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.

Beloved, we are God’s children now; what we shall be has not yet been revealed.
— 1 John 3:2a

Activities This Week

Monday, Dec. 31 - Anticipated Solemnity of Mary Mass; 5:00 pm
Tuesday, Jan. 1 - Solemnity of Mary Mass; 9:00 am
Wednesday, Jan 2 - School Resumes
Friday, Jan. 4 - First Friday Students’ Mass; also 8th Grade Ribbon Mass; 8:30 am
- First Friday evening Mass; 6:00 pm
Sunday, Jan. 6 - The Epiphany of the Lord

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.

Feast of Mary, Mother of God
A Holy Day of Obligation

Holy Day Mass Schedule:

New Year’s Eve
Monday, Dec. 31: 5:00 pm

New Year’s Day
Tuesday, Jan. 1: 9:00 am

Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

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.
FROM THE DESK OF THE PASTOR

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Today we celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family. We hear the story, according to St. Luke, of Joseph and Mary bringing the child Jesus to the temple, and offering him to God according to the Jewish Law. Joseph and Mary did this with hearts full of love. This past Christmas, with loving hearts, we received Jesus.

This love is present in our families, and is most important to each of us. In the center of a family is the love of a husband, a wife and children. St Barbara Parish and School is a family as well. This was evident in the faces that were seen at our Christmas Concert. When I saw the smiles of the children and parents, their joy touched my heart. Parents, congratulations on such wonderful children!

Stop an extra moment, and take in the smiles of your children; enjoy this precious time with them. Make an effort to make more time for your children; speak to them, listen to them, and try to spend an hour more with them each day. Turn away from the television, computer, and IPAD screens to enjoy this precious family. Years from now, our children will not remember the movies or computer games, but they will remember the time with you.

During the upcoming week, we will celebrate the beginning of a new year. Conversion to Christ, the beginning of a life-lived in Christian discipleship, thus constitutes a new birth which generates fraternity as the fundamental bond of family life and the basis of life in society.”

The family is the image of the Holy Trinity. It is the most beautiful communion of love. We wish you to protect this communion in your families. We all understand that it is difficult, but the family is the greatest value and source of strength for all of us.

May the year 2019 protect you and your families. May the Newborn Savior find a home in your families during this time after Christmas, and reside there throughout each day of the New Year 2019.

Fr. Arthur Marat

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.

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.

TREE LIGHTING AT FOUNTAIN PARK

On Monday, December 10th, Alderman Thompson invited Fr. Arthur to bless the Christmas Tree at Fountain Park in the vicinity of 15th and Halsted. Below are some pictures of the event, which was attended by many neighborhood people, Santa, Mickey and Minnie, and the Little People.
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 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.

First Friday Masses
January 4, 2019

* 8:30 a.m. Mass (in Church)
* 6:00 p.m. Mass (in Church)
* 6:45 p.m. Exposition
* 7:30 p.m. Benediction

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.

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.

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.

2019 ST. BARBARA CALENDAR

Be sure to pick up your 2019 St. Barbara Calendar in back of church sponsored by the St. Barbara Thursday Night Bingo.

Welcome to Fabulous
ST. BARBARA BINGO

Thursday
December 20, 2018

$500 Coverall
2-Way Split
Francesca and Pat
Gabriel Dimperio, Class of 2015

Meet Gabriel Dimperio, a 2015 St. Barbara School graduate! Through the Caritas Project at his high school, St. Rita High School, Gabriel has been collecting gently used shoes for children and adults. Every shoe donated will be given to a shoe foundation in Chicago.

Eljay Raya, Class of 2017

Eljay Raya (Class of 2017 Valedictorian), and some of his classmates from Whitney Young presented a school project they created called “Eukay Animals”. The project’s purpose is to educate about the importance of preserving endangered species. They have published a magazine and developed materials children can use to create bird feeders. They donate all project proceeds to various organizations that help endangered species. Follow them on twitter for more information: https://twitter.com/EukayAnimals.

To donate, please click here: https://www.gofundme.com/wy-mycelia-endangered-animals

Thank you Eljay, Ana, Ursula, Ysabelle and Kaitlynn for bringing awareness to such an important issue.
**Mass Intentions for the Week**

**Saturday, December 29 - Vigil of The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph**
5:00 p.m. + John & Helen Goetz (Adrian and Karen Goetz & Family)
+ Walter & Bernice Zawacki (Rose Stronczek)
Divine Mercy for All (C. Kisielente Family)

**Sunday, December 30 - The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph**
6:00 a.m. + Dorothy Hinz (T. Rolek)
Health Blessings: Koen Guest (Guest Family)
9:30 a.m. Special Intention: Andy Sr. (Ed Sraga)
11:30 a.m. + 44th Ann.: Ann Rzasa (Diane and Marilyn Rzasa)
+ Dorothy Wheeler (Ed & B. Glabicki)
+ Bruno Sr. and Helen Synal (Rose Stronczek)
Divine Mercy for All Caregivers (Parishioner)

**Monday, December 31 - Vigil of the Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God**
5:00 p.m. + Andrew Nawracaj (Mr. & Mrs. Stan Nawracaj and Family)
+ Allan Campione (Family)
In Thanksgiving and a Blessed New Year
(Saludo & Obaob Families)

**Tuesday, January 1 - The Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God**
9:00 a.m. + Stanley Hanson (Ed & B. Glabicki)
+ Florence Brown (Ed & B. Glabicki)
+ Birth. Rem.: Lenore Malone (Family)
God’s Blessings for the New Year (Family)

**Wednesday, January 2 - Sts. Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen**
8:30 a.m. + Birth. Rem.: Anne Pacanowski (Family)

**Thursday, January 3 - Christmas Weekday; the Most Holy Name of Jesus**
8:30 a.m. + Stanley Piorecki

**Friday, January 4 - St. Elizabeth Ann Seton; First Friday**
8:30 a.m. + Rita M. Lukas
6:00 p.m. + Theodore Piorecki

**Saturday, January 5 - St. John Neumann**
8:30 a.m. Mother’s Day Remembrance

**Saturday, January 5 - Vigil of The Epiphany of the Lord**
5:00 p.m. + John and Ann Rzasa (Rose Stronczek)
Divine Mercy for All (C. Kisielente Family)

**Sunday, January 6 - The Epiphany of the Lord**
6:00 a.m. Health Blessings: Julianna Selk (St. Barbara Thursday Night Bingo)
Health Blessings: Koen Guest (Guest Family)
9:30 a.m. + Nancy Marren (The Salinas Family)
+ Raul Salinas (Brother Jesus and Family)
11:30 a.m. + Matt & Evelyn Pyznarski (Rose Stronczek)
Health Blessings: Judith Goga (Virginia Pienta)

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**Weekly Collection - December 22th - 23**

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<td>Sunday Envelopes (76)</td>
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<td>Children's Envelopes (0)</td>
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<td>Debt Fund (39)</td>
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<td><strong>Total Collection</strong></td>
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**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**

**THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD**

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 5TH**
5:00 p.m.
Altar Servers: G. Godinez, M. Lemke, Q. Do, N. Garland, Al Torres
Eucharistic Ministers: TBA
Lectors: P. Saletta, L. Saletta

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

**YTD**
**Weekly**
Actual $74,920.23 $2,443.00
Goal $166,400.00 $6,400.00
% of Goal 45% 39%

**Votives & Vigil Lights:** $346.85

**November Give Central:**

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**Electronic giving through GiveCentral.org**
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...


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.