Rise up in splendor, Jerusalem! Your light has come, the glory of the Lord shines upon you. — Isaiah 60:1
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
Tuesday, Jan. 8 - CAPS Mtg. in Lower Hall; 6:30 pm
Wednesday, Jan. 9 - St. Vincent de Paul Mtg.; 6:30 pm
Friday, Jan. 11 - Holy Name Mtg.; 7:00 pm
Sunday, Jan. 13 - 6th and 7th Grade Mass; 9:30 am

My Christmas Gift
Please remember to make your Special Gift to your Parish
If you were out of town for Christmas and did not have the opportunity to remember St. Barbara with your special Christmas Gift, you can still do so by placing your donation in the regular Sunday collection. Extra My Christmas Gift envelopes are available in the back of the Church.

HOLY NAME MEETING
FRIDAY, JANUARY 11TH
Calling all men! If you are interested in joining the Holy Name Society, our first meeting of the New Year will take place this Friday, January 11th, at 7:00 pm in the Senior Mobile.
Our “100 Club” tickets are on sale for $1.00 each at the back of the church. Try your luck!

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.

Epiphany Packets
Next week we celebrate the Feast of the Epiphany. Special Epiphany Kits to bless the doorways of your homes are available in back of the church. Each kit contains gold, frankincense and myrrh plus a small piece of chalk to mark the doorway. The kits sell for $3.00 each.

STAR GAZERS
20 + C + M + B + 19
Around a thousand years ago a stonemason in Autun, France, was working on decorations for the city’s new cathedral. One of his carvings shows a charming scene. The three kings, all wearing crowns and sharing one cozy bed, are being awakened by an angel pointing to a star. The angel’s finger is gently touching the hand of one of the kings on top of the patterned coverlet. This king’s eyes have popped open in surprise, while the other two slumber on. The stonemason artistically combined two biblical stories into one. The star reminds us of the one that led the kings to Bethlehem, while the visiting angel refers to the warning they received in a dream not to return to Herod after visiting the Christ Child. For centuries tradition has held that the names of the kings were Caspar, Melchior, and Balthasar, but nobody really knows for sure. Other traditions call them wise men from the East who studied the stars. They were the first non-Jews to recognize and worship the Son of God and give him kingly gifts. In the Middle Ages, houses were blessed on Epiphany, reflecting how the magi found Christ “on entering the house.” Try reviving this ancient tradition today. It can work for any family or household group. One person incenses the house while another sprinkles holy water, and a third writes in chalk over every outside doorway “20 + C + M + B + 19” (or whatever the year may be), which stands for “The three Holy Kings, Caspar, Melchior, Balthasar, in the year of Our Lord 2019.” The letters C, M, and B also stand for Christus mansionem benedicat, “May Christ bless this home.” Blessing the doorways symbolizes the family’s commitment to welcome everyone as Christ into their home throughout the year.

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.
FROM THE DESK OF THE
ASSOCIATE PASTOR

Dear People of St. Barbara,

Today we celebrate the feast of The Epiphany. The Epiphany is the day when the Three Magi (also known as Kings Balthasar, Caspar and Melchior) travelled from the East to pay homage to the Baby Jesus, who was born in a stable. The kings travelled many days and followed the star which guided them to Jesus.

The kings were in a quest to find knowledge about God. They left their home and country in the East in pursuit of that quest. They were guided by an angel who told them to follow the star. However, this was no ordinary star. This star was bigger and brighter than anything in the sky and it stayed above the stable for many weeks, allowing those who wished to visit the newborn baby to find the place where he lay.

When the kings found the baby Jesus, they worshipped him and brought him gifts worthy of a king. The kings were learned and highly intelligent men – probably astrologers – who studied the stars. Caspar has brown hair and a brown beard. He wears a green cloak and a gold crown with green jewels in it. He is said to have been the King of Sheba and he represents the gift of frankincense. Balthasar has black skin and a black beard. He wears a purple cloak. He is said to have been the King of Tarse and Egypt and he represents the gift of myrrh. Melchior has long white hair and a white beard. He wears a gold cloak. He was said to have been the King of Arabia and he represents the gift of gold. It is said that these were strange gifts to give a baby. However, the gold stands for the fact gold stands for kings and they believed that Jesus was the King of Kings. Frankincense was used in churches and the belief that people would worship Jesus. Myrrh is a perfume used to anoint dead bodies and make them smell nice. This was to signify that Jesus would suffer and die.

This is why, according to the legend, the home blessing kit contains gold, frankincense and myrrh plus a piece of chalk for inscribing the initials above the doorway.

