

*Serve One Another In Prayer and Action*  
**Our Lady of Peace Church and School**

December 18, 2016

**FOURTH SUNDAY**

of  
*Advent*



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Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,  
and they shall name him Emmanuel, which means "God is with us."

Matthew 1:23

701 PLAINFIELD ROAD • DARIEN, IL 60561

630-323-4333

Ministry Offered By: The Marian Fathers of the Immaculate Conception



## *Writings from Fr. Walter...*

### *“The Fiat & Mary’s Example of Spiritual Living”*

When Gabriel the Archangel tells Our Lady at the Annunciation that by the "power of the Most High" she is to bear the Son of God and name Him Jesus, Mary surrenders herself completely to the Divine Plan in what is known as the Fiat. Fiat means quite simply, "yes." Mary's "yes" leads to the birth of Christianity. Her agreement will touch people's hearts everywhere. Christians will ponder this encounter. Movies will be made! Other religions will even honor this famous conversation between the Mother of God and the archangel.

I would think that the best way to understand the Blessed Mother's consent to the Divine Plan of Redemption is to let her teach us how to understand it.

On a basic level, her "yes" serves as an invitation for us to also trust in God and to experience God in deeper ways. Her "yes" is an act of mercy not only because by giving birth to Christ she helped secure a means for our salvation, but also through her example, we learn to draw closer to God. Before Mary came along, so many people must have felt distant from God. Maybe they wished to draw closer to Him but did not really know how. Perhaps they felt as if they weren't being "fed" spiritually. This is a common phrase these days, to be "fed." It's a good one, and right now I would say that by reflecting on the encounter of the Blessed Mother and the archangel, many people have been "fed" over the centuries and are still being fed by it today.

How so? Because when we hear the Word proclaimed, we can look to Mary and learn from her to keep it and ponder it in our hearts as she did (see Lk 2:19). Out of love for her Father, she welcomed the Word even when she didn't fully understand it. After all, the Blessed Mother never claims in Scripture to know it all — that she has it all figured out and that any of her experiences with God can be understood right off the bat. Throughout the Gospels, she continually "ponders all these things in her heart." She sits on them. She wonders about it all, whatever "it" is in terms of her encounter with God. Her legacy to us is multi-layered. She gives us her experiences with salvation history, along with her method of processing these experiences. That is to say, she pondered the Word in her heart, so that like a seed it would bear fruit in due time (see Mk 4:20).

As our own Mother, she is teaching us how to live as spiritual adults in the same way our own earthly mothers would teach us how to live as future earthly adults. The stories of her life have been repeated continually over the centuries precisely so that we can strive to live virtuously to ponder the mysteries of faith in our own hearts. The Blessed Mother is leaving us an example of how to walk the life of the spirit. She is our model, par excellence, of love, trust, and service. She was the first to believe and the first to be redeemed as the preeminent member of the Church. And, she teaches us to be thankful to God, even when we don't always understand His ways. With Mary, that is evidenced by the fact that soon after she says "yes," she visits her cousin Elizabeth and proclaims what we know now as the "Magnificat," a wonderful prayer of thanks to God for the wonderful things that He has done for her, which include, most of all, the impending birth to our Savior. Yes, there is some understanding on her part already that is both real and deep. But she is still stepping forward to an unknown future out of trust in God.

Trust, of course, is the very foundation of the message of Divine Mercy. The more we trust in Him, the more He pours His graces out for us. Yet, how many of us truly trust with all our hearts? I see many people who tend to honor some aspect of Church teachings while ignoring others that they don't completely comprehend. For example, the Church teaches us to confess both sins of commission (what we did that was sinful) and sins of omission (the good things we could have done but didn't). Isn't it true that most of us tend to only admit to the former? As for Mary's Fiat, we honor this particular experience of hers, listen to priests' sermons on it, watch this or that TV show or movie, and so on. How many of us take the time to so realize the importance of this occasion that we sit down someplace and ponder it in our own hearts, as Mary did — and often? I believe that by embracing the whole of Church teachings we find true understanding, peace, and the joy of the Christian message. And this is mercy — to open our hands and to receive all of the good gifts that the Lord offers to us. The Fiat? We know what we already know about it. What we still need to come to terms with, however, is that it is a mystery. But it's not the kind of mystery that pushes us away (as in "who can comprehend a mystery?"). It's a Sacred Mystery that is calling out for us all the time, but especially now and indeed throughout the whole of Advent, culminating on Christmas Day.

All of our liturgical seasons exist for a reason. These "days" are living events. In addition to "celebrating" them, we are called to ponder them, to allow them to take root. We are called to move more deeply into that truth where Mary and the saints live all the time, waiting for us to join them.

