



The Dome

ASCENSION CHURCH OF OAK PARK

DECEMBER 21, 2008, HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH
OUR 102ND YEAR



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Being part of God's family requires us to put on heartfelt compassion, kindness, gentleness, patience - bearing with one another and forgiving each other.

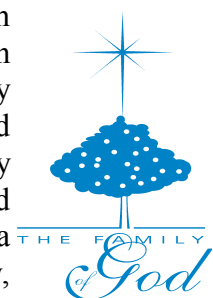
We Are God's Family

Take time this week to continue to reflect and pray over today's Reading: Genesis 15:1-6; 21:1-3; Psalm 105; Hebrews 11:8, 11-12, 17-19; Luke 2: 22, 39-40

The scriptures of Israel are filled with many stories of barren couples who were miraculously granted the gift of children by God. Surely the best known among these is the first reading from today, from which Luke took inspiration when he recounted the miraculous birth of John the Baptist to Zechariah and Elizabeth, and the more miraculous birth of Jesus to Mary and Joseph. In each instance, we are given examples or role models of those who trusted in God. More than examples of those who trust, they are models of self-surrender. They abandoned their own presuppositions and prejudices about the workings of the world and turned their lives over to belief in a God who can make life grow where none ought to; a God who can turn death around into a new and unimagined life; a God who can, today, take a tiny child of humble parents in an insignificant town and make him into a light for all the world. This is what we, as God's holy family, are called to do each day: to trust not in ourselves and the way we think things should be, but to open ourselves and surrender ourselves in faith to a God of endless promise.

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Remember that Living the Word can help you to prepare for next week: Isaiah 60:1-6; Psalms 72; Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6; Matthew 2:1-12



ASCENSION CHURCH

Parish Center: 808 S. East Avenue
Oak Park, IL 60304
Tel.: 708-848-2703
Fax: 708-848-2773

Office hours:

M-Th: 8 AM - 8 PM
Friday: 8 AM - 4 PM
S/S: 8:30 AM -1:30 PM

Bulletin Articles

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E-Mail

ascensionchurch@comcast.net

Personnel can be reached by first
initial last name

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Web-sites

www.ascensionchurch.com
www.ascension-school.com
www.archdiocese-chgo.org

Pastor

Rev. Larry McNally 848-2703

Pastoral Associate

Victoria M. Tufano 434-1533

Business Manager

Neil Heskin 434-1532

Director of Institutional Advancement

Lynn Fredrick 434-1558

Director of Music

David Anderson 434-1535

Director of Religious Education

Christine Ondrla 848-3099

Director of Youth Ministry

Daniel Lawler 434-1555

School Principal

Mary Jo Burns 386-7282

Parish Office Support Staff

Financial Secretary:

Mary Pat Landa (M-F) x221

Administrative Secretary:

Rosemarie Nowicki (M,T,W) x231

Sacramental Secretary:

Vic Scodius (Th, F) x 230

Pastor Emeritus:

Rev. Robert A. Cross

Weekend Assistants

Rev. Larry Reuter, SJ

Rev. Myles Sheehan, SJ

Deacon Couples

Lendell & Tina Richardson

Roger & Betty Vandervest

Infant & Toddler Care is available
during the 9 & 11 a.m. Masses in the
Cry Room of the Church.

From the Pastor

DEAR FAMILY OF ASCENSION,

Season Greetings! I hope that you all had a wonderful Christmas with family and friends.

It is hard to believe that I am starting my sixth year here within the next few weeks. How indeed, the time flies by. As we celebrate Holy Family weekend, I want to thank you for making me a part of the Ascension family. I feel very much at home here and that you are my family. I thank you for that. I am truly blessed to be here at Ascension. I appreciate praying with you, as you all pray in the worship of spirit and truth. The spirit of the Second Vatican Council is certainly present at our Masses. I am so very impressed by how you live out Eucharist in service of others. Just look at your response to these programs in the last few weeks: Christmas Angels, PADS, New Hope, and our new parish assistance program. May God bless you for your compassion and thoughtfulness. God’s blessings on you all.

