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

Let us love not in word or speech
but in deed and truth.
— 1 John 3:18

I am the vine; you are the branches. - Jesus
A Prayer for “ Renew My Church”

English Prayer

Lord Jesus, You speak to us today, as You spoke to holy men and women who have gone before us. In every age and in our own time, You call to us and say: Renew My Church.

Pour out the gift of Your Holy Spirit upon us, and so enable us to hear You clearly to listen to each other attentively to imagine our future boldly to discern Your direction wisely to persevere in Your holy will courageously to stay together in charity to surrender our own plans readily to embrace the greater good to hand on Your gifts to future generations.

May we remain in the holy company of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the apostles, and all the saints. May their example and presence inspire us with patient confidence in the work of Your grace.

We ask this of You who live and reign with the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

HOLY COMMUNION

If you find it difficult to walk to the front of the Church to receive Holy Communion, please notify one of the ushers before Mass that you would like a priest to bring Communion to you.

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.

Activities This Week

Mon., April 30 - Ladies’ Guild Mtg.; 7:00 pm
Tues., May 1 - St. Barbara Seniors Mtg.; 11:30 am
- Healing Mass; 6:00 pm
Fri., May 4 - 8th Grade Ribbon Mass; First Friday Mass; 8:30 am
- First Friday Evening Mass followed by Exposition and Benediction; 6:00 pm
Sun., May 6 - First Eucharist (Communion) Mass; 9:30 am
- Altar & Rosary Mtg; 1:00 pm

St. Vincent de Paul Society

Spring is here … and it’s time for our Annual Clothing Drive.

When: Saturday, May 12th, 8:30 a.m. until 5:30 p.m.
Sunday, May 13th, 8:30 a.m. until 1:30 p.m.

Where: The north parking lot next to the Church. Our trailer will be waiting for your bundled, bagged or boxed clothing.

Small appliances are welcome.

PLEASE: NO BABY FURNITURE

Also, please tie or rubber band shoes separately.

WE THANK YOU!

Mother’s Day Mass Remembrance

Mother - Grandmother - Godmother - Aunt - Sister

Mother’s Day is fast approaching. Remembrance envelopes are available in back of church. Please return them with the names of all mothers to be remembered. Your intentions will be remembered in special Masses offered up throughout the year. You are asked to include a donation that is suitable to your intentions. Envelopes can also be brought to the rectory office.

May Masses

Monday through Friday, 6:00 pm — CHURCH
Saturday and Sunday — CHURCH
St. Barbara’s biggest fundraiser is fast approaching. Please mark your calendar for June 14-17 (Father’s Day Weekend), to watch St. Barbara’s parking lot turn into a mini amusement park.

Raffle tickets are ready and available for pick up in the back of the church. Please help us save on postage and pick up your packet. If you see your neighbor’s, friend’s, or other family member’s packet there, please be kind and hand deliver them.

This year we will have 3 prizes: $2,500, $1,500, and $500. We will have (3) early bird raffles: April 30th, May 15th and June 1st.

Please get your tickets in by April 30th to make the first Early Bird Raffle. Tickets can be dropped in the collection or at the rectory. We have roughly 13 people who have returned their tickets. Totals will be available next weekend.

We are looking for raffle prizes for our booths. If you have any items that you would like to donate, please drop them off at the rectory during business hours.

Thank you to the following: Prism Construction/ Michalak Family and St. Barbara Altar & Rosary Society for their generous donations. We are still roughly $5,000 short of reaching our goal. Can we count on you to reach that goal??

Mega Passes will go on sale on May 1st through school, the rectory, and online at our website. If you haven’t looked at our website, check it out at http://deholland615.wix.com/st-barbara-carnival for up-to-date information.

Our next Carnival meeting will be on Friday, May 11th at 6:30 pm in the Parish Center. We are still looking for some fresh ideas and additional volunteers. If you are interested, please come to this meeting.

The Holy Name is sponsoring their 5th annual car show on Saturday, August 18th. Special guests at the show will be the country group “Top Guns”.

Please pray for the repose of the soul of:

ANDY NAWRACAJ

Please keep the Nawracaj family in your prayers.

April 19, 2018 Report

| Donor Count | 68 |
| 2018 Goal    | $10,622.61 |
| Amount Pledged | $17,820.00 |
| Amount Paid  | $10,420.00 |
| Balance Due  | $7,400.00 |

If our goal is reached, any additional funds will be returned to our parish for our use. Thank you for your support of St. Barbara Parish.

The Holy Name is sponsoring their 5th annual car show on Saturday, August 18th. Special guests at the show will be the country group “Top Guns”.

