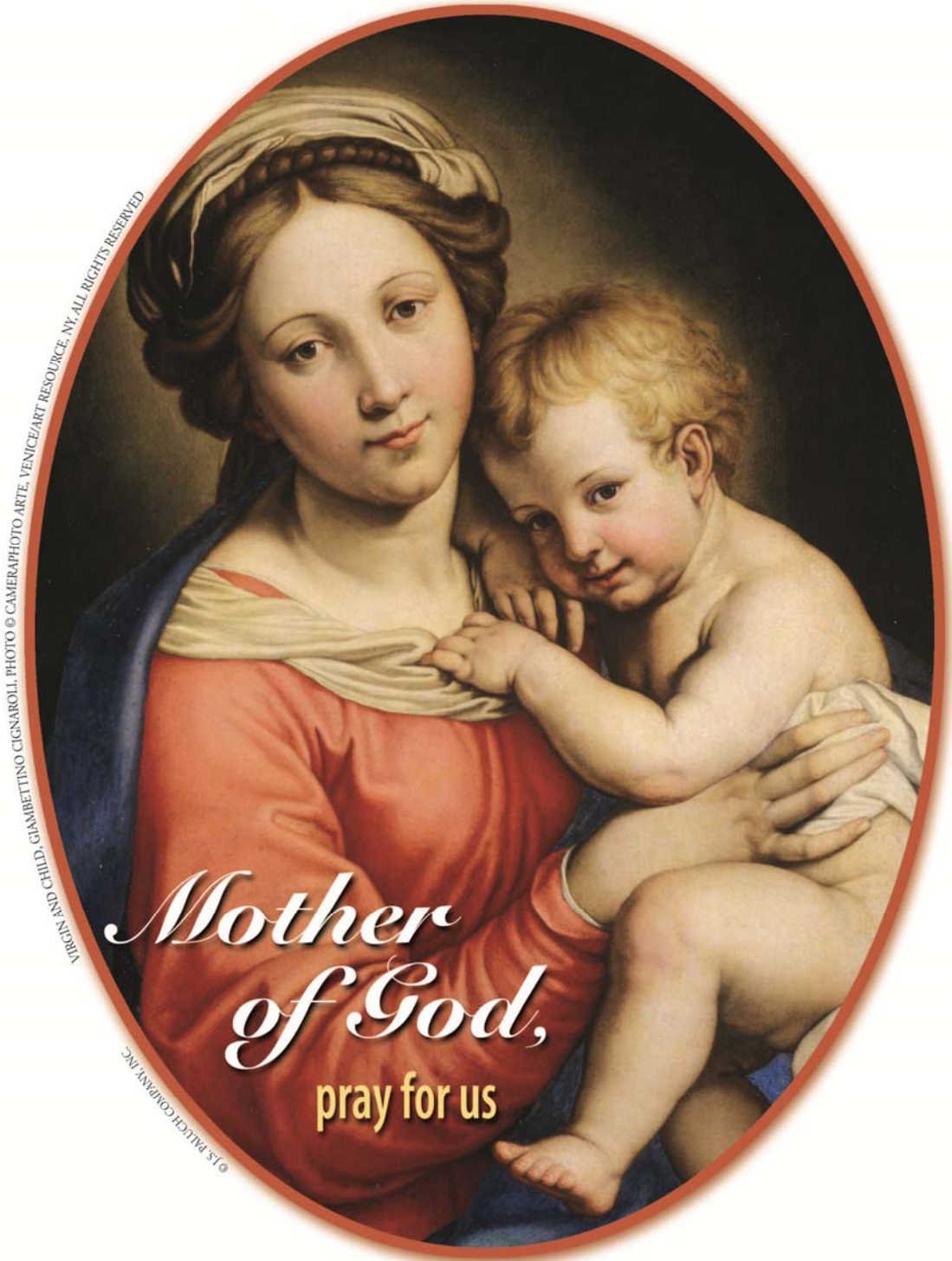




January 1, 2012
Solemnity of Mary,
The Holy Mother of God





Reflections From the Pastor

*“Rise up in splendor, Jerusalem! Your light has come.
The glory of the Lord shines upon you!”*
- Isaiah 60: 1

Next Sunday the Church celebrates the great high feast of the Advent-Christmas cycle. For as the word *epiphania* means the child of Mary is revealed to the nations as them Redeemer and Savior of all peoples. This is the feast that marks the unfolding of the mystery of the Incarnation celebrated at Christmas. The Word made flesh is the One who comes to reconcile all of creation in Himself.

