Not by bread alone does one live,
but by every word that comes forth
from the mouth of the Lord
— Deuteronomy 8:3b

[Christ Jesus] humbled himself,
becoming obedient to the
Point of death,
even death on a cross.
— Philippians 2:8
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.

Holy Thursday Washing of Feet
a sign of extreme humility

We are beginning Holy Week which will culminate in Easter, commemorating the resurrection of Jesus. On Holy Thursday we will witness the priest washing the feet of his 12 “apostles”. This act of Jesus was a revolutionary one which would have been scorned by those in power. By Jesus washing the feet of his apostles, he has demonstrated the most extreme form of humility and love for man, and this love resulted in the ultimate sacrifice of His life for us on the cross.

If you and your family would like to have your feet washed on Holy Thursday, please see Fr. Arthur or Fr. Andrzej.

Lenten Reconciliation Service
with Individual Confessions

This Monday, March 26; 6:00 p.m.

During Lent, we are called in a special way to acknowledge our sinfulness and seek reconciliation with the Lord by celebrating the sacrament of Reconciliation. To fulfill one’s Easter Duty, Catholics who are in the state of sin have an obligation to approach the sacrament of Penance during the time of Lent and Easter, from the First Sunday of Lent through Trinity Sunday.

There will be three priests to listen to confessions: Fr. Arthur, Fr. Andrzej and another outside priest. If you cannot attend the reconciliation service, there will be another opportunity for confession before Easter on Holy Saturday, from 12:30 - 1:30 pm. Be sure to avail yourself of one of these opportunities for Lenten confession.

RENEW MY CHURCH

On Wednesday evening, March 14th, parishioners were invited to the second Renew My Church meeting. As it was Fr. Arthur’s birthday, the meeting began with dinner from Mabenka provided by a grateful parishioner. Following dinner, Fr. Arthur was presented with a huge cake.

The meeting followed dinner and was facilitated by Jeanne Lassandrello. The meeting elicited a lively discussion, a few pros and several cons. A decision was agreed upon that we need at least one or two more meetings. Also, we will need to develop a few more scenarios for the Archdiocese to consider.

A follow-up meeting had been planned for Wednesday, March 28th at 7:00 pm. However, due to Holy Week, this may be changed, depending when the facilitator will be available. The date of the next meeting will be announced in Church.

We are grateful for the feedback we have received regarding our last meeting. If you would like to share your thoughts with us, please email us at renew@stbarbarachicago.org

Please pray for us as we continue on this Renew My Church journey.

DIVINE MERCY NOVENA

A Divine Mercy Novena will be said beginning at 3:00 pm on Good Friday, continuing on Holy Saturday at 3:00 pm, on Easter Sunday after the 11:30 am Mass, and then throughout the week after Easter. During that week, all Masses will be in the evening, beginning with the Divine Mercy Novena at 6:00 pm.

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FROM THE DESK OF THE ASSOCIATE PASTOR

LAST WORDS FROM THE CROSS

“Father, into your hands I commend my spirit”

These are the last words Jesus said. He practically cries these words so the people can hear where Jesus is going. After all, He is going to the Father. But nobody hears. People are going home — the show is over. They have had their excitement and now things are going back to normal. Boring reality is waiting — until the next crucifixion.

But Jesus again shows his amazing power. In the last moment of His life, He makes one more person believe. The centurion, the Roman soldier, the pagan confesses, “Truly, this was the Son of God”.

Jesus cries, “Into your hands I commend my spirit”. It tells me and it tells you that, in the moment of our death, you have only your spirit. It does not matter how many friends you have, how many houses and cars you own, or how beautiful your body is. In the moment of death, only your soul matters. Maybe today is the moment to think of what you will do with your soul. At the hour of death, the importance will be if you know God. Even if you know the President of the United States, you will not astonish God.

Jesus cries, “Father, into your hands I commend my spirit”. This means that, from now on, everybody has a chance to meet God. The gates of heaven are open again. Adam closed them by disobedience; Jesus opened them by His obedience. Before Jesus, there was no hope. Now everyone who acknowledges that Jesus is the Lord receives salvation. Those who believe that Jesus is the Way, the Truth and the Life are the happiest people.

Easter is a time of rejoicing — the time of new life. May the Risen Christ give you the certain faith to know that God’s love may lead you to the glory of the resurrection.