Please pray for the repose of the soul of:

ANDY NAWRACAJ

Please keep the Nawracaj family in your prayers.

Nisa
$500 Coverall
FROM THE DESK OF THE PASTOR AND PRINCIPAL

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

As you know, our Renew My Church parish meeting was held this past Monday evening. We would like to give you a summary of feedback we have received from the attendees at the meeting. The following is just a summary of the comments written on the questionnaires collected at the meeting on Monday. Any email and letters that were written will be forwarded directly to the Archdiocese.

RENEW MY CHURCH

Summary: The overwhelming majority expressed the desire to keep St. Barbara School open. They wanted St. Barbara to be given time to expand. A minority were open to the idea of working with St. Therese by sharing resources. With the exception of only a few, no one wants St. Barbara School to close or be completely taken over. We would like to work together to find a solution for both schools.

Keeping St. Barbara School OPEN
- St. Barbara needs more time to see the results of marketing strategies. Marketing was not a priority in the past. It is only in the last two years that St. Barbara has hired a Marketing Director.
- The Tax Credit scholarship program, which the Cardinal strongly advocated, should be given time to work. We have already reached out to several CPS families who chose St. Barbara as their school of choice.
- St. Barbara is a authentic Catholic school, with a majority of students who are Catholic. It is currently viable and has potential for growth.
- Several Santa Lucia students have already transferred to St. Barbara and several more are inquiring about transferring.
- St. Barbara is an ethnically diverse school. Families drive in from throughout the city and suburbs to send their children to St. Barbara. This diverse culture needs to continue.
- Closing St. Barbara does not guarantee that current students will enroll at St. Therese or any other Catholic school. Families may consider other options, such as CPS selective enrollment or charter schools.
- St. Barbara has always served the community and has consistently maintained the school campus (parking lot, gym, lower hall, etc). There are no add-ons or additional construction needed.
- The majority of St. Barbara graduates attend Catholic high schools (St. Ignatius, De La Salle, St. Laurence, etc.)
- We cannot turn our back on Catholics. Many will feel that the Archdiocese has betrayed Catholics for a school that attracts families where only a small percentage will convert.
- According to the Archdiocese, St. Barbara’s Aspire scores exceed those of other schools in the area. Why would the Archdiocese want to close a school that is mainly Catholic with high test scores?
- Keeping St. Barbara school open shows that the Archdiocese values a well rounded Catholic education over only academics.
- Aspire test scores prove that St. Barbara has the potential of being a Blue Ribbon school in the near future.
- St. Barbara became stagnant for several years due to the departure of a long time principal and the 1 year tenure of a principal that left a negative impact on the school community. The new administration has been working hard to restore and expand the school. More time is needed.
- St. Barbara is the only Catholic school west of Halsted Street and marketing efforts have been targeting the west side of Bridgeport, McKinley Park and even portions of Brighton Park.
- St. Barbara is strategically located near the Orange line and one block off Archer Ave. Transportation is very accessible; it is near the expressway and major bus routes.
- St. Barbara School is financially sound and has never been in debt to the Archdiocese.
Working with St. Therese
- Working with St. Therese would assist them with their lack of space, and would provide St. Barbara with additional resources. We should find a way to work together without closing St. Barbara School.
- St. Therese should consider sending their waiting list students to St. Barbara, assuming that those students and their families want a Catholic education.
- Some parents will be open to the idea of partnership and collaboration but will strongly oppose St. Barbara School closing.

Additional Concerns/Questions
- The Archdiocese will lose not only students but many parishioners because of the drastic changes.
- Why doesn’t St. Therese explore expansion to Santa Lucia or All Saints/St. Anthony, both of which are closer to their school. Santa Lucia and St. Therese have a shared history as well.
- Instead of closing down schools, why don’t schools with waiting lists share those lists with neighboring schools?
- This process is moving too fast. More time is needed before making proposed comprehensive changes.
- Why would the Archdiocese allow St. Jerome to build new facilities under the To Teach Who Christ Is campaign when St. Barbara School already has everything St. Jerome is planning? To Teach Who Christ Is is a diocesan campaign and the Cardinal should therefore have the authority to halt new construction until a decision has been made.
- Why hasn’t St. Therese explored the option of expanding to St. Jerome?
- By merging schools with completely different identities, it will be difficult to find common ground on many issues.
- Will parishioners and school families affected leave for other denominations due to drastic changes?
- Many have heard that other parishes/schools have pulled out of Renew My Church. If others can, why can’t we?
- Why doesn’t the Archdiocese combine parishes by geographic area? By doing so, you will find common ground among merging parishes. For example, St. Barbara and St. Mary of Perpetual Help already share resources and have a similar identity. St. Therese and Santa Lucia have a shared history. St. Gabriel and Nativity of our Lord can continue to work together.
- Why haven’t students on the St. Therese waiting list considered attending another area Catholic school? Are they not seeking a Catholic education?

