

MASS INTENTIONS**Monday – Ponedjeljak, December 17, 2007**

7:30 a.m. Joseph Bozich	wife & children
Nick Botica	John & Gen Botica
Dominick Marino	family
Ivan & Toda Topić	Ivica Penavić
Anthony Marcello	Rose Marie Sestito
Paul DiCaro Sr.	family

Tuesday – Utorak, December 18, 2007

7:30 a.m. Theresa Hill	Marion
Eugenie Truth	Joseph Rozman
Frances Fratto	Rose Ann
Mile Kodžoman	Ivica Penavić
Na čast sv. Anti	ob. Tomić

Wednesday – Srijeda, December 19, 2007

7:30 a.m. Donna Byers	Gen & John Botica
Mirko Marić	ob. Rodić
Milka Grašić	Mary Fratto
Mary Harzich (1month)	Matt & Chris Pesce
Mildred Zaffino	Gene & Emily Dengler

Thursday – Četvrtak, December 20, 2007

7:30 a.m. Sr. M. Bernardine Čondić	N.N.
Michael Sablich	sister Theresa
Krešo Lončar	Ivica Penavić
Na nakanu	Jela Kutleša

8:05 For parishioners, living and deceased

Friday – Petak, December 21, 2007

7:30 a.m. Blago Lončar	Ivica Penavić
Evelyn & Marty Miloslavich	Catherine & Nick Perisin
Deceased of Vulich family	Mary Hrvol
All holy souls in purgatory	John Bogovich

Saturday – Subota, December 22, 2007

7:30 a.m. Michael Sablich	sister Theresa
Josip Lišnić	Iva Šipić sa ob.
Mary Harzich	Cathy Grcevic
Jago Soldo	Ivica Penavić

5:30 p.m. Rose & Michael Iozzo	Babich family
Frank & Connie Fratto	Mary Fratto
Frank Szatkowski	Bazan family
Marty Miloslavich	Pete & Sandy Schurla
Paul Stasiak (3rd Anniversary)	family
Josip Lišnić	Mara Šušnjara
Dec. of Šima & Šimun Babich family	Babich family
Dec. of Thompson & Iozzo families	Iozzo family

Sunday – Nedjelja, December 23, 2007

7:30 a.m. Evelyn Čondić	Duško
Dec. of M. & T. Čondić family	son

9:30 a.m. Ted Rembalkowski	Margie Ostojić
Marge 'Little Yello' Jelacic	cousin Giggie

11:00 a.m. u spomen	
Josip Joko Lišnić	obitelj

LECTORS

Sat., Dec. 22, 5:30 p.m. Mary Fratto
Sun., Dec. 23, 7:30 a.m. Mary Vujic
Sun., Dec. 23, 9:30 a.m. Brianna Babich
Sun., Dec. 23, 11:00 a.m. Antonia Jurković, Petra Mamić, Josip Novak

ALTAR SERVERS

Sat., Dec. 22, 5:30 p.m. Ferro, Mangan, Wroblewski
Sun., Dec. 23, 7:30 a.m. Meo, Wilkie
Sun., Dec. 23, 9:30 a.m. Iglesias, Passi, Perseghin
Sun., Dec. 23, 11:00 a.m. Ante Kraljević, Adriana Kraljević, T. Čuvalo, A. Kosić, A. Puljić, S. Ivezić

For Rent: Vicinity 25th Place: 6-room apt., 3 bdms. Enc. sun porch. Remodeled. Washer, dryer & fridge. 312-608-5947

► Vicinity Canal & 30th: 2nd floor, 2-bdrm + fam. rm w/deck, sep. LR & DR, large kitchen, garage included, AC. \$950. 312-315-3583/773-775-7541 Available Jan1

► 29th & Princeton, 2nd fl rear, 3 rm apmt, 1 bdrm, newly renovated. New cabinets, appl., incl. microwave. H/W floors. Patio outside your door. Credit chk req., 1 mo. sec. dep. No pets. \$850/mo. includes ht. 773-485-3870

► 29th & Shields area, newly remdld 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.

