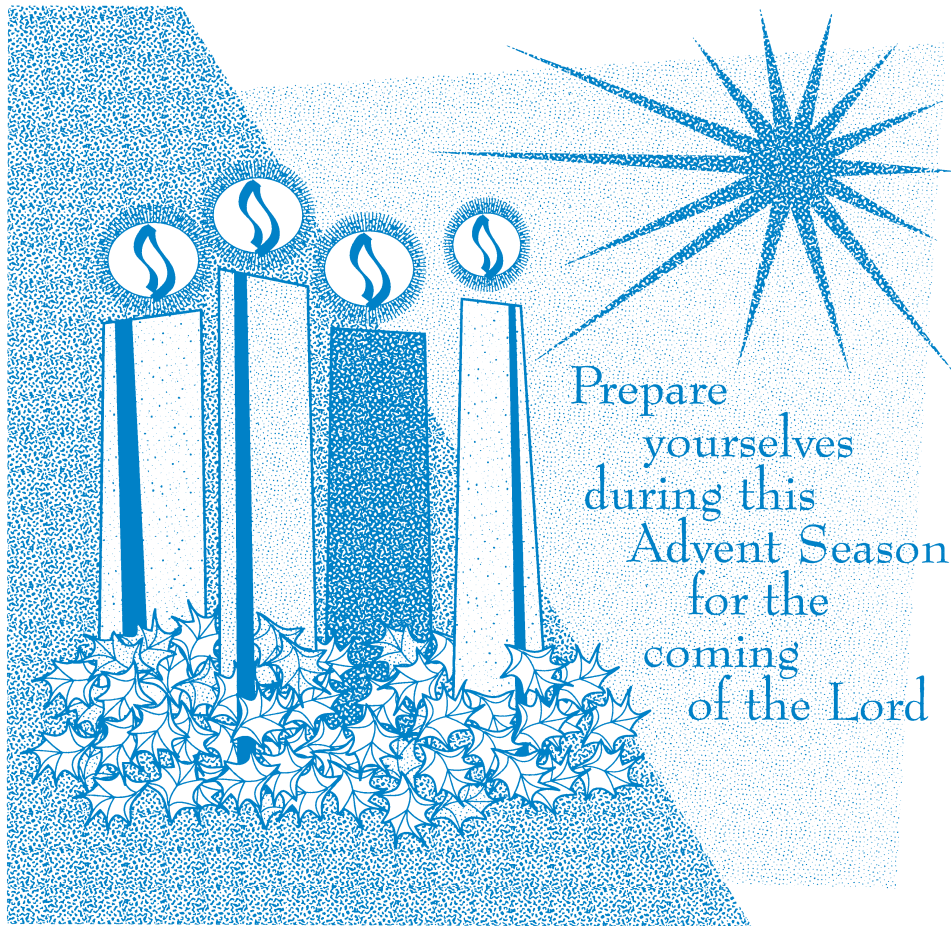


November 30, 2008
First Sunday of Advent



Prepare
yourselves
during this
Advent Season
for the
coming
of the Lord

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OUR LADY OF KNOCK
CHURCH



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

We roll out the “red carpet” of Advent activities as we begin our journey that will culminate on Christmas. For those of you who enter church through the east door near the parking lot, I would encourage you stop by the gathering space at the rear of the church where you will find a choice of focus for you and your family this Advent. The Giving Tree has found a new location on the west side of the church near the confessionals. There are purple “totes” on tables with suggestions ranging from diapers and baby supplies for our Family Room, to an ongoing food collection for the homeless that will be there until Christmas. You will also find a “tote” for new or gently used winter clothing. Finally, there will be a prayer petition basket for both giving and taking. Please write your petition on a piece of paper (names are not required) and place it in the basket. At the same time, please take a petition in your role as an Advent prayer partner.