New Year’s Day is a Holy Day of Obligation at which we celebrate the Solemnity of Mary at 9 a.m. Mass. What a great way for us to begin our new year of 2009 - celebrating Eucharist as we honor the patroness of our country: Mary, the great Mother of God. And as we hear and listen to the readings on January 1st and receive Eucharist, the real presence of our Lord, we will be affirmed in our own spirituality. Mary is called the “perfect disciple” because of her balance of prayer, worship and charity. I hope that you will see in yourself your own sincere practice of that Marian spirituality and be affirmed and strengthened in it for the new year of 2009.



As is our tradition, Taizé prayer for peace will be celebrated on Thursday, January 1st at 7:30 p.m.

I would like to thank Becky Coffman and our school’s Chamber Orchestra for entertaining New Horizon at their Christmas party. Thank you for sharing your special talent with us and for getting us into the spirit of Christmas. You did a splendid job. A reminder to our New Horizon that our next meeting will be on Tuesday, January 20th t 1:30 p.m. in the Pine Room.



(Continued on page 3)

(Continued from page 2)

I see where the city of Chicago has stopped the work down on the ramp at U.S. Cellular Field over 35th street. The stoppage was caused by lack of proper contracts. So the Sox supposedly said that they would “cross that bridge when they get there.”

We have had a sharp increase in our celebration of baptisms which is great news for our parish and our growth as a parish family. So with this good news in mind, we have added a third Sunday to the schedule for celebrating the sacrament of initiation for infants. So infant baptisms will now be celebrated on the second, third and fourth Sundays of each month beginning on Sunday, January 11th.



Because of the great response of volunteers, we can now add a fourth form of outreach to our confidential parish assistance program: pastoral counseling. If you need someone to talk to about the psychological effects of your economic situation, we have two trained parishioner-counselors ready and able to spend time with you. You can meet with them here in the Parish Center or in the privacy of your home. So the program has four areas of outreach: legal counseling, financial counseling, job search and pastoral counseling. If you need some help in any of these four areas, please contact me at 848-2703 or lmcnally@ascensionchurch.com. I will have one of the committee members contact you as soon as possible. I would like to thank the main committee of the confidential assistance program for all their help in getting this launched. As of this writing, we have eighteen volunteers involved in CAPA. To all of you, many thanks.

Elsewhere in the Dome is the summary of last week’s offertory collection. Thank you for your generosity. Thank you for all that you do for our family of Ascension.

As I said in the opening paragraph, I pray for you every day.

The hairbrush that Rod Blagojevich carries around

with him is still in the news. As he was busy combing his hair, the federal prosecutors were going over his finances and his actions with a fine-tooth comb.

I am a little early with this but: Happy New Year!

Have a good holiday week.

I thank you again for making me so much a part of your family here at Ascension.

GOD BLESS,

Finance Committee Members

Tom Brooker, Chairman
Peter Gancer
Walter Healy
Pat Hess
Michelle Joubert
Mike Kowal
Greg Peters
Jim Schumacher
Craig Shannon
Joan Waldron

Ascension Mission Statement

Ascension Parish in Oak Park is a Catholic community called to proclaim, to reflect on, and to live the Gospel. Our desire to follow Jesus inspires us to continue the rich traditions of our faith by supporting education for children and adults, celebrating the liturgical life of the community, and serving those in need within our Parish and beyond. Following the example of Jesus, we value the diversity of gifts in all people and all are welcome.

Parish Council

Alicia Creyts Kevin Duff
Mike Iannaccone Katherine Liebl
Joe McDonald Teresa Naughton
Bill Skalitzky Betty Vandervest Don Woznica

Brick Banners

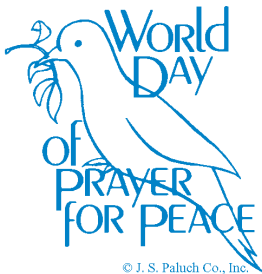
In 1979, to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the church building, the family brick banner was initiated. It has been added to over the years. Now there are three additional banners to commemorate the families who have made Ascension a vibrant, caring community. If you would like to add your family name to the banner, brick material is a the foot of the St. Joseph altar. Please follow the directions. You may return the completed brick to the Parish Center or place it in the collection basket. The banners will be hung in church after the first of the year. Any questions, call Peg Zak 485-1970.