***Peace, Fr. Walter!***

# LITURGICAL ROLES

## LECTOR SCHEDULE

December 24 - TBD

5:00 P.M. -

December 25 - TBD

7:00 A.M. -

8:30 A.M. -

10:15 A.M. -

12:00 Noon -

6:30 P.M. - Cancelled

## OFFERING COUNTERS

December 26

Donna Preucil

Joan Prerost

Frank Prerost

Tom Wroblewski

Fran Belcastro

Cyndi Wade

## PARISH REGISTRATION

For Further Information,  
please contact the  
Parish Office on  
630-323-4333  
Ext. 17

## MASS INTENTIONS December 19-December 25

DAILY MASS: **MONDAY-SATURDAY 7:30 A.M.**

MON: 12/19 (D) Stephen Gregorovic

TUES: 12/20 (D) Mark Havrilla

WED: 12/21 (D) Milly Kalisik

THURS: 12/22 (D) Walter Dawes

FRI: 12/23 (D) Edward Lewandowski

SAT: 12/24 7:30AM (D) MaryAnn/Walter Dalka

Fr. Walter 4:00PM (D) Stella Bardauskis

Fr. Barry 6:00PM (D) Carol Vrtis

Fr. Ron 10:30PM (D) Henry Domanski

SUNDAY: 12/25

7:00 AM (D) Helen Bialas

Msgr. Jim

8:30 AM (D) M/M Joseph Zaworski

Fr. Michael

10:15 AM (D) Eugene Sobotka

Fr. Walter

12:00 Noon (D) Mary/Elmer Caliendo and

Fr. Ron (D) Florence/Martin Curinka II

6:30 PM **CANCELLED**

**CELEBRANTS SUBJECT TO CHANGE W/OUT NOTICE**

## 4th Sunday of ADVENT READINGS

The Obedience of Faith

Readings:

Isa 7:10-14; Rom 1:1-7; Matt 1:18-24

Scripture:

Through him [Jesus] we have received the grace  
of apostleship, to bring about the obedience of  
faith, for the sake of his name,  
among all the Gentiles... (Rom 1:5a)

## ALTAR SERVERS

December 19—December 23

J. Rivera, J. Vandercar

Saturday, December 24

4:00 PM: T. Lessmeister

6:00 PM: None

10:30 PM: V. Demaio, A. Josipovic

Sunday, December 25

7:00 AM: S. Wasler, A. Falzarano, N. Jason

8:30 AM: M/N Arflack

10:15 AM: L. Duffy, P. Fleming

12:00 Noon: A. Ward

6:30 PM: Cancelled



**MONTHLY FOOD PANTRY:** Please help the less fortunate with a charitable gift. Your donation allows us to supply the needy with food from week to week. The recipients graciously thank you and God continues to bless you.

## STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

Sunday Budget: \$21,000

In Gratitude, We Announce!

December 11: \$22,169

Surplus: \$1,169

Retired Religious-Share in the Care

\$5,999

*Please pray for the joyful rebirth into the eternal celebration of God's love for the departed.*

*For the Deceased of our parish*



**Michael B. Huber**

*Death is not something to be feared. It has no bitter end... but rather holds for us a light to better see our Friend.*

## BAPTISMS

Through the *Saving Waters of Baptism*, we  
WELCOME the following:



(To Be Announced)

## ANNIVERSARY WISHES

**Congratulations and God's Blessings**

**"Jerry and Carlene Vicha"**

**On the occasion of your  
50th Wedding Anniversary!**



## WEDDING BANNS



*It is with Joy that we announce the  
Upcoming wedding(s) of:*

(To Be Announced)

## PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK

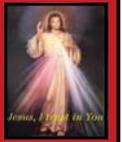


Your prayers have been a tremendous source of healing, empowerment, enrichment, and prophecies for all of the sick of Our Lady of Peace, especially those listed below. Join us daily by sharing your spirituality and prayer devotions for the sick.

Frank Annicks, Alan Amann, Patricia Aylward, Nick Bensfield, Celedonia Biala, Joseph Bielaga, Dcn. Frank Bina, Bill/James Bleacher, Scott Bocek, Donna Bogda, Sam N. Bologna, Chris Burgner, Fran Brindac, Linda Bronsteader, Lisa Calabrese, Celeste Bucci, O.F.C., Bill Cass, Mrs. Clark, Kim Coreylie, Leona Covert, Barb Cowell, Nancy Cheske, Ann Cristofaro, Jacob D., Teresita Dela Cruz, William/Margaret Detloff, Marilyn DiFoggio, Carol Domabyl, Brooklynn Drab, Steven Duffin, Anne/Ellie Deutsch, Charles Frankenberger, Fran Goodell, Valerie Grawle, Laura Hearn, JoAnne Hug, Scott Ingram, Helen Jurasek, Sylvia/John Krones, Lorraine Kolton, Bro. Leonard Konopka, MIC, Ann Lewenski, Rev. David Lord, Matthew Maggiore, Camille Manz, Jaime Marquiez, Joan McShane, Ronald Molfese, Joan Novak, OFC, Matt Osinski, Nelva Pannaralla, Lucas Paoletti, Rose Marie Pedryc, Helen Peschel, June Pincuspy, J. Pisarczyk, Geri Ploskonka, Stanley H. Ploskonka, Anne Raymond, Joan Ritzert, Roger Rodriques, George/Laura Rossano, Charles Sanders, Archbishop Peter Sartain, Karlton Smith, Bertha Sobotka, Marylyn Sobun, Patricia Soukup, Donna Soukup, Andrew/Marilyn Stanley, Cindy Thompson, Elaine Vassallo, Joey Ventimiglia, Martin Viau, Brian Williams, Patricia Wolf, Patricia Wrenn, Ernest Zegadlo