For many Christians, especially those of the Catholic and Orthodox traditions, it is the feast of the Epiphany, when gifts are exchanged. For me it is unfortunate and sad that many American Catholics spend Advent celebrating Christmas and begin to put things away the day after Christmas. This is where Catholic immigrants, recently arrived, can be helpful in getting American Catholics back in touch with our own genuinely *catholic* tradition, sharing their customs and traditions.

It is worth keeping in mind that the liturgical year developed gradually through the centuries. The early Church did not celebrate seasons such as Advent and Christmas. The season of Lent evolved from the early catechumenate when those preparing for Baptism would enter a lengthy period of intense preparation prior to their Baptism at the Vigil of Easter. For the early Church each Sunday was a celebration of the resurrection.

Consider for a moment as well how little attention is given to the birth of Jesus. Only two gospels, *Matthew* and *Luke*, provide what is referred to as an *infancy narrative*. And while they share in common this narrative, the narratives are distinctly different. The reason they are different is that for each evangelist the narrative is not so much intended as an historical record as it is a theological reflection on the question of just *who is this Jesus of Nazareth*.

Looking at the evolution of the liturgical calendar and its various seasons, one can safely say that the Church reasoned back from the resurrection event and its meaning to celebrations such as Christmas and the Epiphany. Curiously, it is at the Epiphany when the Church proclaims at the liturgy the date of the coming Easter. It was also later after the inclusion of the feasts of Christmas, the Epiphany and the Baptism of the Lord, that the Church began the practice of baptizing catechumens not only at the Vigil of Easter, but also on the Epiphany. Hence, the connection of Easter and the Epiphany.

A further connection between the season of Christmas and that of Easter is the feast of Pentecost. Pentecost is about Israel being a sign to the nations of the holiness of God. Luke borrows the feast to say that that the Church as the new Israel is missioned to go out to the nations, to reveal to the nations the good News who is Jesus, the Word Incarnate. This mission of both Christ and the Church is ratified in the celebration of the Baptism of the Lord, celebrated next Sunday, when the gospel writer recalls a voice from heaven saying *“This is my beloved Son in whom I am well pleased!”*

- Fr. Bill Conway

Reflexiones Desde el Pastor

"Levántate, brilla, Jerusalén! Ha llegado tu luz. La gloria del Señor brilla sobre ti! "
- Isaías 60: 1

El próximo domingo la Iglesia celebra la gran fiesta de alta del ciclo Adviento-Navidad. Porque así como la Epifanía significa la palabra el hijo de María se revela a las naciones que ellos Redentor y Salvador de todos los pueblos. Esta es la fiesta que marca el desarrollo del misterio de la Encarnación se celebra en Navidad. El Verbo hecho carne es el que trata de reconciliar a toda la creación en sí mismo.

Para muchos cristianos, especialmente los de las tradiciones católica y ortodoxa, es la fiesta de la Epifanía, cuando se intercambian regalos. Para mí es lamentable y triste que muchos católicos estadounidenses gastan Adviento celebrando la Navidad y empezar a guardar las cosas del día después de Navidad. Aquí es donde los inmigrantes católicos, recién llegado, puede ser útil para conseguir los católicos americanos de nuevo en contacto con nuestra propia tradición genuinamente católica, compartiendo sus costumbres y tradiciones.

Vale la pena teniendo en cuenta que el año litúrgico se desarrolló gradualmente a través de los siglos. La Iglesia primitiva no celebraba temporadas como Adviento y Navidad. El tiempo de Cuaresma evolucionado desde el catecumenado temprano, cuando los que se preparan para el Bautismo entraría en un largo período de intensa preparación antes de su bautismo en la Vigilia de la Pascua. Para la Iglesia primitiva, todos los domingos era una celebración de la resurrección.