Taizé Prayer World Day of Prayer & Peace This Thursday

Although Taizé Prayer is always the first Friday of each month, for the month of January it is held on January 1st, wherever it falls.

So join us this month for our ecumenical prayer on Thursday, New Year's Day, January 1st, the World Day of Prayer and Peace, at 7:30 p.m.

We'll see you next month at our usual time, the First Friday of the month, February 6th, at 7:30 p.m.



Gentlemen: Mark Your Calendars!

The Ascension Men's Morning of Reflection is scheduled for Saturday, February 21, in the Pine Room. We are very happy to announce that our leader for the morning is Jack Shea, scripture scholar, story-teller, and popular author and speaker. All men of the parish are welcome.



It may seem like a long time from now, but it's already nearly Christmas, then the New Year. You know how quickly your time gets scheduled. February 21 is the Saturday before Lent begins. A day of reflection with other men of the parish is a great way to get a start on your Lenten journey. Mark your calendars now and watch the Dome for more details.

Lights, Action, Camera... Attention All Parishioners!!!

We are bringing back the Ascension Parish Variety Show in the Spring of 2009. We are currently looking for interested people to participate in various committees to help in the production of the show. Please email all inquiries by Friday, January 9th to Fred Brandstrader at flbrandstrader@comcast.net or Lynn Fredrick at lfredrick@ascension-school.com

The first committee meeting is targeted for Wednesday, January 14th.



Blood Drive Today

Today we are hosting a Heartland Blood Drive in the Pine Room from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Please consider this gift of life as a Christmas gift to those in need. The winter months are difficult times to find donors and the holiday season is even worse, but the need is even more urgent. Every pint is so appreciated! We thank you!



Welcome, Newest Ascension Families!

On this the Feast of the Holy Family, it seems appropriate to welcome the newest families to our Family of Ascension. We welcome you and are glad you're here!

Francis & Maria Bakalar & daughter, 600 block Scoville
Daniel & Therese Di Ciaula & daughters, 400 block Ashland, River Forest
Marilyn Dunn, 1100 block Gunderson
Matthew & Mercy Fickenscher & daughters, 400 block N. Ridgeland
Anna Gonzalez & daughter, 4200 block Ridgeland, Stickney
Kevin & Brittany Hayes, 500 block Harrison
Christopher & Sarah Hubbuch, & daughter, 1100 block Scoville
Stephanie Kutyllo & son, 300 block Wisconsin
Charles & Karla Lara & family, 1000 block Wenonah
Richardo Lopez, 1400 block 57th Ave., Cicero
John & Ruth Martin & daughter, 600 block Wesley
Michael & Stephanie Munley & son, 600 block Wesley
Nicholas & Courtney Sakellaris, 7000 block North Ave
Doug Schenkelberg & Rachel Unruh & son, 1100 block Ridgeland
Justin & Megan Schmollinger & son, 800 block Wesley
John & Karen Silvestri & family, 1800 block N. Oak Park, Chicago
Roger & Aileen Staffaroni & family, 300 block N. Taylor
Tim & Sara Stoelinga & family, 700 block Ridgeland
Jeffrey Sypek & Kathryn Ames, 1000 block Washington
Amparo Torres, 1100 block Cuyler
Deborah Verner & daughter, 1400 block Kenilworth, Berwyn
James & Mary Jean Zaino & family, 8000 block Lake, River Forest

Please be sure to give these families a big Ascension welcome. Remember how you felt when you were the new person on the block so invite them to our upcoming events: Taizé Prayer on Thursday, January 1st; Women's Spirituality; Holy Hour; Movie or Book of the Month; the Bunco Party; Men and Women's Morning of Reflection, just to name a few that are happening before Lent begins.

