

MASS INTENTIONS**Monday – Ponedjeljak, December 8, 2008**

Feast of the Immaculate Conception of Our Lady

7:30 a.m. Marko & Tona Čondić family
 Marko Lončar Božo i Stoja Kosir
 Nellie Panatera Catherine & Nick Perisin
 Jean & Joe Zekich Catherine & Nick Perisin

9:00 a.m. Pro Populo Mass with schoolchildren**7:00 p.m.** Parishioners' intentions**Tuesday – Utorak, December 9, 2008**

7:30 a.m. Nick LoCoco family
 Michael Sablich Therese Mannix
 Marie Crosby Mary and Thad Doria

Wednesday – Srijeda, December 10, 2008

7:30 a.m. John Foley Kay Foley
 Scully Scalise Diane Krolo
 James Gurgone wife & children
 Stipan Budich family daughters

Thursday – Četvrtak, December 11, 2008

7:30 a.m. Felicia Contino Ann Contino
 Paul Begich Mike & Lisa Bozich
 Augustin Rodich Giggie
 Stana & Vinko Delich Giggie

Friday – Petak, December 12, 2008

Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Empress of the Americas

7:30 a.m. Mare Condich granddaughter Vonnice
 Julia Frigan Cathy & Andrew
 Tomo Fucek i roditelji ob. Agnes Rodich
 Carlos Iglesias Iglesias family

Saturday – Subota, December 13, 2008

7:30 a.m. Ivan i Kata Vujic Mary Vujic
 Rose Krolo Krolo family
 Marija Dukić Božo i Stoja Kosir

5:30 p.m. Tony Doria Bazan family
 Marie Crosby Charles & Patricia Marino
 Giovanni & Domenica Velcich sestre
 Iva & Ivan Kozina Rodriguez-Kozina family
 Bruno Haptas sister Jane
 Stanley Szatkowski Szatkowski family

Sunday – Nedjelja, December 14, 2008

7:30 a.m. Marko & Tona Čondić family
 Evelyn & Sr. Bernardine Čondić Duško
 Janja & Andy Samardžić Mary Vujic
 Deceased of Kraslen family Kraslen brothers
 Deceased of Bozinovich family Bob

9:30 a.m. Scully Scalise Lana & Pat Cimaglia
 Tony Doria Marian Segvich
 Marty Miloslavich Albina Marasovich
 Roberta Bova Kish family
 Carlos Iglesias Iglesias family
 Mary Grace Zekich Rodriguez-Kozina family
 Kay Marasovich family
 Futts Katalinic Giggie
 Catherine Deitelhoff Mary & Michael Capecci

11:00 a.m. u spomen

Biserka Marušić ob. Tomica Marušić
 Miro Barešić ob. Josip i Anđa Novak
 Franjo Tuđman Božo Guvo
 Drago Troščan Lenka Stulić
 Marija Dukić Ivan i Vesna Mlinarić
 Anka Uremović Kate Nikšić
 Kathy Uremovich ob. Mavrić
 Mila Cvitković ob. Boro i Olga Puljić
 Lucija Prša Josip i Kata Bajzec
 Steven Brajković ob. Jakelja
 Jozo Erkapić ob. Erkapić
 Ivo i Mare Đebro ob. Đebro
 Mile Rukavina obitelj
 Juraj Bralo ob. Mijo i Zdenka Barun
 Vlado Soldo Anica Ostojić
 Anton Mora David & Kathy Škaro
 Boja Kovačević Ana Jović i ob.
 Tomislav Hostička Catherine & Nick Perisin
 Pok. iz ob. Čondić Duško
 Pok. iz ob. Kralj i Belan ob. Ivan i Ljubica Belan
 Pok. iz ob. Puljić ob. Boro i Olga Puljić
 Pok. iz ob. Blažević Slavica Blažević