Pensemos por un momento y la poca atención que se le da al nacimiento de Jesús. Sólo dos evangelios, Mateo y Lucas, ofrecen lo que se conoce como una narración de la infancia. Y si bien tienen en común esta narrativa, los relatos son muy diferentes. La razón de que son diferentes es que por cada evangelista, el relato no es tanto la intención como un registro histórico ya que es una reflexión teológica sobre la cuestión de quién es este Jesús de Nazaret.

En cuanto a la evolución del calendario litúrgico y sus distintas estaciones, se puede afirmar que la Iglesia razonado detrás de la resurrección de eventos y su significado para celebraciones como la Navidad y la Epifanía. Curiosamente, es en la Epifanía, cuando la Iglesia proclama en la liturgia de la fecha de la llegada de Semana Santa. También fue más tarde después de la inclusión de las fiestas de Navidad, la Epifanía y el Bautismo del Señor, que la Iglesia comenzó la práctica de bautizar a los catecúmenos no sólo en la Vigilia de la Pascua, sino también de la Epifanía. Por lo tanto, la conexión de la Pascua y la Epifanía.

Otra conexión entre la temporada de Navidad y de Pascua es la fiesta de Pentecostés. Pentecostés es acerca de que Israel es una señal para las naciones de la santidad de Dios. Lucas toma la fiesta de decir que la Iglesia como el nuevo Israel se encargó de ir a las naciones, para mostrar a las naciones de la Buena Nueva que es Jesús, el Verbo encarnado. Esta misión de Cristo y la Iglesia se ratificó en la celebración del Bautismo del Señor, que se celebra el próximo domingo, cuando el escritor del evangelio recuerda una voz del cielo que decía: "Este es mi Hijo amado en quien me he complacido!"



Religious Formation

RELIGIOUS FORMATION NEWS

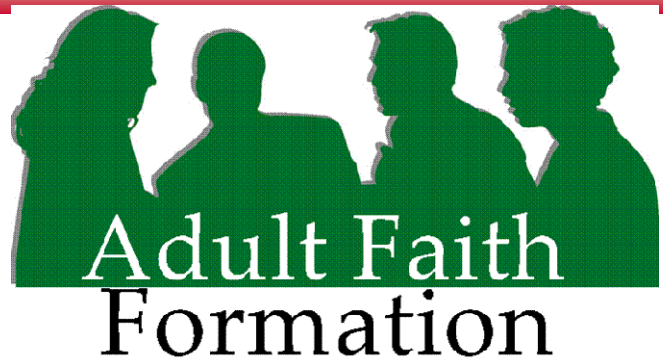
We wish all of our Religious Formation families a very happy and healthy 2012!

Our classes will resume this week with "Session A" on Wednesday January 4th and "Session B" on Thursday January 5th. We look forward to welcoming our children back for the second half of the school year!



Schedules

The schedules for January through March have been e-mailed to all ministers. If we do not have your email, please notify the Parish Offices or email sue@divinesavior.net with the information. A limited supply of the schedules are available in the mailboxes located in the back hallway. All schedules are also available on the Parish web site at divinesavior.net, click on the ministries tab.



THIRD SUNDAY BOOK DISCUSSION

Our Third Sunday book discussions will resume on January 15 with *Being Catholic Now: Prominent Americans Talk About Change in the Church and the Quest for Meaning*, by Kerry Kennedy. In this book, published in 2008, thirty-seven American Catholics speak candidly about their faith. The results are thought provoking, and we hope, discussion-provoking as well. Please join us on January 15 at 7:00 p.m. in the church conference room.

Being Catholic Now is available at the Downers Grove Library circulation desk.

