First Sunday of Lent

Feb. 18 2018

Your ways, O LORD, make known to me; teach me your paths.

— Psalm 25:4
DIVINE MERCY SQUAD
We need to remember that the center of our life should be Holy Mass and prayer. We want to share with you and remind you that, since 2016, the Divine Mercy Prayer Group faithfully prays after the 11:30 am Mass on Sundays.

We have decided to expand our Divine Mercy Group to include the Divine Mercy Squad. What is the Divine Mercy Squad? The Squad is a group of five young families who have dedicated themselves to pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet each day for a special intention. Each of these five families will pray for a special intention for one month. The group had their last meeting at a special Mass this past Thursday. The first intentions are for: 1) the School, Teachers, Faculty and Students; 2) the Priests and Rectory Staff; 3) Faithful Parishioners who have passed away; 4) Parishioners who have fallen away from the Church; and 5) Parishioners who are ill.

As you can see, on the step below the picture of the Divine Mercy there is a basket; next to the basket are cards on a stand. The cards are entitled “Divine Mercy Intention”. Each of you can take a form, fill it out with your intention, and drop it in the basket. Next month, the families in the Divine Mercy Squad will each take a card home and pray for that intention for the next month. The Divine Mercy Group in church will pray for those intentions left in the basket on Sundays after the 11:30 am Mass. The following month, the five families will again each pick out another intention card from the basket to focus on. Once a month, the five families will have a Mass in the chapel for these intentions.

CARNIVAL MEETING
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23RD;
7:00 PM

There will be a Carnival meeting this Friday, February 23rd in the Parish Center. If you have any new ideas or are interested in helping out, please attend this meeting. We’re on the lookout for some fresh suggestions.

USHERS NEEDED!
We are in desperate need of ushers. If you are in church and see that there are only one or two ushers, please volunteer to help out.

Dreaming Big about the Archdiocese of Chicago

RENEW MY CHURCH MEETING
THIS WEDNESDAY; 7:00 PM

All parishioners are invited to a very important meeting regarding the Renew My Church (RMC) program now underway for the Archdiocese. Representatives from the Archdiocese will be here to discuss the current religious strengths and challenges in the Bridgeport community. This first meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 21st, at 7:00 pm in the lower hall of the school. At this meeting, you will meet the representatives from St. Barbara who have been attending the RMC meetings. Also, please mark your calendars for two future meetings which will take place on March 14th and March 28th, both at 7:00 pm. Please pray that the Holy Spirit will guide our parish and the other parishes in our Bridgeport community through the Renew My Church process.

ST. BARBARA KC’S PRESENT COLLEEN WILLARD

This Tuesday, the St. Barbara KC’s will present Colleen Willard and her amazing story of spiritual healing in our church at 7:00 pm. Please join us for this inspiring evening.

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

LAST WORDS FROM THE CROSS

“Amen, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise.”

It is hard to imagine paradise on Golgotha — the place of suffering, tears, cursing. The place where hatred rose up, where humans were executed — those condemned justly and this one who was innocent. There was paradise for one man who recognized that Jesus is King.

How this criminal was able to recognize a king in the man who was suffering so horrendously, who was naked and vulnerable and hopelessly dying, I don’t know. He recognized, he asked, and the gates of Paradise were opened.

What made this crucified criminal so special? He hadn’t followed Jesus. He hadn’t left everything behind to be his disciple. He wasn’t suffering for the sake of righteousness, but for his crime. Finally, he had admitted that he had been justly condemned.

What made him special? It was because he was a child of God and he asked for forgiveness. It doesn’t matter to Jesus what your sins are; it matters to Him that we trust. God says, “Though your sins will be like scarlet, they may become white like snow; though they will be crimson red, they may become white like wool” (Is 1:18).

Jesus forgave and opened Paradise for him. We too need forgiveness. Maybe we don’t have big sins — we are not as dangerous as the criminals who were crucified with Jesus. But we have to remember that small sins — mistakes which are not confessed — cannot be forgiven.

Jesus, you opened the gates of Paradise to a criminal who acknowledged you as a King. Look at my wickedness and sins which I have collected through my whole life and forgive me.

～ Amen

Fr. Andrzej

Please consider remembering St. Barbara Parish in your will.

LENTEN PRAYER OPPORTUNITIES

Weekday Morning Mass:
Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday — 8:30 am in the Chapel; Friday and Saturday— 8:30 a.m. in the Church

Weekday Evening Mass:
Tuesday in the Chapel and Friday in Church; both at 6:00 p.m. Please note that there will be both a morning and evening Mass on Fridays in Lent.

Stations of the Cross:
Fridays at 6:30 p.m. in Church
Stations will follow the evening Mass.

