The Fourth Sunday of Lent

March 26, 2017

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.
— Psalm 23:1

I was blind and now I see
THE PASSION OF CHRIST
TUESDAY, MARCH 28, 2017
Screenplay Writer and Director: Cecyliia Jablonska

St. Barbara Parish welcomes “Misterium”, a prayer-theatrical group based at St. Hyacinth’s Basilica, who will perform the play The Passion of Christ here at St. Barbara Church on Tuesday, March 28th, at 7:30 pm. The group “Misterium” has over 70 members whose purpose is to proclaim the religious truth through word, play and music.

Please note: Due to the actors having regular jobs and the travel time from the northwest suburbs, the time has been changed to 7:30 pm.

LADIES’ GUILD HOSTS EASTER BUNNY BREAKFAST

The Ladies’ Guild will hold their annual Breakfast with the Easter Bunny on Sunday, April 2nd, following the 9:30 am Mass. Breakfast will include pancakes, sausage, ham, potatoes, orange juice or apple juice, milk and coffee. The Easter Bunny will be paying us a visit, so be sure to bring your camera. Tickets are $10.00 for adults and $7.00 for children 5-13.

BLEST ART VISITS ST. BARBARA

This weekend, after all Masses, representatives from Blest Art will be displaying their olive wood statuary in back of church. Blest Art’s mission is to support families in the Holy Land. Christians have earned a living by carving religious olive art to sell to visiting pilgrims. However, fewer pilgrims are journeying to the Holy Land, making it difficult for those Christians to support their families.

Blest Art will present hand-carved nativity sets, statues, crosses, rosaries and many other pieces of beautiful olive wood art. Please visit their display and consider purchasing a piece of art from the Holy Land. By doing this, you will help support the many families who depend on this form of art for their income.

The carvings make beautiful gifts for all occasions. Whatever you purchase, be it large or small, will make a difference to the families in the Holy Land.

HOLY NAME SOCIETY NEWS

ST. PATRICK’S LOTTERY


HOLY NAME NEWS

We purchased 8 tables and 64 chairs for the parish. Our next meeting will be held on Friday, April 7th, at 7:00 pm.

SAVE THE DATES

★ The Golden Oldies Dinner Dance will be held on Saturday, April 8th, following the 5:00 pm Mass. Tickets are $25.00 each and are available from the ushers in back of church, at the rectory, or from Tony Skokal or Phil Whitehouse. We welcome back our terrific band from last year, The StingRays.

★ The Fourth Annual Car Show will be held on Saturday, August 19th.

Celebrating over a Century of Faith and Education
St. Barbara Parish is a Roman Catholic community celebrating a century of faith in the Bridgeport area. Our faith community welcomes all people, helping them grow spiritually through liturgy, prayer, and education, and socially through activities for all ages. Our school takes great pride in fostering these values in our children. We give witness to our faith by sharing with each other our God-given gifts and talents. We nourish and sustain our faith as a family by celebrating the sacraments and the presence of the risen Lord among us in the Eucharist.
FROM THE DESK OF THE ASSOCIATE PASTOR:

The Fourth Sunday of Lent

Looking to the cross for strength, we realize how much Jesus suffered for us. We realize how often people, and ourselves, lose heart and break down in the presence of even small difficulties. We need to strengthen our faith. Even “the earth is shaken”! God is our strength. Once we learn that God, who created the earth from the tops of the mountains to the depths of the oceans, is on our side, the gift of strength and trust will flow into our hearts.

Psalm 45

Looking to the cross for strength, we need to focus on what is solid and good. There is too much injustice around. It seems like the world enjoys contemplating human weaknesses and bringing dark clouds above our heads. We need to “look to the rock from which we were hewn”. If we walk with our faces turned to the ground, we lose our strength. God asks us to raise our eyes to heaven, to be attentive to his words. We lose our strength when we are surrounded by people who are unable to see goodness and beauty, who meditate on bad things. God tells us, “awake, awake, put on the strength of the Lord” because He is the one who can truly comfort you.

Isaiah 51: 1-11

Looking to the cross for strength, we begin to give thanks to God because He chose us for salvation. We receive strength from His Spirit and when we follow His truths. Sometimes we wonder why people create new traditions: Halloween instead of All Saints, happy holidays instead of Christmas. Isn’t it to make people forget that there is one Lord Jesus and God our Father, and from whom come encouragement, hope and strength to perform every good deed and word? We gain the strength to keep our faith when we hold fast to traditions, when we are together as the community of believers.