*Remembering Jesus'  
Message of Divine Mercy...*



St. Faustina writes in her diary regarding abortion: "At eight o'clock I was seized with such violent pain that I had to go to bed at once... I was convulsed with pain for three hours... no medicine had any effect... at times the pains caused me to lose consciousness. Jesus had me realize that in this way I took part in his Agony in the Garden... He himself allowed these sufferings to allow reparation to God for the souls murdered in the wombs."  
(Diary #1276)

*From the Catechism of the Catholic Church ...*

"Human life must be respected and protected absolutely from the moment of conception. From the first moment of his existence, a human being must be recognized as having the rights of a person among which is the inviolable right of why every innocent being to life." "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you."  
(ccc #2270)

**The Parish Offices will be Closed on Friday, December 23 and Monday, December 26 in Observance of Christmas.**



**The Parish Offices will re-open on Tuesday, December 27 at 8:00AM**

## Pregnant? Need Help?

Pregnancy Hotline 800-848-5683

Waterleaf Women's Center 888-989-3435

Woman's Choice Services 630-261-9564

Bethany Christian Services 800-238-4269

Several Sources Foundation 800-662-2678

Aid for Women 708-795-6000

Birthright 800-550-4900

Good Counsel 800-723-8331

Care-Net Pregnancy Service 630-455-0300



## Information Meeting for Navajo Mission to Chinle, Arizona

The Joliet Diocese – Partnership in Mission is planning its next Navajo Construction Mission to Chinle, Arizona. Two information meetings will be held, one on January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2017 from 7-9 pm the other on January 18<sup>th</sup>, 2017 from 7-9 pm at the Bishop Blanchette Catholic Center – 16555 Weber Rd. – Crest Hill, IL 60403. Interested persons are invited to attend. Further information can be found at [www.dioceseofjoliet.org/missions](http://www.dioceseofjoliet.org/missions) or call 815-221-6258, email: [missions@dioceseofjoliet.org](mailto:missions@dioceseofjoliet.org) Applications are available at <http://bit.ly/missionappl>

## A FOOD PANTRY THANK YOU!



**I WOULD LIKE TO EXTEND MY GREATEST APPRECIATION FOR THE GIFTS, MONETARY CONTRIBUTIONS, FOOD AND CLOTHING OUR CHURCH PARISHIONERS DONATED TO SUPPLY THE FOOD PANTRY WITH DONATIONS TO FULFILL THE NEEDS OF OUR COMMUNITIES.**

**AT THIS TIME, I WOULD LIKE TO MENTION AND GIVE A SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR VENDORS. BROOKHAVEN MARKET-PLACE IN DARIEN, WHO DONATED OVER 100 FOOD PACKAGES DURING THIS HOLIDAY SEASON.**

**GREAT AMERICAN BAGEL, 353 W. OGDEN, WESTMONT, AND PANERA BREAD, 1001 S. 75TH STREET IN WOODGROVE PLAZA FOR THEIR WEEKLY CONTRIBUTIONS.**

**I GREATLY APPRECIATE YOUR SUPPORT IN SHOPPING AT THESE BUSINESS ESTABLISHMENTS WHO ASSIST IN SUPPORTING THE OUR LADY OF PEACE FOOD PANTRY.**



The Parish Office of the Rectory  
will be modified for the week of  
Christmas and New Year's.

**Rectory Parish Office Holiday Hours**

December 23, 24, 25, 26—Closed

December 30 & January 2, 2017— Closed

January 3, 2017 — Rectory Open 8 AM

Dear Parishioners,

As you know, Christmas time is quite hectic in our parish. Because of the large number of church services and our large congregation, we ask you to please note the following schedule of Masses. Please share this schedule with your family and friends.

