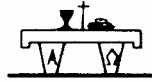


MASS INTENTIONS**Monday – Ponedjeljak, December 14, 2009**

7:30 a.m. Marko & Tona Čondić Duško
 Janja & Andy Samardzic Mary Vujic
 Marty & Evelyn Miloslavich family

Tuesday – Utorak, December 15, 2009

7:30 a.m. Josie Hanson Bonnie
 Mariano Coletta Marion Roti
 John Botica Eva & Sam Madia

Wednesday – Srijeda, December 16, 2009

7:30 a.m. Ed Bozinovich Stretch & El
 Frank Donato Sr. Mary Fratto
 Jean Quinn Chris & Matt Pesce
 Patricia Tominello (1st Anniv.) family

Thursday – Četvrtak, December 17, 2009

7:30 a.m. Dominick Marino family
 Joe Bozich wife & family
 Rosie Ulijanich Anthony Pesce

Friday – Petak, December 18, 2009

7:30 a.m. Theresa Hill Marion
 Nancy Babich Babich family
 Frances Fratto Rose Ann
 Na nakanu ob. Ivan Jureta

Saturday – Subota, December 19, 2009

7:30 a.m. Michael Zeledon Mary Fratto
 Sr. M. Annunciata Zerdin Mary Vujic
 Theresa Miritello Mary Vujic

5:30 p.m. Carmen & Eva Butera family
 Kay Marasovich family
 Nancy Sorcek Charlie & Lena DiCaro
 Mondo Zeledon Luanne & Frank Munizzi
 John Botica Mary & Thad Doria
 Tony & Frances Fratto family

Sunday – Nedjelja, December 20, 2009**RECONCILIATION SUNDAY**

7:30 a.m. Evelyn & Sr. Bernadine Čondić Duško
 Anthony Tadin family
 John Botica Charles & Patricia Marino
 Bernard Ruesz Ann Contino
 Vito Caponigro Catherine & Nick Perisin

9:30 a.m. Mike Brcich family
 Josephine Hanson Lynn & Morse Shankman
 John Botica Mizera family
 Angeline Balzano Ken & Jan Zekich
 Rose & Frank Polacek Jan Zekich
 Wally "Coach" Chodor Wally & Grace Gusich
 Carmen, Carmella & Tommy LaPapa daughter
 Deceased of Gusich family Wally & Grace Gusich

11:00 a.m. u spomen

Josip Lišnić Marija i djeca
 Petar Tokić brat Stipe i ob.
 Pok. ob. Čondić Duško
 Pok. ob. Hrkač i Kožul ob. Vlado i Nevenka Hrkač

LECTORS / EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS:

Sat., Dec. 19, 5:30 p.m. Brian Kenny / Jan Ferro
Sun., Dec. 20, 7:30 a.m. Mary Vujic / Matthew Pesce
Sun., Dec., 20, 9:30 a.m. Sonia Antolec / Mary Beth Insalaco
Sun., Dec. 20, 11:00 a.m. Marko Mamic, Mara Kosir, Nikolina Madjer

ALTAR SERVERS:

Sat., Dec. 19, 5:30 p.m. Garcia, Perseghin, B. Wilkie
Sun., Dec. 20, 7:30 a.m. J. Moreno, Rubio
Sun., Dec. 20, 9:30 a.m. Babich, Insalaco, Nowacki
Sun., Dec. 20, 11:00 a.m. A. Barun, L. Kutleša, M. Šego, A. Puljić, A. Rogić.

For Rent:

- ▶ 4 rm apt, new kitchen, new windows, refinished bathrm, w/w carpeting, appl. incl, utilities not incl. Call 773 254 2836
- ▶ Apts. available in Zagreb, Croatia. Call 312 326 3188 for information.
- ▶ Vicinity 31st Wells. Newly remodeled; central heat/AC; hardwood flrs, stove, fridge, washer/dryer. No pets. 312 225 4458 after 5 p.m.
- ▶ 5 rm apt. 29th Shields, 1&1/2bdrms, central heat/AC, hardwood flr, appl. incl. 312 593 2864
- ▶ A large 2 bedroom apt with 4-season room, large remodeled kitchen and bathroom, 3 blocks from orange line, 30th & Emerald. No pets. Security deposit. 312 404 4609

WEEKLY MEDITATION for the Third Sunday of Advent

There is a dear note of *rejoicing* in today's Mass. The basis for this rejoicing is the nearness of the Lord. As we gather to celebrate the Eucharist, the Lord is very near us. He is in our midst.

The theme of the nearness of the Lord is also at the heart of today's Gospel. John

the Baptist tells the people what they must do in order to prepare for the Lord's coming and to escape his searching judgment. At the same time he makes it clear that he is subordinate to Jesus. The presence of God is the cause of our joy, because joy is of the spirit. In



the end, only God can fulfill our dreams, and profound joy is the best sign of his presence. But there can be no deep joy for us as long as the things we do are different from the things we believe.