Fr. Andrzej

HOLY WEEK PRAYER OPPORTUNITIES

Weekday Morning Mass/Morning Prayer:
Monday, Wednesday — 8:30 am Mass in Church;
Thursday, Friday and Saturday — 8:30 am Morning Prayer in Church.

Weekday Evening Mass:
Tuesday in Church at 6:00 pm. Holy Thursday Mass of the Lord’s Supper at 7:00 pm in Church, followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until midnight; Good Friday Liturgy of the Lord’s Passion with Veneration of the Cross at 7:00 pm in Church.

Stations of the Cross:
The Divine Mercy Novena followed by Stations of the Cross on Friday at 3:00 pm in Church.

Lenten Sharing: Soup and Spiritual Book
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 last session will be held on Tuesday after the 6:00 pm Mass.

Easter Vigil:
Confessions from 12:30 to 1:30 pm only on Holy Saturday. The Easter Vigil Mass will be said at 8:00 pm in Church. (Please remember: there is no 5:00 pm Mass on Holy Saturday.)

Blessing of Baskets:
Takes place on Holy Saturday at 12:00 pm (noon) in Church.

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.

Please consider remembering St. Barbara Parish in your will.
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.

The school Tae Kwon Do Tournament will be held on Saturday, April 14th, from 9:00 am - 2:00 pm.

The St. Barbara Carnival is fast approaching. It will be held June 14 - 17.

HOLY NAME SOCIETY NEWS

The latest winners in our St. Patrick’s Lotto are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>March</th>
<th>Ticket #</th>
<th>Winner</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<td>434</td>
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<td>Tony Skokal</td>
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<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>227</td>
<td>Adeline Skokal</td>
<td>$100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Due to the early publication of the bulletin, morwin-ners will be announced in next week’s bulletin.

The Holy Name Spring Dinner Dance will be held on Saturday, April 7th, The doors will open at 6:00 pm and dinner will be served at approximately 6:30 pm. This year, for your dancing enjoyment, we will again present the StingRays. Tickets are on sale in back of church, or from Phil Whitehouse or Tony Skokal.

Wish List:
To help beautify our church during this Easter season, we have purchased four altar cloths at a cost of $125 each. If anyone would like to donate toward the purchase of these cloths, please see Fr. Arthur or Fr. Andrzej.
11th Ward Spelling Bee

On March 1, five St. Barbara Fifth graders participated in the 11th Ward Spelling Bee held at Armour Park: Angeleo Alonzo, Quorra Keating, Emilee Panczuk, Gilbert Parcon and Howard Spurlin. The results were announced on March 13! The FIRST place winner was Angeleo Alonzo and the FOURTH place winner was Howard Spurlin. The two winners received a trophy and all participating students were given a commemorative T-shirt. Congratulations Angeleo and Howie!

St. Barbara School App

Do you have space on your phone for another app? We hope so because the St. Barbara School App is now available on the Apple Store and Google Play! Be sure to select “Allow” when asked if you would like to receive notifications from us.
**Weekly Collection - March 17th - 18th**

Due to the early publication of the weekly bulletin, collection totals for last weekend are not available. They will be published in next week’s bulletin.

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**

**HOLY THURSDAY, MARCH 29TH**
7:00 p.m.
Lectors: R. Villareal, G. Dumelle

**GOOD FRIDAY, MARCH 30TH**
7:00 p.m.
Lectors: P. Saletta, L. Saletta

**SATURDAY, MARCH 31ST**
**Holy Saturday**
8:00 p.m.
Eucharistic Ministers: B. Rekar, R. Carden
Lectors: L. Saletta, P. Saletta, B. Hudren, E. Pollock, L. Szczepanski

**SUNDAY, APRIL 1ST**
6:00 a.m.
Altar Server: G. Vanderford
Eucharistic Ministers: S. Guest, J. Balasa
Lector: J. Bertucci
9:30 a.m.
Altar Servers: D. Prieto, V. Mack, J. Gonzalez, E. Cabrera, E. Cabrera, R. Cabrera
Eucharistic Ministers: F. Cabrera, J. Lukwinski
Lectors: H. Diaz DeLeon, M. Worth
11:30 a.m.
Altar Servers: A. Rodriguez, M. Rodriguez, N. Bunda, A. Alonzo, G. Parcon
Eucharistic Ministers: D. Ramos, B. Pienta
Lectors: B. Pienta, P. Saletta
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…

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