**DECEMBER 24<sup>TH</sup>—CHRISTMAS EVE**

**NO MORNING CONFESSIONS**

4:00 PM Children's Mass (Children 10 & under & their families)

6:00 PM Vigil Mass; 5:45 PM Musical Prelude

10:30 PM Midnight Mass—Choir begins at 10:00 PM

**DECEMBER 25<sup>TH</sup>—CHRISTMAS DAY**

7:00 AM Mass      6:45 Musical Prelude

8:30 AM Mass      8:15 Musical Prelude

10:15 AM Mass    10:00 Musical Prelude

12:00 Noon Mass   11:45 Musical Prelude

6:30 PM Mass      None



**NEW YEAR'S EVE & DAY MASS SCHEDULES**

**Holy Day of Obligation**

December 31: Solemnity of Mary Vigil: 5:00PM

January 1: Solemnity of Mary: 7:00, 8:30, 10:15AM & 12:00 Noon, NO 6:30 PM

# ~ Religious Education ~

## Examination of Conscience: Pope Francis

*In December 2014, Pope Francis met with the behind-the-scenes Vatican employees. After thanking them for their dedication, he encouraged them to examine areas of their lives. His words readily apply to all:*

- "Care for your spiritual life, your relationship with God..."
    - "This is the backbone of everything we do and everything we are... A Christian who is not nourished by prayer, the sacraments and the Word of God, inevitably fades and withers."
  - Care for your family life...
    - "Give to your children and your loved ones not only money, but above all time, attention and love."
  - Heal your relationships with others...
    - Transform your faith in life and words into good works, especially for those most in need.
  - Watch how you speak...
    - "Purify the language from the offensive words, vulgarity and phraseology of worldly decadence."
  - "Heal the wounds of the heart with the oil of forgiveness..."
    - Forgive people who have hurt you and medicate wounds you have caused in others.
  - Care for your work...
    - Work "with enthusiasm, humility, skill, passion, and with a soul that knows how to thank the Lord."
  - Avoid envy, lust, hatred and negative feelings...
    - They "devour our inner peace and transform us into destroyed and destructive people."
  - Let go of...
    - "The bitterness that brings us to revenge..."
    - "The laziness that leads to existential euthanasia..."
    - "The finger-pointing that leads to pride," and
    - "The complaining that constantly leads us to despair."
- "I know that a few times, to keep your job, you quarrel with someone, to defend yourselves. I understand these situations, but the road does not end well... Rather, ask the Lord for wisdom to bite one's tongue" and "not to say insulting words that afterward leave your mouth bitter."
- Reach out to the weak, elderly, sick, hungry, homeless and foreigners.
    - This will determine how we will be judged.

*[Adapted from "Pope Gives 9 Tips to Vatican Employees", Deborah Castellano Lubov, Zenit, 2014]*



Learn more about our Catholic world view, news, events, Pope Francis, see great movies and more! Watch EWTN on cable channel 119.



Listen to daily mass readings and reflections on podcast... download **LAUDATE** on your smartphone.  
Listen to Catholic talk-radio on **AM950 Relevant Radio**  
Like music? **FM 94.3 K-Love** – or download app.



12.18.16

Jeanne Waliczek, Coordinator. Patty Antikauskas, Administrative Assistant  
PH: 630.986.8430 EMAIL: [ReligiousEd@olopdarien.org](mailto:ReligiousEd@olopdarien.org) Hrs: M-Th., 10:00-3:30 or by appointment. Closed Fridays.  
Website: [www.olopdarien.org](http://www.olopdarien.org) Diocese: [www.dioceseofjoliet.org/reo/](http://www.dioceseofjoliet.org/reo/)





## *Crusader Chronicles*

### *December 18, 2016*

#### **CHRISTMAS AT OLP**

We hope that each of you have had the opportunity during the Advent Season to prepare yourself for the birth of Jesus Christ on December 25<sup>th</sup>. At Our Lady of Peace School we have done our best to work with the parents to instill the true meaning of Christmas in each child. As tough as it is competing with Santa and the shopping malls, it is very important to us that each child understand the true meaning of Christmas.

As a school family we have celebrated, sung, and prayed together during the Advent Season to prepare us for the coming of our Lord. We have continued to teach our children that Pope Francis teaches us to do for others and to be more Christ-like in our actions.

We hope that the entire Our Lady of Peace Parish has a Merry Christmas and Joyous New Year! We hope that everyone is blessed to spend time with family and friends over the holidays. If you are traveling, please be safe.

#### **STAFF IN THE SPOTLIGHT**

**Matt King**

2nd year at OLP

7 years total; working in many locations and positions. Subbing, Sylvan Learning Center, Huntington, Burr Ridge Middle School, among others Studied education at Eastern Illinois University, where I met my wife Jackie of 2 1/2 years who is also a teacher.

Hobbies: Reading novels (sci-fi/mystery/fiction anything that interests me) traveling all over the country and to other countries (mostly on cruises which are amazing!)

Favorite part of teaching: teaching the kids; giving them new ways of thinking and always pushing them to do better and be better.

Favorite part of OLP staff: the family atmosphere; last year I was welcomed with open arms and was given so much support in creating new ways to educate the students in literature and language arts.

Favorite OLP experience: Being the number 1 victim at the dunk tank last year; sitting up there and trying to frustrate everyone that stepped up was amazing. Some allowed me to get under their skin, while others.....shut me up and dropped me into the water.

#### **JOEY'S TEAM**

Joey and Maddy were not in school this week because they had the opportunity to go Vatican City and be in the presence of Pope Francis. The hope is that they will be blessed by Pope Francis while they were there.