Submitted to the Renew My Church Consultant on April 24, 2018.

Rev. Wojciech Artur Marat
Mrs. Nicole Nolazco
Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, April 28 - Vigil of the Fifth Sunday of Easter
5:00 p.m. + Casimira Nowak (Wacław & Kazimiera Berdysz)
   Divine Mercy for All (C. Kiesielente Family)

Sunday, April 29 - Fifth Sunday of Easter
6:00 a.m. + Donald “Speedy” Rolek (Rene Zerda)
   + Sophie Bonk (Bill & Barbara Webb)
   + Ted Naos (Christine Krupa)
   + Fred Stronczek (Wife, Rose)
   Health Blessings: Koen Guest (Family)
9:30 a.m. + Salvador (“Sal”) Solis (Dolores Becatti)
   + Jan & Maria Piątka & Family (Sraga Fam.)
11:30 a.m. + Stanley Piorecki (Ted Piorecki)
   + Casimira Nowak (Virginia Pienta)
   Divine Mercy for All (J. Lukwinski)

Monday, April 30 - Easter Weekday; St. Pius V
8:30 a.m. + Casimira Nowak (Anita & Dan Isacson)

Tuesday, May 1 - Easter Weekday; St. Joseph, the Worker
6:00 p.m. + Jean Lech (Ed & B. Glabicki)
   Divine Mercy for All (Tina Kiesielente)
   Special Intention for Renew My Church

Wednesday, May 2 - Easter Weekday; St. Athanasius
6:00 p.m. + Ann.: Robert Lukwinski (Family)

Thursday, May 3 - Easter Weekday; Sts. Philip & James, Apostles
6:00 p.m. + Birthday Rem.: Minnie Blameuser (Sonny Furmanek)

Friday, May 4 - Easter Weekday; First Friday
8:30 a.m. + David Maeshiba (Greg & Betty Ramel)
6:00 p.m. + Al Campione (Family)

Saturday, May 5 - Easter Weekday
8:30 a.m. All Parishioners, Living and Deceased
5:00 p.m. + 2nd Ann.: David Kaput (Family)
   + 2nd Ann.: Frank Antoniewicz (Family)
   + Sophie Rzasa (Diane & Marilyn Rzasa)
   + Frank Nowak (C. Kiesielente)
   + Catherine Piorecki (Ted Piorecki)
   Divine Mercy for All (C. Kiesielente Family)

Sunday, May 6 - Sixth Sunday of Easter
6:00 a.m. + Donald Rolek (Gloria Paradiso)
   + Pam Ricci (Bill & Barbara Webb)
   + Casimira Nowak (Therese Ryndak)
   Health Blessings: Koen Guest (Family)
9:30 a.m. 1st Eucharist (Communion) Mass
   + Rose Furmanek (Tony & Linda Sienkowski)
   + George David (Victoria David)

Weekly Collection - April 21th - April 22nd

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday Envelopes (110)</td>
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<td>Sunday Loose</td>
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<td>Children's Envelopes (6)</td>
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<td>Debt Reduction (63)</td>
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<td><strong>Total Collection</strong></td>
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YTD Actual: $143,067.11
Weekly Goal: $275,200.00
% of Goal: 52%

Votives & Vigil Lights: $177.40

March Give Central: 1st $1,728.00
2nd $330.00

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, MAY 5TH
5:00 p.m.
Altar Servers: L. Kwiatkowski, D. Kwiatkowski, J. Kwiatkowski, J. P. Kwiatkowski
Eucharistic Ministers: R. Carden, J. Lukwinski
Lectors: L. Saletta, P. Saletta

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

9:30 a.m.
Altar Servers: E. Cabrera, E. Cabrera, R. Cabrera, V. Mack, J. Gonzalez, D. Prieto
Eucharistic Ministers: P. Rodriguez, J. Rodriguez
Lectors: First Communion

11:30 a.m.
Altar Servers: P. Young, N. Bunda, V. Sandoval, A. Alonzo, G. Parcon
Eucharistic Ministers: A. Skokal, H. Alonzo
Lectors: E. Raya, E. Raya, Jr.

Sunday, May 6 - Sixth Sunday of Easter
11:30 a.m. + Catherine Piorecki (Ted Piorecki)
   + Lois Harris (B. Hudren)
   + Albert, Rose & Mitch Ulman & Family (Sraga Family)
   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.

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