***Our Mass on January 1st for the
Feast of the Blessed Virgin Mary,
the Mother of God, will be at 9 a.m.***

***The day is also designated as
World Day of Prayer and Peace
and
Taizé Prayer will take place at
7:30 p.m. that evening.***



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Protecting God's Children Virtus Training

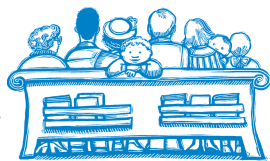
Protecting God's Children Virtus Training will be held on Monday, January 26th at 7 p.m. in the Pine Room. This training is mandatory for all employees and volunteers at Ascension Parish who work with children. If you have not already attended a Virtus session and would like to attend, please log onto www.virtus.org and register. Keep a note of your user name and password for future continuing education on the Virtus website. Please arrive promptly at 7 p.m. Latecomers are not allowed into the session. Please call Kathy Marifjeren at 708-434-1554 if you need help with registration or have any questions. Thank you.

No More Campbell's Labels

Many thanks to all our faithful Campbell's labels cutters for thinking of us every time you opened a can of soup! We have discontinued collecting labels because the cost to us in volunteer labor has proven prohibitive and we do not receive cash for our efforts, we redeem points in a catalog. If you have a pile of labels in your pantry we will forward them to a school that is still involved in the program. Again, thank you for your past help -- now you are free to eat Progresso! Please call Lynn Fredrick if you have questions: 708-434-1558

Now That Winter is Here

Coats, scarves, gloves and all the things we wrap ourselves in to keep warm take up a lot of space in the pews. Please be courteous and sit on your coats or otherwise make them take up less room, especially during the more crowded Masses.

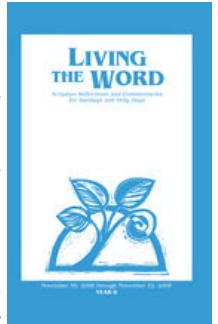


Our ushers will occasionally ask you to move your coats when they are trying to seat people. Please help them do their job. Moving to the center of a pew also helps. It's one more thing that makes us a welcoming parish.

Living The Word Making room for God...

Over 200+ members of our parish community have accepted the challenge to use the ***Living the Word*** scripture reflection books.

What is the challenge? The challenge is to spend time, several times each week, with the Sunday scripture readings. The challenge is to let these readings, that we hear proclaimed aloud in church, take root in our lives and find a place in our hearts. This is something that God can do if we clear a path for His presence in our lives!



Members of our parish have committed themselves to coming to Mass each week ready to listen to the Word proclaimed. Parishioners have accepted the challenge to see what happens when we take time to read, reflect and pray with the scriptures.

Thank you to all who have made this simple commitment!

Living the Word books are available at the parish center for \$6.

This simple resource contains all of the Sunday and Holy Day scripture readings for the year. Each week contains a bible commentary and reflection for the week. May we use this tool to continue to remove any obstacles that block access to our hearts. May each of us clear a path and make room for Christ that each day he may be reborn again in our hearts.

Questions or comments may be addressed to David Anderson, Director of Music, at danderson@ascensionchurch.com or by calling 708-434-1535.

***Religious Education Classes
are not meeting during the
Christmas season.***

***We look forward to seeing
some of you
beginning January 7th.***

Adult Formation Movie: Early Church History

This year we have been celebrating Saint Paul's importance in the early church and still today. The Adult Formation Committee invites you to a video program on the first 200 years of Christian history, including the conversion and ministry of Paul. The showing is on **Thursday night, January 15 at 7:30 p.m.**

This video is part of the A&E (Art & Entertainment Channel) series on the history of Christianity; it is very engaging and well made. There will also be an opportunity for discussion. The evening will begin at 7:30 p.m. in the Pine Room and end at 9:00 p.m.

Have You Lost Something?

Did you leave something in church? Almost every week someone does. Items left in church are placed in or on top of a plastic box (cleverly marked "Lost and Found") in the main entrance of church, under the table along the south wall. Of course, we can't keep found items forever, but we will keep things for several weeks. Be sure to look there as soon as you realize you may have left something behind.