Thank you to everyone that has prayed for Joey and his family. The power of prayer is awesome and we ask that you continue to pray for him and his family even though he is back at school on a regular basis.

### STUDENT COUNCIL

I am very proud of our Student Council for all that they had done this Christmas season. They set out to sponsor a family for Christmas through our parish, but I think that they received the true Christmas gift. When discussing ways to raise money to buy gifts for our family they discussed different things that could be done. Instead of asking parents to supply us with money like in years past, the Student Council decided to have an after school dance for our Kindergarten through fifth grade students. The day of the dance you would have thought that they were the ones having the best time. They stepped up and helped the little kids dance the afternoon away.

The day of the dance, the Student Council also sponsored a pajama day to raise money. Combined, the dance and the pajama day, we raised over \$600 to buy gifts for a needy parish family. I know that the family will receive some gifts that they want, but I think that the Student Council members received a special gift that they needed this Christmas and that is the gift of love. I think that they understand a little more about the old saying, "It is better to give than to receive."

### T.R.I.P TIPS

Just because the Christmas season is over doesn't mean that your T.R.I.P purchasing needs to end as well. Let's face it, we are still going to shop. Since we are going to get out and spend money, we should help the school make money at the same time. Please log onto [olp.triporder.com](http://olp.triporder.com) to place your order. If you need assistance logging in, please contact Michele O'Connor at 630-963-6462 or Melissa Schafer at 630-241-4323. In addition, hard copy order forms are available in the back of church and in the school office.

### SHOPAROO

Do you Shoparoo? If you do, fantastic! If you don't, why not? Shoparoo is a great way to raise money for our school while not costing you any extra money. Do you shop? My guess is yes. All that you have to do to earn money for Our Lady of Peace School is to download the Shoparoo App. to your smartphone, choose our school, and then take pictures of your receipts. It is that easy! Since September, we have raised \$237 with 112 supporters. With a school and parish our size, we should have over 300 supporters and should be raising so much more money through this easy fundraiser that costs us nothing. I encourage everyone to sign up, but also to ask friends and family to do this as well for our children and school.

### H.S.A. RAFFLE

The winner for the month of November is Debbie Amolsh. She won \$100! There is still time to purchase tickets before the big Christmas drawing. The Christmas drawing will take place on December 21<sup>st</sup>. Not only do we still have a large Christmas drawing (\$550), but we also draw each month for \$100, and have a final drawing at the end of the school year for \$3,000! Tickets cost \$10 each and can be purchased in the school office.

### Upcoming Dates

**December 19<sup>th</sup> – Band Christmas Concert (7:00 PM)**

**December 21<sup>st</sup> – School Mass (8:30), Breakfast in Bethlehem (3<sup>rd</sup> grade), 11:30 dismissal**

**December 22<sup>nd</sup> – January 2<sup>nd</sup> – Christmas vacation**

**January 3<sup>rd</sup> – School resumes**



## Montini Catholic High School

January 14<sup>th</sup> – Freshman Placement Exam – 8:00 AM  
 January 12<sup>th</sup> – Pre-Registration and Practice Exam – 7:00 PM

Montini Catholic High School will be holding the Freshman Placement Exam on Saturday, January 14<sup>th</sup> 8:00 am.

The Pre-Registration and Practice Exam will be held on Thursday January 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm.

For more information go to [www.montini.org](http://www.montini.org) or contact Kim Richmond at 630-627-6930 x182.

Montini Catholic High School is located at 19W070 16<sup>th</sup> Street in Lombard.



We just keep moving...

Come Join

### The Younger Than Ever Seniors September 8 through 16, 2017

Mt. Rushmore, Yellowstone and the  
 Grand Teton National Parks.

\$1,349 Per Person Double Occupancy.

\$1,868 Per Person Single Occupancy.

Includes:

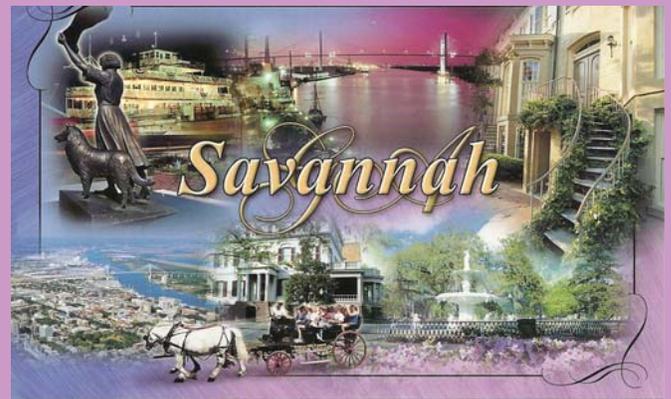
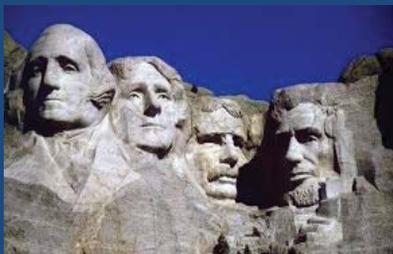
7 Nights of Lodging;

8 Breakfast; 7 Dinners and so much more.

A trip not to be missed!!

