

MASS INTENTIONS**Monday – Ponedjeljak, December 11, 2006**

7:30 a.m. Josephine Odo Angie Lowisz
 Nick Cantanvespi Mike & Marian DiVito
 Frank Bologna Charles & Patricia Marino

Tuesday – Utorak, December 12, 2006
Our Lady of Guadalupe, patroness of the Americas

7:30 a.m. Franjo Brajković Neva Zelić sa ob.
 John Mikicich Frank Velcich
 Ralph Bonello (1st anniversary) Savarino family

Wednesday – Srijeda, December 13, 2006
Feast of St. Lucy

7:30 a.m. Joseph & Mary Popovich + Jerome
 Rose Krolo (16th anniv.) family
 Mile Kodzoman wife Debbie

Thursday – Četvrtak, December 14, 2006

7:30 a.m. Marko & Tona Čondić family
 Janja & Andy Samardzic Mary Vujic
 Jerome Popovich Joe & El Grzetich

Friday – Petak, December 15, 2006

7:30 a.m. Biserka Marusić Tomica i djeca
 John Mikicich Dominic Jurassi
 Na nakanu Vesna Krišto

Saturday – Subota, December 16, 2006

7:30 a.m. Nick Botica John & Gen Botica
 Iva Điko Iva Jakelja i ob.

5:30 p.m. Kathy Uremović Franjo & Kate Mulac
 Connie Fratto Mary Romano
 Louis/Catherine Scalise fam. Rosemary & Mondo
 Stanley Szatkowski Szatkowski family
 Barry Babich Joe & Lucy Ciaccio
 Dec. of Iozzo & Thompson fam. Iozzo family

Sunday – Nedjelja, December 17, 2006

7:30 a.m. Dominik Marino family
 Mary Pesce Louis & Mary Scalise
 Frank Bologna Bonnie DiCaro
 Mary Basso Catherine & Nick Perisin

9:30 a.m. Joseph Bozich wife & family
 Peter Trumblay Sr. Louis & Mary Scalise
 Carmella, Carmen, Tommy LaPapa daughter
 Ana Vidović Dee Dee Morrison

11:00 a.m. u spomen

Ante Kraljević Božo i Stoja Kosir
 Kathy Uremović Radojka Planinić
 Mila Tomić ob. Marko Knezović
 Dragušica Misko Neda i ob.
 Ted Rembalkowski family
 Frano Rogić Jadre Rogić i ob.
 Marko Tomljenić Iva i Josip Prša
 Marija Vranković ob. Pavljašević
 Marijan Knezović ob. Živko Knezović
 Ivan Vuković Nena Gašparić
 Anton Mora David & Katica Škaro
 Pok. iz ob. Šimatić i Milanez ob. Šimatić
 Vukovarske žrtve Bože Guvo
 Za Hrvatske borce Križa Ostojić i ob.

**Lectors**

Sat., Dec. 16, 5:30 p.m. Michael Passarelli
 Sun., Dec. 17, 7:30 a.m. Matt Pesce
 Sun., Dec. 17, 9:30 a.m. Diane Krolo
 Sun., Dec. 17, 11:00 a.m. Snježana Šego,
 Kristiana Jurković, Antonia Jurković

**ALTAR SERVERS**

Sat., Dec. 16, 5:30 p.m. C.Garcia, S. Garcia, Wilke
 Sun., Dec. 17, 7:30 a.m. Ferro, LoCoco
 Sun., Dec. 17, 9:30 a.m. Meo, Perseghin, Sarkauskas
 Sun., Dec. 17, 11 a.m. O. Paraga, K. Cikoch, D. Kikaš

FOR SALE

- ▶ 34 units in NW Indiana, best property in town! Please call 219-322-8702 for details.
- ▶ 2818 S. Wells, house for sale, 773 704 7302.