WELCOME TO ASCENSION CHURCH

If you are new to our church or just visiting, please stop and introduce yourself. We are pleased to have you share in this celebration of the Eucharist. If you do not have a church home, or your church is not a home to you, we invite you to become part of our parish family. Our church is open to anyone looking for a spiritual home. Parish Registration forms are at all church entrances or you can also download a form at www.ascensionchurch.com (Administration/Forms/Join the Parish).

We're glad you're here and hope you'll join us!

Journey Toward Healing

Loyola University Medical Center located at 2160 S. 1st Ave. in Maywood is offering Grief Support Groups for anyone needing to heal after the death of a loved one. A sample of the groups that are meeting is as follows:

Adults who are grieving any loss

Parents regarding Infant & Perinatal loss

Young Widows / Widowers

Those who grieve for a spouse

Families who have lost a child under 18

Daughters who grieve the death of a mother

Parents grieving the death of a child over 18

Loyola also offer Workshops for Teens and adult women who are grieving.

If you see yourself in any of these situations, please call Nancy Kiel, Bereavement Coordinator at 708-216-1646 for more detailed information on dates and times so you can get the help you deserve. May God's peace be with you during this difficult time.

Sacramental Meetings Coming Up

Confirmation Meeting

Confirmation candidates and Mentors will meet for their first session on Thursday, January 8th, at 7:00 PM in the Pine Room. Please complete all required work before the meeting.

Eucharist Meeting

Families preparing their children for First Communion are invited to attend a Prayer Service on Monday, January 12th, at 7:00 p.m. in the Church. Parents and children will be able to explore areas of the church and learn about the objects used during Mass. All are welcome.

Reconciliation Meeting

Families who are preparing their children for Reconciliation (fourth grade) are invited to join us for an Inscription Service on Thursday, January 14th, at 7:00 p.m. in the Church. This Prayer Service begins a period of formal preparation for the sacrament. Parents and children are invited to attend.

Treasures from Our Tradition

There's no more unusual setting to celebrate today's Feast of the Holy Family than Barcelona, Spain and the towering unfinished sandcastle known officially as the Temple Expiatori de la Sagrada Familia. In 1882, the plan was hatched to build a vast place of worship in reparation for the revolutionary and liberal leanings of the city. The modern artist Antoni Gaudi dedicated his life to the project, living in the building, attending Mass daily and giving up his personal wealth. When people pressed him to pick up the pace, he responded, "My client is not in a hurry." (Gaudi's cause for beatification is moving along, and he could be the first professional artist and architect to be beatified.) The Spanish Civil War, a disaster for the Catholic Church in which thousands of priests, brothers, and nuns were murdered, halted work in 1935. In the 1950s work began anew, speeded up by computers in the 1980s. Still, the final stage of construction is not due to end until 2026. If the original methods had stayed in place, it would take several hundred more years to complete the plan. So far there are eight towers, with four to go. The highest steeple is three feet shorter than the nearest hill, since the architect didn't want his work to surpass God's artistry. The three faces of the basilica each have three doors, with the faces named Passion, Nativity, and Grace. The interior is crammed with geometric figures that almost seem to spin, crazy-quilt windows, spiral staircases, and jumbles of statues and figures. Although inspired by ancient Gothic cathedrals, the style is called Expressionist, and very little is left unexpressed by the masonry. If you can't afford a visit, Sagrada Familia maintains a Web site, and virtual visits are free.

—Rev. James Field, © Copyright, J. S. Paluch Co.