\$100 will hold your spot.

More Info. call Charlotte Napoleon at  
 630-964-4422.



THE YOUNGER THAN EVER SENIORS  
 ARE GOING TO  
 SAVANNAH, JEKYLLE ISLAND and  
 BEAUFORT

JULY 23 – 29, 2017  
 SUNDAY TO SATURDAY

Double occupancy, \$640

Single occupancy \$850. \$100 deposit.

Included: 10 meals.

6 breakfast and 4 dinners.

We will be visiting Jekyll Island, the elite  
 coastal barrier island, Beaufort S.C

and of course

the charming Savannah GA.

All are invited!

Any questions please contact us.

Jim and Charlotte Napoleon 630-964-4422



**“Say the Rosary every day,  
to bring peace to the world...”**

**—Our Lady at Fatima,  
Portugal, May 13, 1917**

## Why Pray the Rosary?

**T**he following is an excerpt from the Marian Press title *Champions of the Rosary: The History and Heroes of a Spiritual Weapon* by Fr. Donald Calloway, MIC:

The Rosary is a spiritual sword made by the Divine Craftsman. Popes and saints have repeatedly emphasized this reality. Pope Leo XIII stated very clearly: “The origin of this form of prayer [the Rosary] is divine rather than human.” The genius of this spiritual sword is that it is easily memorized and can be prayed anywhere, anytime, and in almost all circumstances. It encapsulates the life-giving wonders of the Sacraments and the teachings of the Church, and brings them into your home and into every aspect of your life. The Rosary is mobile, portable, and greatly feared by the enemy. Saint Louis de Montfort once said: “The devils have an overwhelming fear of the Rosary. Saint Bernard says that the Angelic Salutation puts them to flight and makes all hell tremble.”

To pray the Rosary is to pray the Word of God. What better devotional prayers could ever be said than the Our Father and the Hail Mary? The words of the Our Father came from the lips of Jesus Christ Himself. The words of the Angelic Salutation were uttered on God’s behalf by a holy angel (St. Gabriel). God has providentially arranged for the majority of the prayers recited in the Rosary to be directed to Mary, because it is through her that the world received the instrument of our salvation, the flesh of the God-Man. Through Mary’s cooperation with God, the sacred Flesh and holy mysteries of the God-Man were entrusted to the Church. Through Mary, the God-Man has conquered the darkness and vanquished the evil one forever. ...

The Rosary is an evangelical tool that brings the light of Christ into all situations. It has the power to bring about world peace

because the mysteries focus on the Truth, that is, on Jesus Christ. The original purpose of the Rosary, as revealed to St. Dominic by Our Lady, was to combat heresy (false teachings). This clarification of truth was not just meant for the 13<sup>th</sup> century, but for all time, since Jesus is the same yesterday, today, and forever (see Heb 13:8). For this reason, Pope Leo XIII rightly stated, “Our need of divine help is as great today as when the great Dominic introduced the use of the Rosary of Mary as a balm for the wounds of his contemporaries.”

In subsequent apparitions of Our Lady, as at Fatima, Mary reiterated that the Rosary should be prayed every day in order to help people return to Jesus Christ and have peace. She even noted that the Rosary has the power to stop wars. In light of that, it becomes plain that praying the Rosary benefits individuals, families, and the entire world. Popes and saints have incessantly taught this reality. Pope Leo XIII emphasized the following in this regard: “The Rosary, if devoutly used, is bound to benefit not only the individual but society at large.”

The Rosary was born in an age of chivalry. The world is once again in need of knights who are willing to fight for truth and peace. Only truth will bring about world peace. Today’s knight must use this spiritual weapon to win people back to the light of the Gospel. ... The forces of darkness in the world today threaten the very foundations of human civilization, but they are no match for the power of the Rosary. Historically, the Rosary has been proven to overcome all falsehoods. A Rosary crusade and a new Holy League are very much needed today to bring the light and peace of Christ back into souls. **MH**

**To order *Champions of the Rosary*, visit [ShopMercy.org/champions](http://ShopMercy.org/champions) or call 1-800-462-7426. (Product code: B32-CRBK).**

## EXPLORING PRIESTHOOD WEEKEND

January 20-22, 2017 - Mundelein Seminary



### *Exploring Priesthood Weekend*

is a retreat designed to help men discern God's call to the diocesan priesthood.

To be called by God to serve him as a priest means to have one's soul stirred deep within. Throughout a weekend of prayer, discussion, presentations of diocesan priesthood and group interaction, men begin to better understand God's movement in their life. Exploring Priesthood Weekends are held at [Mundelein Seminary](#), 1000 East Maple Avenue, Mundelein, Illinois, 60060. The Seminary is located about 40 miles north of downtown Chicago and easily accessible by car or train. Transportation is available to and from O'Hare Airport by request.