Thessalonians 2: 13-17

Looking to the cross for strength, we receive the armor of God to help us hold the ground when difficult days come. We are already “armed” with His mighty power. God wants to make us strong by giving us special “weapons”: a helmet of salvation, righteousness as a breastplate, faith as a shield and the sword of the Spirit. He wants us to clothe ourselves with His truth, readiness to proclaim the gospel of peace and pray at every opportunity in the Spirit. This works perfectly, and we don’t need insurance companies or special training in martial arts.

Ephesians 6: 10-20

Looking to the cross for strength, we bow low before God’s fidelity and love. God is with us to the end. He cares when we are lowly and people don’t even notice our existence. The most important thing is that, when we cry out, He answers. People might say: look at Jesus, He did cry out. “God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me”, and there was no answer. Yes. The answer came after three days when He was raised from the dead by the power of God. “Lord, your love endures forever; you never forsake the work of your hand.”

Psalm 138

Looking to the cross for strength, we might feel sometimes like we are disregarded by God. There are many people who say, “if He was with you, you would…” and there follows a long list of all good things we would have if He was with us. Those people are not helpful in seeing the presence of the Lord. We can also say there are many who have everything and never think of God. The Lord is never faint or grows weary of us. He knows what we need and His knowledge is beyond scrutiny. When we feel weak, hopeless and obtain no support from others, God tells us that He can give us the strength to soar on eagles’ wings.

Isaiah 40: 27-31

Fr. Andrzej
Activities this week
Sat. & Sun., Mar. 25-26 - Blest Art of Bethlehem in Church after all Masses
Mon., Mar. 27 - Ladies’ Guild Mtg.; 7:00 pm
Tues., Mar. 28 - Evening Mass; 6:00 pm
- The Passion of Christ; 7:30 pm
Wed., Mar. 29 - Finance Council Mtg.; 6:30 pm
Thurs., Mar. 30 - Dine-Out Night at Tacos Erendira
12:00 pm - 9:00 pm
Fri., Mar. 31 - Lenten Rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet; 5:30 pm, followed by Mass (6:00 pm) and Stations of the Cross
Sun., Apr. 2 - Grade 4 Family Mass; 9:30 am, followed by Breakfast with the Easter Bunny

LENTEN PRAYER OPPORTUNITIES
Weekday Morning Mass:
Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday; 8:30 am (Chapel);
Friday and Saturday; 8:30 a.m. (Church)
Weekday Evening Mass:
Tuesday and Friday (Church); both at 6:00 p.m. (Please note that there will be both a morning and evening Mass on Fridays in Lent.) Recitation of the rosary and the Divine Mercy Chaplet will be said at 5:30 pm.
Stations of the Cross:
Fridays at 6:30 p.m. (Church)
(Stations will follow the evening Mass.)

HENRY’S GRANDSON PAYS A VISIT HOME
Henry Diaz DeLeon welcomed his grandson Alexander home from the Naval Academy Preparatory School in Rhode Island. Henry and Alexander attended Mass last Sunday along with Henry’s daughter and son-in-law, Fred and Laura Cruz, and Henry’s granddaughters Marissa and Monique along with great-granddaughter, Jayleen. Next week, Alexander is off to the Naval Academy in Annapolis.

Let us pray for the safety of all men and women in our Armed Forces throughout the world.

DINE-OUT NIGHT
Thursday, March 30th
This month’s “Dine-Out” Restaurant to benefit St. Barbara School is Tacos Erendira, 3207 S. Halsted Street; Phone: (312) 567-0202. The school will receive a rebate on any orders placed between 12 noon and 9:00 pm. Be sure to mention St. Barbara School when ordering. This offer is good for dining-in, carry-out or delivery.

PARISH WISH LIST
10 Worship Chairs; Cost: $1,800.00
We would like to purchase 10 chairs for use in the sanctuary and the sacristy. Our intention is to order the same chairs that are in use in the chapel. The cost of these chairs is approximately $180.00 each. If anyone is interested in contributing to the cost of these chairs, please see Fr. Arthur or Fr. Andrzej. As of this date, we have received money to purchase 5 chairs.

New Hymn Books for the Elementary School; Cost: $2,125
We are still collecting money for the “Rise Up and Sing” children’s choir books. We wish to purchase 200 copies of the new edition of the choir book, of which 150 copies will be kept in church and 50 in school. To date, $500 has been received.
If you are interested in helping in either project, please see Fr. Arthur or Fr. Andrzej.

Thursday, March 16, 2017
Arlene - $500 Coverall Winner
Dr. Jim Rigg, Superintendent of Archdiocese Schools Visits St. Barbara

On Friday, March 17th, we were honored to welcome Dr. Jim Rigg, Superintendent of the Archdiocese of Chicago Catholic Schools. Dr. Rigg was welcomed by many of our students while on a school tour. He also had an opportunity to meet with Mrs. Nolazco and Rev. Arthur, and hear about all the great things happening at St. Barbara School.