As usual on the last weekend of the month, there is a calendar of activities. Many times it lists the times and places when/where our parish organizations meet. However, for December it includes some interesting prayer opportunities as well. You can choose from the 1st Saturday Mass or rosary each Monday at 7:15 pm. If Thursday, December 11th is an open day for you, you can choose either/both People of the Eucharist at 9 am or Focus on the Positive at 7 pm with Sr. Alban as speaker. For those searching their hearts and needing confession, priests are regularly available on Saturday from 4:30 – 5:15 pm. Our Communal Penance Service will be on Tuesday, December 16th at 7 pm. I will also be helping Fr. Dubi with the St. Victor's Communal Penance Services on Monday, December 15th at 7 pm and Tuesday, December 16th at 10:30 am.

We are still gathering the “Intent” cards for our Offertory Enhancement Program. Please turn them in the collection basket or directly to the Rectory.

May all of us find time for some prayer that will bring a little peace into this hectic season.

Please pray for me as I do you.

Fr. Pat



THE SEASON OF ADVENT

As we begin the new liturgical year with the 1st Sunday of Advent we ask that you join us in celebrating this season with our theme of **Sharing, a Time of Giving and Receiving**. We know about the great generosity of our parishioners as Givers and hope that you will support the Giving Tree and the donation boxes, but we also hope that you will give yourself the opportunity to be a gracious Receiver by putting your prayer requests in the basket and allowing someone to offer you the gift of grace. Have a blessed Advent season.

The Liturgy Committee



THE GIVING TREE

Beginning this weekend, those who would 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.



FIRST SATURDAY MASS

On the first Saturday of every month, a special Mass is offered here at Our Lady of Knock in honor of Mary the Mother of God.

The First Saturday Mass will take place on Saturday, December 6th at 8:30AM. After Mass the rosary will be prayer by members of the parish. Please plan to join us in honor the Mother of Our Savior next Saturday morning.

BAPTISM PREPARATION CLASS

The next Baptism Preparation Class will take place on Tuesday, December 2nd at 7:30PM in the Ministry Center for the parents of children scheduled for baptism here at Our Lady of Knock. If you plan to have your child baptized during the month of December, you must PRE-REGISTER by calling the rectory, (708) 862-3011.



FRIENDSHIP CLUB NEWS

It's hard to believe that we are already in the holiday season! The next meeting of the Friendship Club will be Thursday, December 4th in the parish hall beginning at 1PM.

Come and join us for games and some delicious refreshments. Our meetings are always a lot of fun. We are looking forward to seeing you!

God bless us and GOD BLESS AMERICA!



MUSIC NOTES

The congregation is doing well with Marty Haugen's Mass of Remembrance. After the first week, we realized that we had to lower the pitch a bit to get it into the range of most of our people. During Advent we will continue to use this mass setting but the acclamation after the consecration will change to the familiar "When we eat this bread." This acclamation ends with an Advent theme, "Until you come in glory." We have often done the Our Father with its original chant melody and we will use that melody for Advent. He who sings, prays twice.

Father Hymnpicker



**WOMEN'S GUILD
DECEMBER MEETING**

You are invited to 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. Be sure to join us as we celebrate this wonderful season. Hope to see you there, and please bring a friend!!



GOD HAS A DIFFERENT PLAN

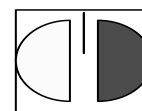
We begin the season of Advent with a heartfelt call for our own repentance. We remember God's faithful love for us, and call upon God to help us to turn back. For "behold, you are angry, and we are sinful" (Isaiah 64:4). In the first reading and in the psalm, we recall God's promises and lament our unfaithfulness and our guilt. We call upon God's might and power in order to save us. With Isaiah, we ask God to "rend the heavens and come down, / with the mountains quaking before you" (Isaiah 63:19).

Yes, God is faithful to us, because we are the work of God's hands. God is the potter, we are the clay. And yet, our concept of how God will come to save us is rooted in our own expectations of a warrior God who crushes mountains and thunders into our lives with great noise and glory. But God has a different plan: the Incarnation.

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POT OF GOLD

The Pot of Gold almost made it to the halfway point of our sales. Though just short of a 2nd early bird winner, I am sure we will have one before the prizes are awarded today—Sunday after the 10 AM Mass in the school hall. We will be checking the collection basket closely before the final drawing. See you in the school hall.