Lenten Sharing: Soup and Spiritual Book
Lent is here. We invite you to our Lenten simple supper of soup and bread shared with others interested in deepening their relationship with God through the reading of a spiritual book chosen by Fr. Andrzej. The first session will be held this Monday, February 19th at 7:00 pm. The following five sessions will be held on Tuesdays after the 6:00 pm Mass.

If you decide to participate in these spiritual book sessions, please sign up on the sheet on the ushers’ table so that we may know how many booklets to prepare and also how big the pot of soup should be.

Please pray for the repose of the soul of:
CASIMIRA NOWAK
Please keep the Nowak, Kisielente and Goetz families in your prayers.

LENTEN REGULATIONS

Abstinence from meat is to be observed by all Catholics 14 years old and older on Ash Wednesday and on all the Fridays of Lent. Fasting is to be observed on Ash Wednesday by all Catholics who are 18 years of age but not yet 59. Those who are bound by this may take only one full meal. Two smaller meals are permitted if necessary to maintain strength according to one’s needs, but eating solid foods between meals is not permitted.

The special Paschal fast, as well as abstinence, are prescribed for Good Friday and encouraged for Holy Saturday.
Activities This Week

Sun., Feb. 18 - Holy Name Installation of Officers; 9:30 am Mass
Mon., Feb. 19 - Lent with Soup and Spiritual Book Mtg.; 7:00 pm
Tues., Feb. 20 - St. Barbara Seniors Mtg.; 11:30 am - Colleen Willard Lecture; 7:00 pm
Wed., Feb. 21 - Mandatory Reconciliation Mtg. for Parents; 6:00 pm - Renew My Church Mtg.; 7:00 pm
Fri., Feb. 23 - Lenten Evening Mass followed by Stations of the Cross; 6:00 pm - Carnival Mtg.; 7:00 pm
Sat., Feb. 24 - Teen Night; 6:30 pm
Sun., Feb. 25 - Finance Council Mtg.; 10:30 am - St. Barbara KC's Chili Dinner; 12:30—3:00 pm

HOLY NAME SOCIETY NEWS

Due to the snowstorm of last week, we are rescheduling the February Holy Name Meeting to Friday, February 23rd. We are once again selling St. Patrick’s Day Lotto tickets. Prizes will be given every day during the month of March. Your ticket number must match the winning evening Illinois Lottery Pick 3 game number. Daily winners will receive $100. Saturdays’ winners will be awarded $250 and the grand prize of $500 will be awarded on St. Patrick’s Day. Tickets are just $10.00 each and can be purchased after Mass from the ushers, from any Holy Name Member or from any member of the Ladies’ Guild.

Please remember, absolutely no tickets will be sold after February 28th. Members: please return any ticket stubs you may have at that meeting.

Baby Bottle Project

The Baby Bottle Project began last weekend. Due to the snowstorm, the Confirmation candidates were not able to hand out many baby bottles. If you did not receive a bottle, please take one this weekend. The Confirmation Candidates will collect the bottles the weekend of Palm Sunday (March 24-25).

END OF YEAR STATEMENT FOR CHURCH CONTRIBUTIONS

If you would like to receive your year-end statement of church contributions, please contact the rectory during business hours: 312-842-7979.

SAVE THE DATE

The Holy Name will hold their Installation of Officers today Sunday, February 18th, at the 9:30 am Mass.

The St. Barbara Knights of Columbus Council #16739 will hold a Night of Healing with Colleen Willard following the 6:00 pm Mass on Tuesday, February 20th.

The St. Barbara Knights of Columbus will sponsor a Chili Dinner on Sunday, February 25th. Dinners will be served from 12:30 - 3:00 pm in the Lower Hall.

The Ladies’ Guild will hold their Spring Vendor Fair on Saturday, March 3rd.

The Ladies’ Guild Easter Bunny Breakfast will be held on Sunday, March 18th, following the 9:30 am Mass.

The Holy Name Annual Spring Dinner Dance will be held on Saturday, April 7th, following the 5:00 pm Mass. Music will again be provided by The StingRays.

6 Day Vigil Light Candles
$3 for one, $5 for two
Small Candles: 50¢

Thursday,
February 8, 2018

Nancy
$500 Coverall
ST. BARBARA HONOR ROLL

St. Barbara School is pleased to announce the Honor Roll for the 2nd Academic Quarter of the 2017-18 school year:

**Golden A Honor Roll:**
Zosia Czarnecki-Lichstein, Autumn Moon, Ellie Cabrera, Emma Cabrera, Maximus Palacios, Gabriella Godinez, Alexander Gorz, Noah Castells, Olivia Hulten, Claudia Jimenez.