LECTORS

Sat., Dec. 13, 5:30 p.m. Jan Ferro
Sun., Dec. 14, 7:30 a.m. Luanne Munizzi
Sun., Dec. 14, 9:30 a.m. Family Mass
Sun., Dec. 14, 11:00 a.m. Snježana Šego,
 Nataša Đebro, Nikolina Mađer

ALTAR SERVERS

Sat., Dec. 13, 5:30 p.m. Babich, Mossman, Perseghin
Sun., Dec. 14, 7:30 a.m. A. Insalaco, R. Insalaco
Sun., Dec. 14, 9:30 a.m. Nowacki, Passi, Rudmin
Sun., Dec. 14, 11:00 a.m. Danny Grgić, Dominik
 Grgić, Antonia Puljić, Ante Rogić, Maja Kosić i
 Stipe Ivezić

For Rent

- ▶ Vicinity 32nd & Wells – 3 bdrm apt., spacious, newly remodeled. Call Ross at 312-388-0357.
- ▶ 2-bdrm, 1-office apt. for rent, newly remodeled, washer & dryer included. 312-909-8434.
- ▶ 1 bdrm apt. Call John: 312 316 8366

WEEKLY MEDITATION for the Second Sunday of Advent

In today's Gospel we hear the voice of St. John the Baptist announcing the good news that the long-awaited savior was about to arrive. He tries to prepare the way of the Lord.

One of the great things that Advent does is remind us of God's faithful love for his people, and how Jesus fulfills this love. A Christian is someone who is journeying in faith toward the promised land of eternal glory. What sustains the Christian is God's love and

faithfulness to his word and promise.

If we aren't careful, we can easily forget God's promise as we hear the many voices of the world that call us in other directions — the hate-filled voices ... the selfish voices ... the distracting, superficial, tempting voices of the media ... the carefully planned, persuasive voices of advertising calling



us to self-indulgence.

But God too calls us. Usually his voice is the most gentle and quiet voice of all. It can so easily be drowned out by the pressures, demands, and distractions of daily life, but the call is always there because God is faithful. God is true to his word. God keeps his promises. It's up to us to respond and to prepare the way of the Lord in our lives.

WISDOM'S CORNER

Solitary voices then & now

The voice of John the Baptist was a solitary voice that many of his contemporaries ignored.

There are many solitary voices in our world.

Somewhere at this moment a child is crying — crying for love or maybe simply for bread.

Somewhere a young person is crying — crying for a listening ear or an understanding heart.

Somewhere an old person is crying — crying for a visit or a word from his or her children.

There are a thousand unheard cries in our world, coming from the victims of neglect, victims of injustice.

O Lord, help us to hear these vulnerable voices. Help us to hear to your voice, whispering to us our hearts, telling us how we are loved by you, and how we are to share this great love of yours with one another, especially with the vulnerable and solitary ones. Amen.

THOUGHT OF THE WEEK

"A good Advent makes a great Christmas!"



PASTOR'S DESK

A cold season of warm encounters

The snow has arrived and brought winter. Chicago is once again in its cycle of cold weather. Last weekend I was in Vancouver, Canada, for a weekend of spiritual renewal. Winter has arrived in the North too. It strikes me as somehow strange that when people meet during the *winter*, they become more *warm-hearted*. When you greet them with a smile, they reciprocate with one.

Advent has also arrived, and we hurry toward Christmas. A little child shall once again make us happy. We are already attempting to open our hearts, yes, hearts. We try to pause. We can. We can pause in the silence of our homes. We can close our eyes. We can pray. Together we can pray.

We try to experience the world around us — the world that is the sign of God's presence. The world that breathes, sings, walks, talks, flourishes, succeeds, fails, and — through it all — remains the handiwork of God.

I would like for us to be ready this Advent, so that Christmas doesn't arrive too fast, so that this time of waiting awakens in us the anticipation that will prepare us for an encounter.

