

MASS INTENTIONS**Monday – Ponedjeljak, December 10, 2007**

7:30 a.m. James Gurgone wife & children
 Carol Bozinovich Catherine & Nick Perisin
 Luca Krišto ob. Ljubo Krišto
 Jozo Rodić ob. Rodić
 Na čast sv. Leopoldu Mandiću ob. Tomić

Tuesday – Utorak, December 11, 2007

7:30 a.m. Felicia Contino Ann Contino
 Donna Byers Jim & Mary Ann Saracco
 Milka Grašić ob. Žgela
 Mijo i Frana Penavić Ivica Penavić
 Na čast sv. Anti Mato Tomić

Wednesday – Srijeda, December 12, 2007

7:30 a.m. Mary Condich granddaughter Vonnice
 Ralph Bonello (2nd Anniv.) Giggie
 Tomo Fuček i roditelji ob. Rodić
 Gene Sullivan Gene & Emily Dengler
 Augustin Rodić (za zdravlje) ob. Jakelja

**Thursday – Četvrtak, December 13, 2007
Feast of St. Lucy**

7:30 a.m. Ivan & Kata Vujic Mary Vujic
 Rose Krolo Diane Krolo
 Mark Healy Chris Pesce, Marge Malone
 Paul DiCaro Sr. Mary Fratto
 Mile Kodzoman family

8:05 For parishioners, living and deceased

Friday – Petak, December 14, 2007

7:30 a.m. Janja & Andy Samardzic Mary Vujic
 Marko & Tona Čondić family
 Damir Šinković ob. Rodić
 Marty Miloslavich Chris & Matt Pesce
 Deceased of the Marino family family

Saturday – Subota, December 15, 2007

7:30 a.m. Michael Sablich sister Theresa
 Gay Gay LaMonica Joe Sperando
 Ivan Ivanko Vesna Krišto
 Mary Harzich Catherine & Nick Perisin

5:30 p.m. Sr. M. Bernardine Čondić N.N.
 Stanley Szatkowski family
 Frank Szatkowski Bazan family
 Biserka Marušić ob. Tomica Marušić
 Mary O'Shea Beverlee & Russell Pullano
 Teri Nardi Roberts Pete & Sandy Schurla
 James Gurgone wife Rose Ann

Sunday – Nedjelja, December 16, 2007

7:30 a.m. Evelyn Čondić Duško
 Paul J. DiCaro Sr. Mary Vucinic
 Mary Harzich Carmen & Carmella Catizone

9:30 a.m. Helen Godula Sharon Bentivegna
 Carmen, Carmella & Tommy LaPapa daughter
 John & Rose Marasovich family
 Gabriela LaMonica Louis & Mary Scalise
 Marty Miloslavich M/M Bob Cannatello
 Mary Harzich Mossman family

11:00 a.m. u spomen

Josip Lisnich kumovi Tomislav i Milenka Lišnić
 Kata Draženović Karlo i Dragica Karačić
 Josip Nagy ob. Rodić
 Marija Škalić ob. Pavletić
 Katica i Ignacije Mornar kći
 Pava i Jeka Tokić ob. Pudar
 Dan Stanić ob. Pudar
 Miško i Luca Bradarić kći Ljuba Pervan
 Ivan Guvo ob. Bože Guvo
 Franjo Tuđman Bože Guvo
 Petar i Joza Zelić ob. Ilija Zelić
 Mile Hrvojević Zdenko i ob.
 Jure i Milka Filipčić Jadranka Hrvojević i ob.
 Milka Grašić ob. Žgela
 Pok. iz ob. M. i T. Čondić sin
 Pok. iz ob. Zignić ob. Zignić

LECTORS

Sat., Dec. 15, 5:30 p.m. Michael Passarelli
Sun., Dec. 16, 7:30 a.m. Matthew Pesce
Sun., Dec. 16, 9:30 a.m. Family Mass
Sun., Dec. 16, 11:00 a.m. Nataša Djebro,
 Kristiana Jurković, Snježana Šego

ALTAR SERVERS

Sat., Dec. 15, 5:30 p.m. Nowacki, L. Rubio, M. Rubio
Sun., Dec. 16, 7:30 a.m. C. Garcia, S. Garcia
Sun., Dec. 16, 9:30 a.m. LoCoco, Olague, Wroblewski
Sun., Dec. 16, 11:00 a.m. O. Paraga, S. Adjaip, I.
 Babić, A. Barun, M. Brajković, E. Ljevar

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

► 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

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

WEEKLY MEDITATION for the Second Sunday of Advent

The Bible readings for Advent glitter with bright promises of the wonderful things that the Messiah bring about. The Messiah, Jesus Christ, has come, yet little seems to have changed. We might well ask what has become of the great promises? Do we need to wait for the Second Coming?

The central theme of Advent is **God's faithfulness**. In spite of their infidelities and sins, God never can-



SECOND SUNDAY OF
ADVENT

cels the covenant he made with his people. The Advent liturgy makes us aware of God's faithful love for us and the wonderful gift he has made to us in Jesus. All of God's promises become fulfilled in the fullness of God's time, not ours. That is why Advent is not simply about the past. It is about the present and future as well.