FOR RENT

- ▶ 1st fl. apt. 31st Princeton, 4 rms (2 bdrms), redecorated. 312-842-6176.
- ▶ 3253 Wells, 2½ bdrm aptmt, 1 bath, remodeled 4 yrs, new appliances, laundry on premises. 312-388-0357.
- ▶ 31st Princeton, 2nd fl., 6 rms, 3 bdrm, central air & heat, no pets. 773-582-8255.
- ▶ One bdrm apt. 32nd Princeton. 312-225-7959.
- ▶ 1st fl. 29th Shields, 5 rms, recently remodeled, hrdwd flrs, central ac & ht, \$600, utilities not incl., 312-593-2864.
- ▶ 29th & Shields area, newly remold 5½ rms, 1½ bdrm, w/d, non-smkg bldg, new applnces, no pets, 1 mo. sec., cr. chk, refs, \$650 w/o utils., 312-802-0238.
- ▶ 2nd fl. large 3 bdrm, 2949 Wallace, washer-dryer, \$800 + sec dep., 312-225-3700.
- ▶ Apt 36th Normal, 3 bdrm, \$850. 312-671-2160.

WEEKLY MEDITATION — Second Sunday of Advent

Salvation is one of the great themes of Advent. Today a great cry goes forth from the Gospels: "Prepare a way for the Lord, make straight his paths." These are wonderful words. They are a declaration of God's love for us. But a problem can arise here. Some people think that in order for God to love them they must be *perfect*, so they try to manage on their own. Others think that they are not good enough to deserve

God's love. It's a challenge for God to save people like that.

Many have opened themselves to what God wanted to give them only when they hit "rock bottom." Alas, when we approach God from a position of self-sufficiency and power, we tend to keep God at arm's length, but when we approach God from weakness and need, we sincerely invite God in. It is often through our imperfections and

wounds that our souls become open to God's grace, his mercy, his healing.

If there is something "crooked" in our lives that needs to be straightened out, let us try to do so. But we must not think that the Lord won't come to us unless we are *perfect*. God comes because we are his beloved children in need of healing and redemption. What we need is the humility, sincerity and trust to show him our sins and wounds.

The Tatiana Concert: A fond look back

"Emmanuel: the Christmas Story" by Tatiana and her fellow musicians on last Wednesday was a night to remember! Her angelic voice and her moving spiritual singing. Her virtuoso musicians, including percussion instruments for the first time. That giant jib camera floating around our sanctuary! And most of all, we benefited from the message: **Christmas is about Jesus**—true God and true man—coming among us out of God's love for us all.

A DVD will be created from all the filming done in our church. In order to produce a professional quality DVD suitable for Television, highly complex editing will be required, so unfortunately DVDs of Wednesday's performance will not be available this Christmas. But many of her CDs *are* available at the Rectory for \$15, and at Tatiana's website: idobelieve.com/music_store.shtml

***Thank you to all who came to
(or prayed for) this perfect performance!***

From Pope Benedict's lips to our ears:

The Vatican recently issued a question-and-answer format book that teaches the truth about Jesus & the Catholic Church.

Question: **Why is our prayer "efficacious" — in other words, why is our prayer capable of producing desired effects?**

Answer: **Our prayer is efficacious because it is united in faith with the prayer of Jesus Christ. In him, Christian prayer becomes a communion of love with the Father. In this way we can present our petitions to God and be heard: "Ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be full" (John 16:24).**

WISDOM'S CORNER

What needs to be straightened out?

One Sunday, after the priest finished reading the Gospel at the pulpit, the words of the Gospel were ringing in his ears: "Prepare a way for the Lord, make straight his paths." He looked into the expectant faces of the people before him and wondered what these words might mean for them.

He had known these people for a long time. They had come to him for help and guidance with their problems. He even knew the petty spites that embittered some of their hearts, the animosities that would set neighbor against neighbor, the silly quarrels that were kept alive, the jealousies and misunderstandings, the stubborn pride.

He decided to address a message to those bitter, unbending ones who refused to forgive. As he spoke to them of those issues, a thought suddenly struck him: It's not the Lord's paths that need to be straightened out, but ours! He concluded by telling them, "So, if there is some crooked attitude, or some crooked way of behaving, or some crooked relationship that needs to be straightened out, let us straighten it out. Then we will truly be preparing a way for the Lord to come to us."

THE THOUGHT OF THE WEEK

"Those who don't disguise their struggles, but who live through them with the help of God, give hope to others."