This Advent, if you don't save very much money, let it be because you are sharing it with those in need. Have you ever, without questioning, without an explanation, without expecting an answer, helped someone? Advent is a wonderful time for that kind of encounter!

Fraternally, Fr. Joe

Your feedback to JGrbes@gmail.com is appreciated

Celebrate the Blessed Virgin Mary, Patroness of the United States and Empress of the Americas

This week we celebrate two aspects of the Mother of God's spiritual motherhood to us, her children.

Monday is the great feast day celebrating the Immaculate Conception of Mary, the day celebrating the conception of Mary without sin in the womb of her mother, St. Ann. God saw it to be fitting that his Son would be conceived in a human being protected from the start of her existence from every stain of Evil. This Monday is a holy day of obligation for us here because Mary is the Patron Saint of the United States under the title of the "Immaculate Conception."

Later this week is another great feast day of Mary, at which we celebrate her under another title: Our Lady of Guadalupe. This feast day on Friday is celebrated by Mexicans and by all the peoples of the New World. Our Lady of Guadalupe was sent to a site near Mexico City in 1531 to bring the Good News to the suffering peoples of North, Central and South America. Accordingly, Our Lady of Guadalupe is known as the Patron Saint of Mexico and as the Empress of the Americas, the heavenly queen of all the countries of the New World!

O Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee! Our Lady of Guadalupe, pray for us!

Masses for Feast of Immaculate Conception of Mary

This Monday is a Holy Day of Obligation. Masses on Monday will be at 7:30 a.m., 9 a.m. (with Schoolchildren) and 7 p.m.

Our Advent Giving Tree

Gifts for poor kids and for ill children will be accepted until Dec 14th. Please read the instructions on the ornaments that you pick from the tree and attach the ornament to your gift when dropping it off so that it is easier to sort. The St. Jerome Youth Service Corps is organizing this charity drive, and they invite your help. We hope to have A LOT of gifts this year, and volunteer for sorting and delivering would be great! Thank you for your generosity.

Our St. Jerome Church Christmas Cards are here! Send your friends and family Christmas greetings adorned with the beautiful interior of our church in all its Christmas finery! Cards now available in our office for a dollar each, \$10 a dozen.

Donations for Christmas Flowers

Please contact Louis & Mary Scalise, Kenny & Jan Zekich or Ivan & Vesna Jureta if you wish to donate flowers to decorate our church for Christmas. Thank you for your loving generosity!

Calendar of December Events:

Sunday, Dec. 14

Croatian School Christmas program performance at Museum of Science and Industry's "Christmas Around the World" event at 2:45 p.m.

Thursday, Dec. 18

St. Jerome Schoolchildren's Christmas program at 7 p.m. in our church

Saturday, Dec. 20

Croatian School 'Cardinal Stepinac' Christmas program at 6:30 p.m. in our school hall

Sunday, Dec. 21

Evening of Reconciliation in preparation for Christmas holy days. Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) at 6:00 p.m. in our church.

Next Week's Second Collection:

Retired Religious Sisters, Brothers and Priests
The vow of poverty was a sacrifice of love that helped them serve us when we needed their unselfish love — now we can offer them our help in their old age. Help through the 2nd collection next week.

Tuck-pointing of church buildings



This past week the foundations of the church and the walls in the basement of the rectory were checked and tuck-pointed. A couple of weeks ago, exterior walls were tuck-pointed. It's good to know that our church buildings are in good physical condition.

Cleanup of St. Jerome's interior

Every year before Christmas, we invite the women and men who are willing and able to come and help clean our church for the Christmas holy days. This year we will clean at **6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 16**. *The more who come, the quicker we finish!*

Wall Calendars for 2009 in back of church

We thank Michael Coletta Sons Funeral Home for sponsoring our parish's free calendars!

For Rent: Apt at 2701 Princeton. Spacious, 2nd floor, w/ hardwood floors & appliances. 5 rms, 2 bdrms. \$750/mo. Call 708-567-1591. References & security deposit required.