■ 992 Tickets Sold
□ 1008 Unsold

FOOTSTEPS IN FAITH

The students and catechists of our program are off this week, but we had a very busy November. We presented our Sacramental class to the parish at the 10:00 Mass on the 2nd. On the same day our Confirmation Candidates prepared and served a meal to the needy of our area at St. Victor's. On the 9th we had our Pancake Breakfast and on the 23rd we had our Advent Lunch of Sharing and Prayer.

When we return next Sunday we will be joining the parish with its Advent theme of **Sharing, giving and receiving**. We will all draw the name of someone that we will be asked to pray for during this season. The students will also be encouraged to share their treasures by helping their parents search closets and drawers for items they no longer use, such as clothing, books, toys and donating them to the Family Room.

Each Sunday we will listen to the Words of Scripture and try to find the ways that they speak to us in today's world.

Please keep our children and their families in your prayers.

Peace,
Cathy

GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY BOOKS

Golden Opportunity Coupon books for 2008-2009 are available here at Our Lady of Knock Rectory. Stop by the Rectory during regular office hours to purchase either the Northwest Indiana or South Suburban edition for just \$25.

Golden Opportunity Books make wonderful Christmas gifts and as we know, Christmas IS just around the corner! For more information, please call the rectory, (708) 862-3011.

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.

SHEDSOMELIGHT

Christ Our Savior Catholic School

Student parishioners of St. Andrew Parish, (Logan Cap, Joey Santacatarina and Anthony Ziobro) received the Sacrament of Confirmation on Sunday, November 16 at the 11:00 a.m. mass. Bishop Paprocki was the main celebrant. We congratulate these fine young men on this very special occasion.

This year the theme of our weekly Advent prayer service is "*In Giving We Receive*." During the season of Advent, teachers and students will meet to reflect on the gifts of faith, joy, patience and peace. At each service, our Advent wreath will be lit and prayers and children's stories will be shared centering on the gift of the week. A reflection will also be provided by one of the deacons of our founding parishes focusing on the gift for that week. We will set the tone of the Advent prayer services with themed activities and symbols of these gifts. The students are encouraged to go forth and spread these gifts to one another as they await the coming of Jesus at Christmas time.

Congratulations to our varsity Roughrider football team (St. Ann and Christ Our Savior Catholic School combined) who were undefeated this season. The team played in the Catholic Grade School Conference Championship game against St. Mary Riverside Demons on Sunday, November 9. There are currently 11 COS students and 33 St. Ann students on the football roster. Devan Landfair and Justin Scott were two of the players from the Roughriders who were selected for the Catholic Grade School Conference All-Star Football game.

We have much to be proud of: COS graduates Sierrah Avant ('07), JaNelle Barnes ('07) and Darla Harrison ('06) achieved Honor Roll status during the first quarter at St. Francis de Sales High School. Frank Gentile ('06) was named to the High Honors Honor Roll at Mount Carmel for the first quarter. Well Done!

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

December 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Bible Study 9AM Rosary 7:15PM	2 Bapt. Prep. 7:30PM Bible Study 2PM	3 St. VdeP 7PM	4 Friendship Club 1PM	5	6 Dust Busters #6 8AM 1st Sat Mass 8:30AM
7 Bldg/Maint Coll. Footsteps 8:30AM RCIA 11AM	8 Masses: 7:00 AM 8:30AM 7:00PM Bible Study 9AM	9 Women's Guild 7PM	10 Bible Study 1PM	11 Focus on Positive 7-8PM People of Eucharist 9AM	12 Dust Busters #2 9AM Spred Class 7PM	13 Ministry Fair After 5:30PM Mass
14 Religious Retirement Col Footsteps Education Ministry Fair after 8 & 10 Masses	15 Bible Study 9AM Bible Study 2PM Rosary 7:15PM	16 Communal Penance Svc 7PM Ministry of Care 7:30PM	17 Dust Busters General Cleaning 8AM	18 Friendship Club 1PM	19 Dust Busters #3 9AM	20
21 Footsteps 8:30AM RCIA 11AM	22 Bible Study 9AM Rosary 7:15PM	23	24 Christmas Eve Masses: 4:30PM 10:30PM	25 Masses: 8:00AM 10:00AM 	26	27
28 SOS Collection No Footsteps	29 Bible Study 9AM Rosary 7:15PM	30	31 Mass: 5:30PM	Masses: 8:00AM 10:00AM	© J.S. Pilgrim Co., Inc. COMFORT, MY PEOPLE 	