Advent awakens us to the presence of the Savior among us today,

and his mission to establish God's Kingdom on earth. We have a vital part to play in making this Kingdom a reality. Advent provides us with a great opportunity to commit ourselves anew to Jesus and his Lordship, to build our lives on his promise. That is why we need the repentance John the Baptist calls us to in today's Gospel. Repentance brings us hope. And hope is vital precisely because we live in an imperfect world that will never *completely* fulfill us. Only God can do *that*.

WISDOM'S CORNER

Making space for hope

She lived alone, as so many do, and she felt it especially at Christmas, as so many do.

Decorating her Christmas tree, she began to argue with herself, an argument she'd had several times before in these days before Christmas. "Why am I doing this? No one will see it, and I don't need it."

Then she heard herself say, "You *have* to do this. Not so that others will see it, but to remind yourself that the hope is real—not just words, or memories, or a dream. It's real. Jesus really did come, and so you really have a tree and you decorate it, and you buy real gifts, and you receive the sacraments, and you go to Mass, and you have a real Christmas. This is how you keep the hope alive and real!"

Christ has given us this beautiful season of Advent just when we need it the most: at the busiest time of the year.

THOUGHT OF THE WEEK

**Though Christ a *thousand* times
in Bethlehem be born,
Unless he's born in *you*,
your soul will be forlorn.**

BAPTISM

This weekend we welcome through the Sacrament of Baptism **Olivia Noelle Scalfaro**, daughter of Charles and Jamyn (nee Craft) Scalfaro and the Goddaughter of Michael and Jacqueline DiVito. *Congratulations to Olivia's family, and through the intercession of Saints Olivia and Noel, may God bless little Olivia.*

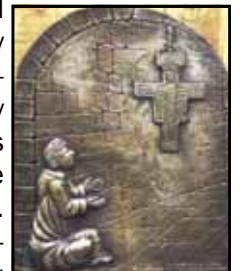
Franciscan Friars: 1209-2009, and beyond...

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 hears God (a continuation)

In 1205, at the age of 24, young Francis was in a deep struggle to sense through prayer, penance and pilgrimage what God was calling him to be and to do. Francis had earlier been moved to give up fancy clothing and potential careers as a merchant or a knight. He had embraced the poor, even wearing their tattered clothes in solidarity. But besides simply giving up worldly things, what was his *personal mission from God*? God miraculously clarified this for him: while Francis was praying before an ancient crucifix in the forsaken and crumbling Chapel of St. Damian (located below the hill town of Assisi), he heard a Voice from the crucifix commanding, "Go, Francis, and repair my house, which as you see is falling into ruin."



**A Voice came
from the crucifix**

Taking this command literally (as a command to repair the crumbling chapel that he was kneeling in), 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....

(To be continued...)



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.

Church Cleaning



Please come help clean our church for Christmas **Tuesday, Dec. 18** starting at 6:30 p.m. 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.

An Anti-Catholic Movie is debuting this weekend: 'The Golden Compass.'

This is a sort of "Da Vinci Code" for kids. The villain in the movie is called "The Magisterium," which of course is Roman Catholic terminology for "all of the Bishops who are in union with the Pope." This heavily marketed movie is intended to lead parents to buy "The Golden Compass" book trilogy for their kids. The movie itself is prejudiced enough, but the book trilogy is darker and more explicitly anti-Catholic, a dramatic poison for young souls. **Please be aware of the major damage to faith that is possible.**



THIS WEEKEND'S SECOND COLLECTION:

The Religious Retirement Fund: At this weekend's second collection, we can contribute to a fund that helps religious communities care for the needs of their retired members.

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

Breakfast with Santa is this weekend, Sunday, Dec. 9.

Breakfast will be served from 8 a.m. to noon. Cost is \$6.00 for adults, and \$3 for children. Pictures can be taken with Santa from 8:30 a.m. to noon. There will also be a craft table, and raffle prizes. For more, especially about craft booths, contact Joan Wroblewski at 773-847-1866.



Advent Confessions in St. Jerome's next Sunday, Dec. 16, at 6 p.m. Several priests will be available for this best possible way to prepare for Christmas.

St. Jerome's School Christmas Program will be performed by all of the grades on Thursday, Dec. 20 at 7 p.m. in our church.

The Croatian School 'Cardinal Stepinac' invites you to its traditional Christmas celebration on Saturday, Dec. 22 at 6:30 p.m. in St. Jerome's School Hall. Tickets for this traditional Christmas program and dinner are available from Croatian School parents and Board members.

All parishioner schoolchildren from pre-school to 8th grade are invited to participate in the Children's Christmas Eve Mass at 6 p.m., Dec. 24. For your child to have a role, please fill out the form distributed through the school, which is also in the back of the church and return it in the collection basket **by this weekend, Sunday, Dec. 9 or the latest on Monday at School.**

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. The band Bravo will provide the music.

Relevant Radio, Chicago's Catholic Talk Radio, had to change its frequency recently. It's no longer 820 AM, **now it's 950 AM.** For informative and engaging shows about your Catholic faith, listen to Relevant Radio 950-AM, **Monday to Friday, from 5 a.m. to 7 p.m. Alas, there's no nighttime or weekend broadcasting for 950 AM.**

When Relevant Radio 950 AM is off the air at night and weekends, **try 930 AM**, which is Relevant Radio's broadcast for the western suburbs, and **try 1270 AM**, which serves the southeast suburbs.