Second Graders Make Leprechaun Traps

To celebrate St. Patrick's day, 2nd grade made some creative Leprechaun traps! They hid gold coins in the traps to attract the mischievous Leprechauns. Great job 2nd grade!
Weekly Collection - March 12-13

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<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday Envelopes (99)</td>
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<td>Children's Envelopes ( )</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Collection</strong></td>
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YTD: $123,133.86  Weekly: $2,736.99  
Goal: $243,200.00  % of Goal: 51%  43%

Votives & Vigil Lights: $213.04
Feb. Give Central: 1st $1,988.00  2nd $345.00

Electronic giving through GiveCentral.org is the safe and secure way to make your weekly donations to St. Barbara. Donate via credit card or electronic check (ACH). Sign up by visiting St. Barbara’s home WEB page and follow the prompts.

Liturgical Ministers

**SATURDAY, APRIL 1ST**
5:00 p.m.
Altar Servers: A. Lemke, M. Lemke, X. Lopez, A. Gorz
Eucharistic Ministers: R. Carden, J. Lukwinski
Lectors: L. Saletta, G. Dumelle
Greeter: L. Saletta

**SUNDAY, APRIL 2ND**
6:00 a.m.
Altar Server: G. Vanderford
Eucharistic Ministers: S. Guest, J. Balasa
Lector: J. Bertucci
Greeter: B. Webb

9:30 a.m.
Altar Servers: J. Castaneda, E. Castaneda, L. Castaneda, J. Gonzalez
Eucharistic Ministers: P. Rodriguez, J. Rodriguez
Lectors: Family Mass - 4th Grade
Greeter: L. Echevarria

11:30 a.m.
Altar Servers: A. Calderon, V. Sandoval, N. Calderon, L. Calderon
Eucharistic Ministers: A. Skokal, B. Pienta
Lectors: Elli Pollock, H. Alonzo
Greeter: D. Becatti

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**Weekday Masses**

Monday — Thursday — CHAPEL
Friday, Saturday and Sunday—CHURCH
Baptisms: Parents must be registered practicing parishioners and attend a baptismal preparation session before a baptism will be scheduled. Call the rectory office for further information.

Communion Calls: Please contact the Rectory when someone who is homebound or in the hospital wishes a visit to receive Holy Communion or the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick. The Anointing of the Sick is for anyone seriously sick and not only for those near death.

Ministry of Care: Eucharistic Ministers are available to visit, pray with, and bring Holy Communion to those who are sick and unable to attend Mass. Notify the Parish Office when this service is needed.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults is a program for anyone inquiring and seeking information about entering the Catholic faith.

Weddings: Weddings need to be scheduled at least six months in advance. Couples are reminded to secure the Church date before the reception hall.

Moving/New Cell #: Please contact the rectory with address change or telephone change.

Please pray for those homebound, hospitalized and in need of continued prayers...

St. Barbara Catholic Church
2859 South Throop Street
Chicago, Illinois 60608
www.StBarbaraChicago.org

SUNDAY LITURGIES
Saturday: 5:00 p.m.
Sunday: 6:00 a.m., 9:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m.

WEEKDAY LITURGIES
8:30 a.m.: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday: 6:00 p.m.: Tuesday

HOLY DAYS OF OBLIGATION
6:00 a.m., 8:30 a.m., 7:00 p.m. unless otherwise noted

CONFESSION
Saturday 3:45-4:30 p.m.

WEEKDAY LITURGIES
Mass at 8:30 a.m., followed by a short period of Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. Evening Mass at 6:00 p.m., followed by Exposition and Adoration, concluding with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament at 7:30 p.m.

THE ROSARY
Tuesdays at 5:30 p.m. before the 6:00 p.m. Mass, and on Sunday at 5:30 a.m. before the 6:00 a.m. Sunday Mass.

OFFICE HOURS
Monday-Friday: 8:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.; 1:30-4:00 p.m.
The office is closed on Saturday and Sunday.

Pastor: Fr. Wojciech Artur Marat
amarat@archchicago.org

Associate Pastor: Fr. Andrzej Beltowski
abeltowski@StBarbaraChicago.org

School Principal: Mrs. Nicole Nolazco
nnolazco@StBarbaraChicago.org

Business Manager: Mrs. Carol Spalla
cspalla@StBarbaraChicago.org

Director of Music: Ms. Eva Mrgan
emrgan@StBarbaraChicago.org

Tuition Admin.: Ms. Dolores Becatti
dbecatti@StBarbaraChicago.org

Parish Secretaries: Ms. Dolores Becatti
Ms. Judy Lukwinski
Mrs. Carol Spalla

Religious Education: Mrs. Roberta Carden

MASS SCHEDULE