### **What Happens on These Weekends?**

*There are presentations on:*

- Practical steps for discerning a vocation
  - Values of priesthood
  - Seminary life, academics, spiritual formation and pastoral ministry
- Seminarians share their vocation stories

There are several worship opportunities including the celebration Mass. Men are encouraged to ask questions, interact with seminarians and priests, pray in chapels, walk the grounds, or use the recreational facilities (pool, gymnasium, weight room). By fully engaging in the opportunities provided on the retreat, men are more able to understand where God is leading them.

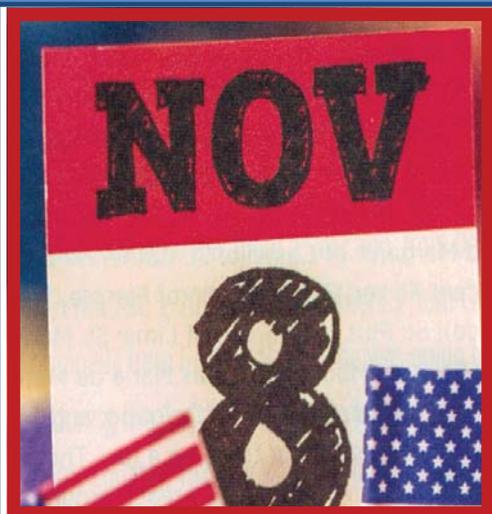
### **How do I Register?**

- **Register with the Joliet Vocation Office online**
- **Register with Mundelein Seminary by contacting Fr. Francis Bitterman at (312) 534-8298 ([fbitterman@archchicago.org](mailto:fbitterman@archchicago.org)) or Marianne Hadden at (847) 970-4851 ([mhadden@usml.edu](mailto:mhadden@usml.edu))**

### **For more information contact:**

*Fr. Burke Masters Joliet Diocese Vocation Director*  
815.221.6171- [vocations@dioceseofjoliet.org](mailto:vocations@dioceseofjoliet.org)

Story by Tom Quinlan, the director of the  
Diocesan Religious Education Office



This article is an excerpt from a message to catechists in the Diocese of Joliet from Tom Quinlan

## A Post Election Reflection on Politics, Society and Catholic Faith

**You may be struggling to put the presidential campaign and election into a faith context. I'd like to offer a perspective.**

Being Catholic is wonderful. Our faith transcends Republican and Democratic Party ideologies. Catholicism is a system of thought and faith that is coherent, consistent, timeless and holds the tension between the extremes that seem to be threatening to tear at our country in a way we've never seen. Catholicism has a knack of being able to see the "both/and" when other systems of thought see only "either/or." Catholicism keeps fundamentalism at a distance while rejecting social-moral relativism.

Catholicism treasures objective truth and contains a fullness of truth in a way that no other system of faith and thought can offer. It is a profoundly reasonable faith. And yet, Catholicism is also subject-oriented, starting with the person of Jesus and ascribing a value to each and every person as worthy of the full care and dignity of one made in the image of God. A truly catholic (universal) understanding of our faith calls us to always strive for solidarity with others, especially where important differences exist. It is not Catholic to view others as *other*, as beyond one's concern or ever outside of God's love and care.

Being Catholic today is not all that easy. It seems we are required to pick a side. There can be something satisfying in participating in us-against-them mud-slinging while being safely surrounded by like-minded people. And it's a human tendency to want to strip nuance from complex issues so to

find utter clarity and, thus, sleep well at night, safe in our righteousness. But this is not Catholicism.

Our mission as Catholics is to bring light to darkness, to heal wounds of sin and division, to proclaim the saving good news of our God who loves us so much that He entered into our frailty and pain ... in Jesus. Whenever we might be tempted to fall into factionalism, to lower our sights and wallow in the muck that the recent campaign so sadly normalized for our nation, we Catholics need only step back and gain a little perspective.

We can recall the lives of the saints to know what is of real importance. We consider the cross and prostrate ourselves before it. We dare to take the Eucharist into our bodies and become living tabernacles for the world. The mission of a Catholic is not mere politics, but rather to embody the truth and mercy and saving love of Christ Jesus!

Gospel means *good news*. We have such good news in our Catholic faith — the *only* good news at the end of the day. The recent presidential campaign and the election hangover show how desperately our country needs the good news of divine truth and divine mercy. I believe the embrace faith and coherent system of thought that is Catholicism is our best hope for repairing the damaged fabric of our society. Embrace your vocation (as catechist and as baptized Catholic), more now than ever, to be hope for the despairing and a light to the nations.