THIS WEEK'S SECOND COLLECTION:**Retirement Fund for Religious Sisters, Brothers & Priests**

Your contribution to this collection will benefit frail and elderly religious—who sacrificed earning a retirement nest egg in order to serve God and us purely out of love. Purely out of love, share in the care of those who cared for us in their prime.

The Christmas Giving Tree is off to a great start!

Please bring back this weekend the gifts with white labels specifically stating a due date of Dec. 10. All other gifts for these sick or poor children should be returned by Dec. 17 to ensure proper delivery. Thank you for the tremendous response—you have taken all of the gift requests!



Many of our parishioners will be going as a group to see "The Nativity Story" this Thursday evening. The movie lasts 1 hour, 41 minutes. If you wish to join this group event, call us at the Rectory at 312-842-1871.

Get your free 2007 wall calendars in the back of church today. Our appreciation goes out to the Coletta family (Michael Coletta Sons Funeral Home) for these useful calendars and for the Coletta's sensitive service.

Please come help clean our church for Christmas this Wednesday, Dec. 13 starting at 6:30 p.m. We are truly grateful for those who perform this important work to prepare our house of prayer for the great feast of Christmas.

Christmas Eve Children's Mass 6 p.m.

All school children—pre-school through 8th grade—and all parishioners are invited to participate in our Christmas Eve Mass for children. We need many children to make this a success. Please pick up a flyer in the back of church if you would like your child to participate. (As always, there will also be a Midnight Christmas Eve Mass as well.)

ESCAPE THE WINTER BLUES...AND ENJOY SOME VEGAS HEAT!
AN EVENING WITH VITO ZATTO, VEGAS-STYLE ENTERTAINER,
SATURDAY, JAN. 27, 2007 6:30 P.M. in ST. JEROME'S SCHOOL HALL. \$25.00 INCLUDES BUFFET STYLE DINNER/ENTERTAINMENT. B.Y.O.B. FOR TICKETS CALL LESLIE KISH @ (773) 548-5151. Support our school and have fun doing so!

As we prepare our church offertory envelopes for distribution, we invite you to ask yourself if you should register with our parish, or if you moved in the past year, have you told us about your new address and phone? Call the Rectory to take the next step.

Events in Advent

THIS Sunday, Dec. 10, Breakfast

With Santa, in the St. Jerome School Hall from 8 a.m. to 12 noon. Cost is \$6.00 for adults, and \$3 for children. Pictures can be taken with Santa from 8:30 a.m. to 12 noon. There will also be a craft table, and raffle prizes. Sponsored by the Home/School Association. Enjoy!



Saturday, Dec. 16, our Croatian School "Club Stepinac" has its Christmas concert in the St. Jerome School Hall. Come enjoy the culture.

Sunday, Dec. 17, the Croatian school kids of Chicagoland will be performing at the Museum of Science & Industry's "Christmas Around the World" at 2:45 p.m.

Sunday, Dec. 17, 6 p.m. at St. Jerome's: Several priests will be here to hear Advent confessions.

Thursday, Dec. 21, St. Jerome School Mass & Christmas show, 7 p.m.

Christmas Eve Schedule: Children's Mass at 6 p.m.
Croatian and English Midnight Mass at 12.

Christmas Day Schedule: Usual Sunday Schedule.

FOOTBALL MANIA Winners for Week 13: 1st place tie - #1609 & #2077; 3rd place tie - #239, #2656 & #716; 6th place tie - #3268, #2501 & #530.

Test your Bible I.Q.

The Book of Genesis (the Bible's first book) describes:

- A) the end of the world.
- B) the creation of the world.
- C) Moses leading the Chosen People out of Pharaoh's Egypt.
- D) the Genealogy of the kings of Israel.

*See the Bulletin next week for the answer!
Last week's answer was:*

St. Paul is the Number One letterwriter for the Bible, having 13 letters attributed to him in the Bible. St. John came in second place with 3 letters. St. Peter—the first pope—got 2 letters he wrote into the Bible. St. Jude wrote 1 letter. And St. Timothy wrote zero letters in the Bible, though 2 of Paul's 13 letters were addressed to Timothy.