**A Honor Roll:**
Jaqueline Cabral, Mairah Lopez, Noel Covarrubias, Anthony Serrano, Quinn Do, Angeleo Alonso, Ryan Yan, Tristan Andrews, Ronald Cabrera, Donovan Chan, Maya Castells, Allana Parcon.

**B Honor Roll:**

**Effort Award:**
Patrick Mulhearn, Carys Rodriguez, Yssa Villagrana, Antonio Padilla, Jaycee Williams, Natalie Perez.

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**Pray & Play Teen Night**
Saturday, February 24th
5:00 p.m.—Come for Mass
6:00-8:00 p.m.—Open Gym and Prayer
8th Grade through High School
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.

**Weekly Collection - February 3rd - 4th**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Children's Envelopes (11)</td>
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<td>Utility Bill Fund (36)</td>
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<td>50%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Votives &amp; Vigil Lights:</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>December Give Central:</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>2nd</td>
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LITURGICAL MINISTERS

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24TH**

5:00 p.m.
Altar Servers: G. Godinez, A. Lemke, M. Lemke, A. Gorz, Q. Do
Eucharistic Ministers: A. Skokal, J. Lukwinski
Lectors: L. Saletta, G. Dumelle

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 18TH**

6:00 a.m.
Altar Server: G. Vanderford
Eucharistic Ministers: S. Guest, J. Balasa
Lector: J. Bertucci

9:30 a.m.
Altar Servers: G. Salinas, V. Mack, D. Prieto A. Gonzalez, M. Gonzalez
Eucharistic Ministers: P. Rodriguez, J. Rodriguez
Lectors: K. Ricci, H. Diaz DeLeon

11:30 a.m.
Altar Servers: A. Rodriguez, M. Rodriguez, P. Young, G. Parcon
Eucharistic Ministers: H. Alonzo, A. Alonzo
Lectors: Eljay Raya, Edward Raya, Jr.

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**Mass Intentions for the Week**

**Saturday, February 17 - Vigil of the First Sunday of Lent**

5:00 p.m. + Geri Kaput (Irene Zima)
+ Evelyn Goetz (Ignatius Goetz)
+ Michael Radziewicz (Children)
+ David Maeshiba (Rose Stronczek)
+ 5 Yr. Ann.: Sophie Rzasa (Stanley Rzasa & Betty Kauer)
Divine Mercy for All (C. Kisielente Family)

**Sunday, February 18 - The First Sunday of Lent**

6:00 a.m. + Loretta Keslinke (Bill & Barbara Webb)
+ Barbara Rolek (Terri Rolek)
Health Blessings: Koen Guest (Guest Family)
9:30 a.m. + Mary Diaz DeLeon (Family)
Divine Mercy for All (J. Lukwinski)
11:30 a.m. + Stanley Piorecki (Ted Piorecki)
+ David Maeshiba (Bob and Shirley Synal)
Health Blessings: Virginia Pakula (Virginia Pienta)
Birthday Blessings: Analisa & Leopoldo, Jr. (Tita Inday)

**Monday, February 19 - Lenten Weekday**

8:30 a.m. + In Thanksgiving to St. Anthony (Guadalupe Cervantes)

**Tuesday, February 20 - Lenten Weekday**

6:00 p.m. + John Kutyba (Victoria Skala)

**Wednesday, February 21 - Lenten Weekday**

8:30 a.m. + Stanley Slotarski (Family)

**Thursday, February 22 - The Chair of St. Peter the Apostle**

8:30 a.m. + Kevin Sierzega (Parents)
Birth Blessings: Savanna Margheret Ayala (Grandmother, Melba)

**Friday, February 23 - Lenten Weekday; St. Polycarp**

8:30 a.m. + 12th Ann.: Eugenia (Jean) Becatti (Dolores)
+ 15th Ann.: John Rzasa (Diane & Marilyn Rzasa)
6:00 p.m. Blessings: Hubert Sawaściuk Family

**Saturday, February 24 - Lenten Weekday**

8:30 a.m. Father’s Day Remembrance

**Saturday, February 24 - Vigil of the Second Sunday of Lent**

5:00 p.m. + Robert Baker
Divine Mercy for All (C. Kisielente Family)

**Sunday, February 18 - The Second Sunday of Lent**

6:00 a.m. + Michael Semmler (Mr. & Mrs. David Czarnecki)
+ Casimir Krupa (Daughter, Christine)
Health Blessings: Koen Guest (Guest Family)
9:30 a.m. + Bill Beyer (Ed & B. Glabicki)
Divine Mercy for All (J. Lukwinski)
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.

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 Mragan
emrgan@StBarbaraChicago.org

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

Parish Secretaries: Ms. Dolores Becatti
Ms. Judy Lukwinski
jlukwinski@StBarbaraChicago.org
Mrs. Carol Spalla

Religious Education: Mrs. Roberta Carden

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

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