► 3253 Wells, 2½ bdrm aptmt, 1 bath, remodeled 4 yrs, new appliances, laundry on premises. 312-388-0357.

► 1st flr. 29th Shields, 5 rms, recently remodeled, hrdwd flrs, central ac & ht, \$600, utilities not incl., 312-593-2864.

► 25th Pl.-Wallace area, 2nd flr. 3 bdms, w/d, stove, refig., enclosed back porch, \$600 + ulit. 630-904-6774

► Apt 28th/Princeton, Quiet 2 bdrm, clean, sunlight, non-smoking bldg. No pets. Central air/heat, stove top, oven, fridge incl. Free laundry facility in bldg. \$800 mo. plus 1 mo. sec. dep. Credit check & ref. a must. Leave message 9 AM-7 PM 312-501-0918.

For Sale: 2818 S. Wells, house for sale, 773-704-7302.

WEEKLY MEDITATION for the Third Sunday of Advent

All three readings of today's Mass have comforting words: "be strong, fear not," "make your hearts firm," "blessed is the one who takes no offense at me." These words are addressed to us now, and we need to drink them in because we all find ourselves in dark situations from time to time.

Each of us knows the kind of situations that cause us to be fearful and doubtful. We can't stop ourselves from feeling those emotions, but we must not allow our fears to cripple us. Cour-



THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

age—being strong—is not the absence of fear; it is going on despite our fears because of our hope in the Lord and his promises. Jesus tells us that we are blessed if we do not lose faith in him. We are twice blessed if

we, like Jesus, are able to show forth our faith in deeds of love and mercy.

We all have our own struggles and doubts. So did John the Baptist. This is why we should draw inspiration from him, who is a wonderful example of unselfish love, but it is in Jesus that our hope lies. He is the one who gives meaning to all our work and suffering, to our living and dying. With confidence, await him! With joy prepare for him. Do not lose faith in the one who is faithful to you!

WISDOM'S CORNER

Sharing the human condition

Little Shannon, diagnosed with bone cancer at the age of nine, never complained and tried not to lose hope, despite the aggressive treatment she had to undergo and the years of suffering she would likely endure. It was also tough for her family to keep hope alive and not lose faith amid such bleak circumstances.

The day before a risky operation she was very much afraid, when into her room walked a husky teenager wearing a muddied soccer outfit. He asked her, "Are you Shannon?" When she said yes, he told her that after her operation, she would have a big scar and would be hurting for a long time. With that he hiked up his soccer pants and showed her his scar. "I had the same kind of cancer you have when I was nine, so don't give up, and don't stop hoping."

Because that young man shared his condition with Shannon, her faith and that of her family were renewed and strengthened.

That is the power of the Incarnation. God became one of us. He shares our human condition, and helps us to hold fast to our faith in him.

THOUGHT OF THE WEEK

**"Faith can put a candle
in the darkest night."**

B A P T I S M S

This weekend we welcome through the Sacrament of Baptism:

Josip Arsen Kresimir Paraga, son of Domagoj & Ivanka (nee Pavic) Paraga. His Godparents are Tomislav & Lucy Sulentic.

Daniel Ivan Mulac, son of Ivan & Kathy (nee Janus) Mulac. His Godparents are Steven Znika and Diane Bruzgo.

*Congratulations to the families and friends,
and may God bless little Josip and Daniel.*

Franciscan Friars: 1209-2009, and beyond...

Continuing our gradual look at the Franciscan Friars as they approach their 800th birthday as a Religious Order, we focus our attention on the life of the man who started it all:

St. Francis of Assisi (1181-1226).