Dates and titles for upcoming discussions are:

February 19

Nine Parts of Desire: The Hidden World of Islamic Women by Geraldine Brooks

March 18

The Holy Longing: The Search for a Christian Spirituality by Ronald Rolheiser

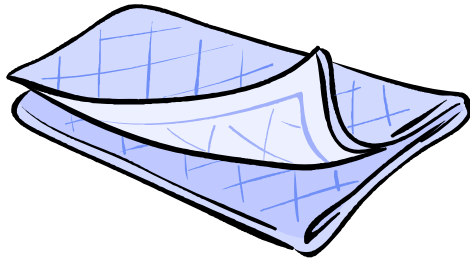
April 15

The Book Thief by Markus Zusak

May 20

State of Wonder by Ann Patchett

Prayer Blanket Ministry



Have a loved one who is in physical or emotional distress? Wrap him or her in a blessed prayer blanket or shawl made by members of Divine Savior's Prayer Blanket Ministry. Call Jackie Griffith at 630-737-0755.



We are in the process of completing the final draft. We expect to have the delivery some time in January. Please watch the bulletin for details.

R.C.I.A. CORNER



Reflecting on the Word

The RCIA team, sponsors, and catechumens continue on their spiritual journey of acceptance, conversion, and initiation. As we begin this new year, we will be carefully examining this Sunday's readings to discern what Scripture reveals about this child born of a virgin named Mary. Just as the Magi were guided by a star to the infant Jesus, and His divinity was made known to them, we are hoping to be guided by Scripture to a closer relationship to this Divine infant. If you wish to journey with us, call Deacon Paul Newey at (630) 969-1532, ext.25.

Tuesday, January 3 : *"Reflection on the Word"*
Presenter: Art Leamy

Tuesday, January 10: *"Reflection on the Word"*
Presenter: Patti Rose

Holy Trinity Church in Westmont
 & the Heritage of Faith present ...

Christian Music Recording Artist

Audrey Assad

JANUARY 10, 2012
TIVOLI THEATRE
 Downers Grove, Ill

with special guest
 Larry LaLonde &
 his small group ensemble

TICKETS ON SALE NOW
 \$15-Adults - \$10-Students 17 &
 under

CASH & CHECK ONLY
 TIVOLI THEATRE,
 Downers Grove, IL &
 HOLY TRINITY CHURCH,
 111 S. Cass, Westmont, IL

GIVING TREE



The giving tree committee would like to thank all of those who bought gifts or gave a monetary donation toward the purchase of gifts this year. Your continued generosity is truly overwhelming as our parish provided gifts for 350 children and 118 senior citizens! We would also like to thank the following people for their help with the project this year. Many hands helped make the giving tree run smoothly!

Tracy O'Brien
Dee Sinclair
Sue Hartig
Linda Burke
Mark Hoffmeyer
Daniel Garcia
Dave Pfeifer
Joanne Pfeifer
Jonathan Allar
Sarah Ansah
Colin Beierwaltes
Oshokhai Ebikhumi
Colin Ferguson
Kevin O'sullivan
Nicholas Serpico
Angela Veverka
Charlene De Guzman
Lauren Gleason
Cassie Fischer
Katie Vondra
Tami Brinkman
Bev Goste

Charlene Patelski
Therese Nowak
Michelle Nowak
Nicole Nowak
Donna Clavey
Chrysti Henderson
Todd Henderson
Annivar Salgado
Doris Salgado
Kathy Gajewski
Nova Baranski
Eileen Gabry
Dave Gabry
Ginny Munson
Terri Stanczyk
Jamie Skiba
Ann Kolar
James Kolar
Jim Kolar
Debbie Eberhardt
Bob Eberhardt
Yolanda Gagala

Amy Rubel
Zak Blindza
Luke Dosen
Liz Kazmierczak
Sam Ruiz
Rachael Thele
Ryan Thele
Katy Beirne
Olivia Porcaro
Kaylie Katoll
Rachel Katoll
Jack Clemens
Tommy Steinhaus
Jimmy Grearey
Sandra Keliher
Jeff Hartney
Matthew Santie
Jimmy Greaney
Jane Soto
Kathy Hamilton
Pam Christ





WOMEN'S NITE OUT PRESENTS...

'HOISTING YOUR SAILS'



TIME TO PACK OUR SENSE OF HUMOR TO HELP US "HOIST OUR SAILS" AND EXPERIENCE THE JOYS AND CHALLENGES WE ALL FACE.