**Warm clothes drop off
at 223 S. Grove.
Thank you!**

Readings for the Week

Monday: 1 Jn 2:3-11; Lk 2:22-35
Tuesday: 1 Jn 2:12-17; Lk 2:36-40
Wednesday: 1 Jn 2:18-21; Jn 1:1-18
Thursday: Nm 6:22-27; Ps 67; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21
Friday: 1 Jn 2:22-28; Jn 1:19-28
Saturday: 1 Jn 2:29 — 3:6; Jn 1:29-34

Feast Days

Monday: St. Thomas Becket
Wednesday: St. Sylvester I
Thursday: The Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God
Friday: St. Basil the Great and St. Gregory Nazianzen
Saturday: The Most Holy Name of Jesus



ESL Volunteer Tutors Needed

Aquinas Literacy Center needs volunteers to teach English to adult learners. Volunteers commit to tutoring 90 minutes per week. Knowledge of a second language is not required. All training is provided. Please join us at our next training session:

Friday, January 23, 2009, 6 p.m.-9 p.m.

Saturday, January 24, 2009, 6 p.m.-9 p.m.

For more information or if you have questions, please contact Juliet at 773-927-0512 or email programlit@aol.com.

Aquinas Literacy Center
3540 S. Hermitage Ave.
Chicago, Illinois 60609

The Only New Year's Resolution You Need

What is your 2009 resolution? Husbands and wives, consider making the enrichment of your marriage a priority and register for a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend! The next dates are February 27 – March 1, or May 1 – 3, or June 5 – 7, 2009.

For information, call Jim and Kris at 1-800-442-3554 or contact our website at www.wvmechicago-gary.org.

Mass Attendance

Mass Attendance.....1,450

Financial Update

Total Weekly Offering\$14,848.43
 Weekly Need\$18,900.00



YTD Budget\$472,500.00
 YTD Offering\$463,867.60
 Deficit(\$8,632.40)

Ascension Parish is entirely funded by private donations. Thank you for your kind and generous support of all the ministries of our community.



CAPITAL DEBT\$595,056.24

ASCENSION: MOVING FORWARD

Pledges & Donors..... 407 Families
 Total Pledges.....\$1,481,456.00
 Amount Paid..... \$681,119.00

The collection for the **Retirement Fund for Religious** is always in December. To date we have received **\$2,340**. It is good to know that 95% of all donations aid religious orders. We ask that you remember the good sisters in your year-end charitable contributions. Envelopes are in your monthly packets.

Thank you and God bless you!

“Remember that when you leave this earth, you can take nothing with you that you have received - only what you have given: a full heart enriched by honest service, love, sacrifice and courage.”

St. Francis of Assisi

Meetings and Events

Today	December 28		
Blood Drive	Pine Room		8:30 am
Candidates	215		9:00 am
Inquiry Group	207		9:00 am
Extending the Word	Dining Room		10:15 am
Wednesday	December 31		
<i>New Year's Eve</i>	<i>Parish Office Open 1/2 Day</i>		
Thursday	January 1		
<i>New Year's Day</i>	<i>Parish Office Closed</i>		
Taizé	Church		7:30 pm
Friday	January 2		
<i>Holiday</i>	<i>Parish Office Closed</i>		
Saturday	January 3		
Work Ministry	Dining Room		7:30 am
Sunday	January 4		
Candidates	215		9:00 am
Inquiry Group	207		9:00 am
Extending the Word	Dining Room		10:15 am
Cub Scout Den Mtg	Pine Room		1:00 pm

St. Bernardine Bingo New Year's Day Raffle Extravaganza!!!

Our neighbors are inviting us to join them next Thursday for Bingo!

JANUARY 1, 2009

DOORS OPEN 1:00 PM
 EARLY BIRDS 2:30 PM
 GAMES BEGIN 3:00 PM

\$10,000.00 IN PRIZES
 Raffle Game Prize Payouts:
 \$825.00 - \$2,000.00!!