“Father God, the star that led the Magi to the stable announced to the world that its Saviour was born. Today we live in a world that is still covered by darkness, and still needing to make that journey to the stable door. May our lives reflect your light day by day, as we seek to serve where you have placed us. That we might be the means through which others can encounter Jesus Christ. Amen”
ST. BARBARA KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
ADOPT A SEMINARIAN

The St. Barbara Knights of Columbus have adopted a seminarian to sponsor for the 2019 year. He is 23 year-old Leonel Sepulveda. Leonel’s family lives in Harvey, Illinois, but he was born in Mexico. He is in his second year of theology at Mundelein and comes very highly recommended by the Very Rev. Peter Snieg, the Rector-President of St. Joseph Seminary. Leonel will try to come to St. Barbara to visit during his Christmas break. Please keep him in your prayers.

ST. BARBARA SENIORS

Are you 55+? Do you enjoy socializing with your neighbors? Interested in playing Bingo? If so, come to the next St. Barbara Senior Citizens Meeting.

Because New Year’s Day fell on the first Tuesday of the month, our next Seniors meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 15th, at 11:30 a.m. Try it — you might like it!

Join Our Family of Faith

Registering in a parish is a declaration of your desire to be part of a Catholic community and a commitment to the life of the parish family. Being a registered parishioner makes things much easier when it is time for baptism, confirmation and weddings, when asked to be a baptismal or confirmation sponsor, and even funerals. We are often asked to provide affidavits for baptismal and confirmation sponsors. We can only do this if a person is a registered, active, and contributing member in our parish. How do you know if you are already registered? A registered parishioner receives all parish mailings.

Are you a registered parishioner? If not, please consider registering. Please stop by the parish office Monday - Friday between the hours of 8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. and 1:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. or speak with Fr. Arthur or Fr. Andrzej after Mass.

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.

ST. BARBARA WINDOW REMEMBRANCE
ALTAR & LITURGICAL REMEMBRANCE

The St. Barbara Stained Glass Window illumination (donation-$100) and the Altar/Liturgical Remembrance (donation-$50) are special ways of remembering someone prayerfully. These remembrances can be for someone celebrating a birthday, a couple celebrating their anniversary, someone sick in need of prayers, for the repose of the soul of a loved one who has died, etc. These donations help with the upkeep of the church and help to cover the expense of various altar/liturgical supplies for the week: hosts, wine, candle oil, etc. To give a remembrance, call the church office: (312) 842-7979.

2019 ST. BARBARA CALENDAR

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CHRISTMAS BINGO 2018

Chris and Kim

DJ Ron

Jeffrey, Jessie, Cheri, Kim and Josephine
**Weekly Collection - December 22nd - 23rd**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sunday Envelopes (76)</td>
<td>$1,299.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday Loose</td>
<td>$646.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children's Envelopes (0)</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Debt Reduction Fund (39)</td>
<td>$498.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Collection</strong></td>
<td><strong>$2,443.00</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**YTD**  
Actual: $74,920.23  
Goal: $166,400.00  
% of Goal: 45%  

**Weekly**  
Votives & Vigil Lights: $346.85  
November Give Central:  
1st: $1,500.00  
2nd: $280.00  

Electronic giving through [GiveCentral.org](http://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.

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**LITURGICAL MINISTERS**

**THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD**

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 12TH**

**5:00 p.m.**  
Altar Servers: Q. Do., M. Lemke, L. Thomas, A. Gorz, G. Godinez  
Eucharistic Ministers: TBA  
Lectors: G. Dumelle, P. Saletta

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 13TH**

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

**9:30 a.m.**  
Eucharistic Ministers: TBA  
Lectors: Family Mass - 6th and 7th Grades

**11:30 a.m.**  
Altar Servers: A. Moon, N. Bunda, L. Calderon, A. Calderon  
Eucharistic Ministers: TBA  
Lectors: Edward Raya, Eljay Raya

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**MASS COLLECTION**

Unless otherwise noted, weekday and Saturday morning Masses will be held in the chapel. The only Masses being held in Church will be the Friday morning students’ Mass, and the Saturday evening and Sunday morning Masses.

**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...


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 csppalla@StBarbaraChicago.org
Director of Music: Ms. Eva Mrangan emrangan@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 Ed.: Mrs. Roberta Carden

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

Rectory Phone: (312) 842-7979
Rectory Fax: (312) 842-7978
School Phone: (312) 326-6243
School Fax: (312) 842-7960

MASS SCHEDULE
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.
FIRST FRIDAY DEVOTIONS
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-Wednesday, Friday: 8:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.; 1:30-4:00 p.m. The office is closed on Thursday, Saturday and Sunday.