The LORD keeps faith forever, secures justice for the oppressed, gives food to the hungry.

— Psalm 146:7
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

Sun., Nov. 11 - Men’s Choir sings at 9:30 am Mass - St. Barbara Altar & Rosary Sodality Mtg.; 1:00 pm
Mon., Nov. 12 - St. Barbara KC’s say Rosary in Church; 6:30 pm - St. Barbara KC’s meeting follows Rosary
Sat., Nov. 17 - St. Barbara KC’s Port Ministry Sandwich-Making Project; 9:00 am
Sun., Nov. 18 - 8th Grade Family Mass; 9:30 am

CATHOLIC CAMPAIGN FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

Next week, there will be a collection for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development. Over 43 million people in the United States live in poverty. This collection supports programs to empower people to identify and address the obstacles they face as they work to bring permanent and positive change to their communities. Learn more about the Catholic Campaign for Human Development at www.usccb.org/cchd/collection. Envelopes are included in your church packet. Extra envelopes are on the table in back of church.

ST. BARBARA MEMORIAL MASS

On Saturday, November 3rd, we offered a memorial mass for the families of parishioners we have buried during the past year. Each person’s name was called and a member of the family lit a candle for that person. Following the mass, everyone was invited to the Senior Mobile for brunch.

RENEW MY CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENT

As you know, the Renew My Church grouping committees have been meeting for the past several months regarding the eight parishes in the Bridgeport/Canaryville/Chinatown cluster. The goal was to decide how best to utilize the resources of these parishes.

Parishioners of all eight parishes have been asked to gather here in St. Barbara Church at 7:00 pm on Wednesday, November 28th. At that time, Bishop Robert Casey will announce the decisions reached by the Archdiocese regarding the new configuration of churches in our area.

Please continue to pray for all the members of the Renew My Church committees and all the parishioners that these announcements will affect. And, to answer your unasked question. NO, we do not know what the result will be. We will find out when you do, on November 28th.
FROM THE DESK OF THE ASSOCIATE PASTOR

Dear People of St. Barbara,

In today’s reading, we meet two widows. The first is the widowed mother of one son. It was the time of no rain in the country and here comes the prophet Elijah and asks her for water and a piece of bread. She says that she has only flour and oil for one piece of bread and it will be her last piece of bread, so probably she and her son will die. But the prophet Elijah said, “Nothing like this is going to happen. When you share, God will provide for you and your son.” And it happened. She had enough flour and olive oil for one year, until it began to rain again. You might say this is only a story. I would say it’s true. Those who really trust in God will never be disappointed.

There was another widow in the Gospel. She put into the treasury one coin, but it was everything she had. The Gospel doesn’t say what happened to her after this, but Jesus said that she gave from her whole heart because she trusted God and she would never be disappointed.

Someone might say, “Father, these are nice stories but, in real life, we have to work very hard for our daily bread, for raising our children, for paying our bills.” But I still will say, trust in God and everything will be easier.

Let me give you some examples from my life. It happened when I was working as a missionary. I will give you only three examples of what God has done for our mission. When my friend Fr. Marek and I came to Jamaica, we had only one suitcase and $100. The bishop of Jamaica said, “I want you to build a church, rectory, small school and clinic.”

One hundred dollars was enough for one tank of gas for our car, which was a gift, and one bag of groceries. One day, we were supposed to pay for a roof in the chapel, but guess what? We had no money. The roof cost 120,000 Jamaican dollars. We didn’t tell anyone about our problems. Suddenly, someone was knocking on the door. The daughter of one businessman from the area came and gave us an envelope and said that her father gave us something because he knew that we might need it. We took the envelope and said to ourselves, “probably it is 1,000 Jamaican dollars”. We opened the envelope and there was a check for 120,000 Jamaican dollars.

A couple months later, Fr. Marek had a horrible car accident and almost died. We had a sister parish in Pennsylvania. They transferred him by medical jet and I was alone.

One day the telephone rang. It was a priest from the parish in Pennsylvania and he asked if I wanted to see my buddy, Fr. Marek. I said I would love to, but I absolutely could not afford to fly to Pennsylvania. He said, “Don’t worry, we will send you a ticket and you won’t have to pay anything”. And, again, I never talked to anyone. I wanted to see Marek, but I knew that it was impossible — and a miracle happened.