## **MARIAN COMMUNITY**

**Rev. Walter Dziordz, MIC - Pastor**

630-323-4333, Ext. 14

**Rev. Ron McBride, MIC – Parochial Vicar**

Ext. 29 rmcbride@olopdarien.org

**Rev. Al Micka, MIC - Pastor Emeritus**

**Rev. Anthony Kelsas, MIC**

**Clergy:** clergyolop@comcast.net

**Msgr. Jim Burnett— Assistance**

Email: jburnettolp@gmail.com

**DEACONS – 630-323-4333**

**Frank Bina – Retired**

**Paul Brachle – Ext. 24**

**Larry Fudacz – Ext. 20 lfjf7930@prodigy.net**

**Patrick Kenny-Ext. 19 pkenny@olopdarien.org**

**Frank Vonesh-Ext. 25 fvonesh@olopdarien.org**

## **PARISH**

**Kathleen Curinka – Parish Secretary/Bulletin Editor**

630-323-4333, Ext. 10 kcurinka@olopdarien.org

**For Bulletin Submissions** olpbulletin@yahoo.com

**Raye Ann Durr - Receptionist/Clerical Assistant, Ext. 17**

rdurr@olopdarien.org

**Kellie Moore –**

**Business Manager/Parish Administrator**

630-323-4392 kmoore@olopdarien.org

**Tami Slykas-Business Office**

tslykas@olopdarien.org 630-323-4392

**John Berardi - Music Director 708-828-2138**

jberardi@olopdarien.org

**SCHOOL WEBSITE: [www.olopschool.org](http://www.olopschool.org)**

**Anthony Wilkinson – Principal**

630-325-9220 - awilkinson@olopdarien.org

**Secretaries—630-325-9220**

**Eileen Gray-[egray@olopdarien.org](mailto:egray@olopdarien.org)**

**Bridget Lilja-[blilja@olopdarien.org](mailto:blilja@olopdarien.org)**

**PARISH WEBSITE** [www.olopdarien.org](http://www.olopdarien.org)

## **EUCHARISTIC LITURGY SCHEDULE**

Saturday Evening Mass: 5:00 PM

Sunday: 7:00, 8:30, 10:15 AM & 12:00 Noon & 6:30PM

Morning Mass: Monday-Saturday 7:30 AM

## **HOLY DAYS OF OBLIGATION**

Vigil Mass (Evening before Holy Day) 7:00 PM

Holy Day: 7:30 & 9:00 AM & 7:00 PM

## **CONFESSIONS**

Immediately Following Saturday Morning Mass

## **PARISH REGISTRATION**

Visit on-line: [www.olopdarien.org](http://www.olopdarien.org)

Click On: Welcome & Registration

Or Call Office: 630-323-4333 Ext. 10 or 17

## **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

**Jeanne Waliczek – Coordinator**

630-986-8430 – [jwaliczek@olopdarien.org](mailto:jwaliczek@olopdarien.org)

**Patty Antikauskas-Administrative Assistant**

630-986-8430-[pantikauskas@olopdarien.org](mailto:pantikauskas@olopdarien.org)

**Dc. Larry Fudacz – RCIA & Marriage Prep.**

630-323-4333 – Ext. 20 – [lfjf7930@prodigy.net](mailto:lfjf7930@prodigy.net)

**Rissa Loucks, Youth Ministry Coordinator**

630-487-1507; [rloucks@olopdarien.org](mailto:rloucks@olopdarien.org)

**RECTORY FAX** 630-323-4354

**SCHOOL FAX** 630-325-1995

**BUSINESS OFFICE FAX** 630- 323-0379

To schedule an **Anointing of the Sick** or a **priest visit only**, please call our answering service at **630-323-4391**. Calls will be returned in a timely manner, between the hours of 8:00 AM and 9:30 PM, **based on priest availability**, and arrangements will be made to assist your request. No other calls will be handled by this service. Thank You.

**DIOCESE OF JOLIET WEBSITE**

[www.dioceseofjoliet.org](http://www.dioceseofjoliet.org)

## **MARRIAGE:**

Our Parish is a wonderful setting to celebrate your Sacrament of Marriage. Couples must make arrangements at least 9 months to 1 year before your proposed wedding date to allow for ample time for Marriage Prep.

Please contact **Deacon Larry Fudacz** at **630-323-4333 Ext. 20**.

## **BAPTISM:**

We ask that the parents be registered members of the parish. First time parents must attend one hour (plus) of Pre-Baptismal instruction held on 2nd or 3rd Tuesdays of February, April, June, August, October and December at 7:30 p.m. in the Church Hall. The Pre-Baptismal class may be taken before the birth of the child.

Call **Fr. Ron McBride** for more information and to schedule, at **630-323-4333 Ext. 29**.

## **EUCHARISTIC HOME AND HOSPITAL VISITATION MINISTRY:**

Our PASTORAL CARE MINISTERS are available to bring Communion to Shut-Ins at home, in hospitals and nursing homes. Request CARDS for PASTORAL CARE VISITS can be found in the Church Lobby and may be placed in the weekend collection basket OR, please contact **Pat Kenny** at **630-323-4333 Ext. 19**.