Young Francis gets in big trouble (a continuation)

In 1205, at the age of 24, Francis had just received a miraculous personal message from God: **"Go, Francis, and repair my house, which as you see is falling into ruin."**

After taking God's command literally (as a command to repair the crumbling chapel in which he had been kneeling), Francis immediately went to get some money to pay for restoring the chapel to its former glory. But he went fundraising in the wrong place: Francis went to his father's clothing shop, impulsively bundled together a load of colored drapery, mounted his horse, and drove off to a market in another town, where he sold all the drapery — and the horse as well! Not surprisingly, the poor priest who held Mass in crumbling St. Damian's chapel refused to have anything to do with money gotten this strange way. Impulsively, Francis scattered the money in the chapel. Francis's father was incensed at Francis. Francis went into hiding in a cave. A month later, a starving and dirty Francis came back to Assisi. Townspeople mocked him as a madman, tossing mud at him. And his father dragged him home, beat him, bound him and locked him in a dark closet. ... *(To be continued...)*

- ◆ **Heartfelt thanks go out to Michael Bozich & his family** for their gift to our parish of \$5,000.00. We appreciate the love he continually shows toward our parish & school, where he feels at home, where he went to school, where he received his solid foundation for life. By "giving back" out of gratitude, he will help others receive what he received at St. Jerome's: love, faith & hope.
- ◆ **We sincerely thank the family of the late Mary Harzich** for their gift to St. Jerome's of \$5,000.00, in accord with Mary's wishes. This woman who embodied the virtue of simplicity will always be remembered in our parish family, not just for her achievement of great age (102 years, 4 days), but especially for her noble, big heart. Thank you.
- ◆ **Thank you to Kenny Zekich** for climbing up high and changing all the bulbs hanging from the ceiling in our church! This way our church will be ready for the glorious feast of Christmas.

This week we mailed to you our Christmas cards. We thank you for your donations remembering St. Jerome's.

Flowers for Christmas: If you are interested in donating flowers for the church, please contact one of our coordinators: Lou & Mary Scalise, Ken & Jan Zekich, and Ivan & Vesna Jureta.

St. Jerome's 2008 calendars are in the back of the Church. For these free wall calendars, we thank the Michael Coletta Sons Funeral Home.

Boxes of offertory envelopes are in the back of Church. Please call the Rectory if you have a new address or telephone number.

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 Pension law's charitable-giving chance expires Dec. 31. If you are 70½ years old or older, and if you want make a tax-free donation from your IRA account to a qualified religious charity (in order to lower your income taxes), do so before the U.S. Pension Protection Act of 2006 expires on Dec. 31. To learn more, consult your accountant.

Upcoming Events

This Sunday Night: Advent Confessions in St. Jerome's, at 6 p.m. Several priests will be available for this best possible way to prepare for Christmas.



This Tuesday, at 6:30 p.m., please come help clean our church for Christmas. The more who come, the sooner we get done! We are truly grateful for those who perform this work to prepare our church for the feast of Christmas.

This Thursday, at 7 p.m.: St. Jerome's School Christmas Program will be performed by all of the grades in our church.

This Saturday, at 6:30 p.m.: The Croatian School 'Cardinal Stepinac' invites you to its traditional Christmas celebration in St. Jerome's School Hall. Tickets for this traditional Christmas program and dinner are available from Croatian School parents and Board members.

Christmas Eve special, Children's Mass at 6 p.m.: schoolchildren from preschool to 8th grade will participate in this Mass on Dec. 24.

Welcome 2008 in the friendly atmosphere of St. Jerome's New Year's Eve Celebration, organized by the parents of the Croatian School. Tickets are on sale: \$50.00 for adults, \$10.00 for children. Mario and the band "Bravo" will provide the music.

Looking for a carpenter?

If your family or business is in need of a good carpenter, please call the rectory for more information.

Reminder:

Next weekend is the Fourth Sunday of Advent, with the usual Masses.

Monday, Dec. 24 is Christmas Eve. The Children's Mass is at 6 p.m. and the Midnight Mass is at 12 midnight.

On Christmas Day, the Masses are at 7:30, 9:30 and 11:00 a.m.