So, prepare and rejoice: *the Lord is very near!*

WISDOM'S CORNER



Joy

The third Sunday of Advent is known as "Rejoice Sunday." The Mass reflects this joy. Let us contemplate joy:

Joy is a blend of laughter and tears.

It consists in having a love affair with life.

It is having a heart aglow with warmth for all one's companions on the road of life.

It is looking for the happiness that comes in small packages, knowing that the big packages are few and far between.

It is making the most of the present by enjoying what is at hand right now.

Joy is love bubbling over into life.

And it can coexist with pain.

Joy is the flag we fly when Christ, the Prince of Peace, has taken up residence in our hearts.

THOUGHT OF THE WEEK

"The joy that this world cannot give is the joy that comes from a sense of God and his love for us."

Why am I a Christian?

Dear friends,

I truly love Christ. Not one other person in history is like him. Christ stands out from the rest. Yes, many will try to compare him with the founders of other religions such as Buddha, Muham-

med, Zoroaster and others, but Christ is different. His values of constant love for mankind, his death, resurrection and eternal life, which he called the Good News for all times, are all left uniquely unchanged. From the very beginning he did nothing alone. To heal the sick he needed the faith of those whom he healed. To spread the Good News of the Gospel he needed those who would gather together as a community, as a church, and move forward. The community is where miracles took place and continue to take place. The community may have sinners and those who are weak, but it is where God truly exists. These days no one can make miracles take place as Christ did in his Church. Many have witnessed conversions and miraculous occurrences and healings which confirm the truth of the words: "Ask and you shall receive. Seek and you will find. Knock and it shall be opened unto you" (Mt 7:7). It is wonderful to be a Christian, to believe in Christ, to be a part of a community, to share your faith with others. It is comforting to know that our lives, as fragile and physically limited as they may be, are eternal. It is comfortable to be in this skin as a Christian. Thank you, Jesus! Lead others along the same path.



Your Father Joe
jgrbes@gmail.com

ADVENT — EVENTS — INVITATIONS

Christmas cards

This year we are once again offering our parish Christmas cards (with photos of St. Jerome's). Copies may be purchased at the Rectory.

St. Jerome Christmas Ornaments



The Parish Council is selling St. Jerome Christmas ornaments at the back of our church. The cost of these beautiful ornaments is \$10.00. Ornaments can also be purchased at the Rectory. Please do not miss this opportunity to add these ornaments to your

collection. They are wonderful keepsakes & great display of our parish on your Christmas tree.

'Catholics Come Home' program at St. Jerome

St. Jerome Parish is sponsoring a "Catholics Come Home" program at all Masses this weekend. A special presentation will be made. The purpose of this Midwestern Catholic effort is to remind Catholics about the meaning of their faith and the sacraments. Powerful testimonies will be presented as part of this program. For more information, go to www.CatholicsComeHome.org

Church cleaning

December 14: We invite you to join us this Monday, December 14, at 6:30 p.m. as we clean and prepare our church building for the Christmas holiday. *The more who come, the faster we finish!*

December 16: *Tajci in concert* on Wednesday, Dec. 16 at 7 p.m. at Blessed Stepinac Croatian Catholic Mission (6346 N. Ridge Ave.). Tatiana's concert will feature English and Croatian songs.

Christmas Program

December 17: The students of St. Jerome School are holding their annual Christmas concert on Thursday, December 17 at 7 p.m. in our church. Come and hear the beautiful voices of our students as they help us celebrate and prepare for Christ's coming.

Confessions

December 20: On Sunday, December 20, we will have our parish reconciliation evening beginning at 6 p.m. Several priests will be available.

Christmas Eve Family Mass If you would like your child / children to participate in our 9th Annual Christmas Eve Children's Mass (6 p.m.), please contact Laura Perseghin at 773 254 0010 by Wednesday, December 16.

HOMELESS

Blankets and Winter Coats (especially for men) are still needed for the homeless. Thank you for your generosity.



2nd collection this weekend:

Religious Retirement Fund!

**Thank you for your generous heart to those
who displayed their generous hearts.**

CATHOLIC KNIGHTS OFFER

"Who's holding your money and what are they paying you for the privilege? Perhaps it's the institution down the street and in these difficult economic times the returns are barely worth talking about. There is an alternative Catholic Knights Tax-Deferred Annuities. Catholic Knights works with St. Jerome Parish and their rates guarantee a 3% minimum return and currently pay even more. If you have an interest in seeing your money grow everyday give Kenna Mililli a call at 630.414.3629. She would be glad to provide more details on Catholic Knights and the interest you can earn."

—Catholic Knights

A presentation on these financial possibilities will be at St. Jerome's small hall next Sunday, December 20 at 12:30 p.m.