I told you that the bishop asked us to build a church, but how do you start to build a church when you have nothing in your account in the bank? So we started, prepared a hill, bought two machetes and were cutting the bushes on the hill. One day a lady from the United States visited us. She had visited Jamaica many times, but we never, ever talked about money. This time, she came and called us. She said that she wanted to talk with us. She said, “My husband died. He was a lawyer and his whole life he helped different missions. Before he died, he said, ‘I want to give some money, but you have to be sure that not one cent will be wasted’.” The lady said, “I was watching you working here in Maggaty and I want to give you some money for the church.” And she gave us some money — 80,000 American dollars.

So, we have to work sometimes very hard but we also have to trust in God, because He never will leave us alone. He is always waiting to help us.

Fr. Andrzej

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ALL SOULS’ ENVELOPES

November is the month of All Souls. All Souls’ envelopes are still available on the small table in the back of church. This is a way of remembering and praying for your deceased loved ones. Special All Souls’ Mass intentions will be celebrated throughout the year. These envelopes can be placed into the collection or returned to the rectory.

DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET

The Divine Mercy Chaplet is said before all 6:00 pm Tuesday evening Masses, after the 6:00 pm First Friday Mass during the Holy Hour and after the 11:30 am Sunday Mass. If you attend the 11:30 am Mass and decide not to stay for the chaplet, please exit church quietly. Thank you.

Weekday Masses

Monday through Thursday & Saturday—CHAPEL  
Friday, and Sunday Masses—CHURCH
PEACE on EARTH!
Pray for the safety of the men and women of our UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES protecting and serving the world over. May our world one day be at peace.

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.

FALL CLEAN-UP
Last Saturday, several parents volunteered to help clean up the areas around the church for the Fall Clean-Up. Thank you for your help.

LADIES’ GUILD
FALL VENDOR FAIR
Last Friday, the Ladies’ Guild sponsored their Fall Vendor Fair. This was the perfect place to shop for that special someone and pick up some gifts for the upcoming holidays. It also gave parishioners a chance to stop by and grab a quick lunch.

Thank you to all those who displayed their products, to all the school parents who helped set up the show and to all those who stopped by to purchase an item or two. The results are not in as yet, but I’m sure the Ladies’ Guild was able to meet their goal.
All Souls’ Day

Last Friday, we celebrated a special All Souls' Day Mass. Students who shared photographs for the school's Día de los Muertos altar participated in the procession.

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

Bishop Casey Visits Our School

On Wednesday, we welcomed newly-appointed Auxiliary Bishop, Robert Casey, to our school. He had a chance to meet our students and staff and saw all the great things happening at St. Barbara. We shared with him our willingness to continue to provide quality education in a strong faith-filled environment for many years to come.

FOLLOW US ONLINE

Webpage - www.stbarbaraschool.org
Facebook - www.facebook.com/StBarbaraSchool
Instagram - www.instagram.com/stbarbarachicago
Twitter - www.twitter.com/StBarbaraChi
YouTube - On YouTube, search St. Barbara School

RATE US on Greatschools.com! This educational website provides parents essential information to help improve educational opportunities for their children. By viewing Greatschools.com ratings and reviews, parents can choose the right school for their family! Let everyone know how great OUR school is by rating us!
Please consider remembering St. Barbara Parish in your will.

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

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<th>Item</th>
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<td>Sunday Envelopes (100)</td>
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<td><strong>Total Collection</strong></td>
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**LITURGICAL MINISTERS**

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 17TH**

5:00 p.m.
Altar Servers:  N, Garland, M. Lemke, A. Torres, G. Godinez  
Eucharistic Ministers: J. Lukwinski, R. Carden  
Lectors:  K. Ricci, J. Lukwinski

9:30 a.m.
Altar Server:  G. Vanderford  
Eucharistic Ministers:  S. Guest, J. Balasa  
Lector:  J. Bertucci

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 18TH**

6:00 a.m.
Altar Servers:  E, Davis, K. Ruiz, A. Gorz, G. Salinas, D. Prieto  
Eucharistic Ministers: P. Rodriguez, J. Rodriguez  
Lectors:  8th Grade Family Mass

9:30 a.m.
Altar Servers:  D. Kwiatkowski, L. Kwiatkowski, J. P. Kwiatkowski, G. Parcon  
Eucharistic Ministers: D. Ramos, B. Pienta  
Lectors:  B. Pienta, H. Alonzo

**Mercy Home - Sunday Mass**
WGN- TV Channel 9 - Chicago  
Sunday Mass:  9:30 AM
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...