Liturgy Intentions

SUNDAY (FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT)

8:00 AM—Ann C. Bartosz
(Jim & Ann Bartosz) (Fr. Lyons)
10:00AM—Catherine Graczyk
(Cheryl & Roy Perl) (Fr. Fenske)

MONDAY (ADVENT WEEKDAY)

7:00 AM Mass—David Brown
(George Jansky & Liz Ciastko)
8:30 AM Service-Intentions of Sr. Mary Anthony, O.P.
(Kelleher Family)

TUESDAY (ADVENT WEEKDAY)

7:00 AM Service—Kathy Kristo
(Tom & June Todd)
8:30 AM Mass—Sophie Kmetz
(Cheryl Marz-Perl)

WEDNESDAY - NO LITURGIES

THURSDAY (ADVENT WEEKDAY)

7:00 AM Service—Purgatorial Society of
Our Lady of Knock Parish
8:30 AM Mass—Jack Williamson
(Sr. Alban)

FIRST FRIDAY

7:00 AM Mass—Marcella Brosseau
(Sr. Alban)
8:30 AM Service-Intentions of the Dominican
Sisters)
(Kelleher Family)

FIRST SATURDAY

8:30 AM Mass —Mary Thaldorf
(Lillian Bedell)

SATURDAY (VIGIL: 2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT)

5:30 PM—Amy Sosnowski
(Family) (Fr. Lyons)

SUNDAY (2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT)

8:00 AM—Richard Konecki
(Family)
10:00AM—Lucille Bakker
(Family)



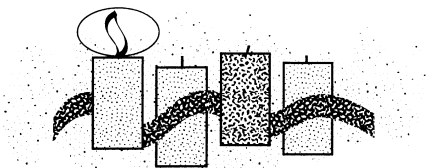
DUSTBUSTERS

Group #6, KATHY/KAREN, Captain,
please be at the church on Saturday, December 5th
at 9AM



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, and all of our beloved dead of past
years.



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Our Lady of Knock Parish Stewardship Report

SUNDAY COLLECTION November 23, 2008

REQUIRED BUDGET	TOTAL ACTUAL	DIFFERENCE
\$7000	\$5856	-\$1,144

Fiscal-Year-To-Date

REQUIRED BUDGET	TOTAL ACTUAL	DIFFERENCE
\$147,000	\$ 125,820	-\$21,180

CHILDREN'S ENVELOPES	NUMBER	TOTAL
	19	\$31.27

No. Of Envelopes Used:	245
Average Donation Per Envelope	\$ 22.86
Catholic Campaign for Human Development	\$423.00



A MESSAGE FROM DEACON TOM

Today begins the season of Advent. So how do we observe this season well? Obviously we can't tell our children or grandchildren we won't go to their Christmas plays or tell our boss we won't go to the company party because these events are held in Advent.

But there are things that we can do to keep the Advent season special. We can keep Advent wreaths in our homes and think about the ways we and the world need Christ's ever increasing light.

We can spend time with Mary in prayer and song, and we can make her Magnificat (Luke 1:46-55) a part of our daily prayer.

We can look around at all the ways Christ is calling us to serve, especially to the poor and the lonely.

As we shop for gifts we can remember that all the gifts we buy and give are signs and imitations of the great gift giver, God, who gives us our world, our life, the Redeemer, the Spirit, grace, and eternal life. And remember as we give gifts out of love, especially to those in need, we share a little in the very life of God.

So in the business of the season let us remember that God's light, love, and life are available to us every hour of every day. All we need to do is turn to him for help keeping in mind that God responds with compassion and peace which is beyond all understanding.

Have a fruitful Advent!

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.christoursaviorcatholicschool.org