ST. BERNARDINE SCHOOL HALL
 815 ELGIN AVENUE
 FOREST PARK, IL 60130

To reserve your tickets,
 call Joe @ 630-202-1103

Pray for the Sick

Elvere Anselmo, John Baggs, Baby Marty Biau, Sarah Bowman, Josephina Carmona, Joe Cassidy, Mary Colombo, Dale Dykema, Jennifer Fischer, Marty Grimes, Baby Simon Gutierrez, Meri Hale, Bruce Hanessian, Patricia Hanley, Jim Heneghan, Ester Hitchner, Jack Joyce, Kathy Kenney, Frances Kimball, Pat Koberstine, Thomas P. Kragie, Anne Marie Kuhny, Mary Landa, Gerry & Mary Logan, Angelo Madonia, Don Manning, Janine Marschalk, Carol McDonald, Joan McNeela, Ken Morten, Frank Murphy, Lenore Navarro, Leo & Estelle Pargulski, Sonya Parker, Philip Rice, Anne Sandow, Tom Slott, Mikayla Sweeney, Jean Szott, Mary Thomas, Mary Toomey, and Nancy Welch.

May our prayers bring them strength, healing and peace.

In Sympathy

Please pray for the repose of the soul of
All our departed family and friends.



This Week Dec 27/28

Next Week January 3/4

5:00 pm	Fr. Larry Reuter	Fr. Larry McNally
7:30 am	Fr. Larry McNally	Fr. Myles Sheehan
9:00 am	Fr. Larry McNally	Fr. Myles Sheehan
11:00 am	Fr. Larry Reuter	Fr. Larry McNally
5:00 pm	Fr. Larry McNally	Fr. Larry Reuter

Masses for the Week

SUNDAY – December 28

Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

- 5:00 (Sat) Anthony Coari / Kay Brennan Wallace
- 7:30 Anthony Coari
- 9:00 Johnny Keegan
- 11:00 Thomas & Mary Murphy / Jimmy Sullivan / Tom Strudeman
- 5:00 Evelyn Kosar McDonald, MD / Evelyn Perivolidis

MONDAY - December 29

Thomas Becket, bishop, martyr

- 7:45 Rosary (Monday—Friday)
- 8:15 Mary Christiansen / Julianne Villari

TUESDAY - December 30

Sixth Day in Octave of Christmas

- 8:15 Roberta Rapacz

WEDNESDAY - December 31

Sylvester I, pope

- 8:15 Souls in Purgatory

THURSDAY - January 1

*The Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God
World Day of Prayer and Peace*

- 9:00 For all those serving in the military

FRIDAY - January 2

*Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen,
bishops & doctors*

- 8:15 Patricia, Eileen & Patrick Brennan

SATURDAY - January 3

*The Most Holy Name of Jesus
Vigil: Epiphany*

- 5:00 Ervin Huettl / Roberta Rapacz

SUNDAY - January 4

The Epiphany of the Lord

- 7:30 Helen & Ed Freidheim
- 9:00 Robert Woods / Marion Osborn
- 11:00 Jerry Wackrow / Carlos Martinez
- 5:00 Souls in Purgatory

PARISH INFORMATION

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturday 4:00 - 4:30 PM.

Infant Baptism: Starting in January parish celebration of infant Baptism takes place at 12:30 pm, on the 2nd, 3rd and 4th Sundays of the month. A preparatory session for parents is held on the second Saturday of the month in the Parish Center at 9:00 a.m. Expectant parents, as well as parents whose children have already arrived, are encouraged to attend. To register for a preparatory session, or to schedule a baptism, please call the parish office.

Adult Initiation: Adults interested in information about the Catholic faith or wanting to become Catholic, should contact Vicky Tufano, ext 233.

Weddings: Please make an appointment with a priest to pick up a wedding information packet at the Parish Office at least a year prior to selecting a date.

Sick Calls: If there is anyone at home who cannot attend Mass or receive the sacraments because of illness or old age, please contact the Parish Office or the Ministers of Care Coordinator, Mary Strudeman, 848-4944.

Registration: All newcomers are welcome to the Ascension family and are asked to pick up a census/registration envelope at the entrance of the Church. Parishioners who marry, have a baby, or move to a new address should also notify the Parish Office, ext. 231.

Audio Devices are available for the hearing impaired. Please see an usher or greeter before Mass.

Ascension Community Board is available for the posting of services needed or offered. The Board is in the Usher's Room.

Parish Office: 708-848-2703

Bulletin deadline: Monday 9 AM. Please deliver articles to Parish Office or e:mail to ascensiondome@msn.com