JOAN MURPHY, HUMORIST AND MOTIVATIONAL SPEAKER, WILL BE OUR PRESENTER

DATE: MONDAY, JANUARY 23RD
TIME: 6:30 SOCIAL FOLLOWED BY DINNER
WHERE: BLESSED JOHN XXIII PASTORAL CENTER
COST: \$20/PER PERSON

**For Reservations, please complete the form
in next week's bulletin**

**DEADLINE FOR RESERVATION IS
JANUARY 18TH**



LA BENDICIÓN QUE RECIBIMOS

La bendición que experimentamos en Cristo Jesús es proclamada en Números como una bendición especial para el pueblo de Israel. Ellos y nosotros seremos bendecidos por la invocación de la misericordia de Dios, la gloria resplandeciente de su rostro que nos mira con amor y no se aleja de nosotros con ira. ¡Hemos sido bendecidos por la paz de Dios!

Nuestro deseo y nuestra esperanza se cumplen en esta bendición, que se hace visible en la venida de Jesús. En Jesús, la imagen del Dios invisible, se nos muestra su rostro y su presencia se nos da a conocer en la bondad amorosa y fiel.

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LECTURAS DE HOY

Primera lectura — El Señor te bendiga y te proteja. Que el Señor te mire con benevolencia y te conceda la paz (Números 6:22-27).

Salmo — El Señor tenga piedad y nos bendiga (Salmo 67 [66]).

Segunda lectura — Dios envió a sus corazones el Espíritu de su Hijo, que clama “¡Abbá!” (Gálatas 4:4-7)

Evangelio — Los pastores se volvieron a sus campos, alabando y glorificando a Dios por todo cuanto habían visto y oído (Lucas 2:16-21).

TRADICIONES DE NUESTRA FE


¡Año nuevo, vida nueva! El día primero de enero, mientras muchos celebran las cábalas y cabañuelas de un año nuevo, los cristianos conmemoramos a quien dio a luz al autor de la vida. María, bajo el título de Madre de Dios, es como nosotros deseamos celebrar la esperanza de un ¡año nuevo, vida nueva!

El Concilio de Éfeso en el año 431 declaró a María como la Theotokos; la que “carga a Dios”. Este dogma tiene que ver más con el Hijo que con la madre y fue proclamado para afirmar que Jesucristo “desde toda la eternidad fue Dios”. Continúa la doctrina y afirma “Así como toda madre humana, no es solamente madre del cuerpo humano sino de la persona, así María dio a luz a una persona, Jesucristo, quien es Dios y hombre, entonces Ella es la Madre de Dios”.

¡Ésta sí que es vida nueva! Dios nace como ser humano y el ser humano carga a Dios. Gracias a Dios, todo ser humano puede ser como María Theotokos y cargar a Dios en su corazón. ¡Feliz Año Nuevo!

—Fray Gilberto Cavazos-Gluz, OFM. Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.





Due to the publication schedule, contributions are not available at this time.

Today's Solemnity reminds us that Mary is the Mother of God, as she gave birth to Jesus, the Son of God and Prince of Peace. If we truly want a more peaceful world, we must each do our part.

PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY

If you have family members currently serving in any branch of the Armed Forces overseas, we would like to include their names in our weekly bulletin so that parishioners could include them in their prayers. Please submit their names with branch of service to bulletin@divinesavior.net. Please notify us when the service person returns home.

WE PRAY FOR OUR TROOPS:

- Greg Jablonski—Army, Iraq
- Jeremiah Curtis—Taji, Iraq
- Gerardo Serriteno—Army, Afghanistan
- David Blazina—Army, Qatar
- Janene A. Marshall-Gatling—Army, Afghanistan
- Jerry Koltz—Army, Afghanistan
- Christopher Welch—Army, Afghanistan
- Kristopher Bosi—Marines, Afghanistan

Enter the Grand Raffle Today

There will be 33 \$1,000 winners!

St. Joseph Parish is pleased to partner with Divine Savior to offer the Grand Raffle!

The Raffle is a great way to generate excitement and support of our parish communities, as well as Catholic education. There are two options to enter – \$50 for one ticket or \$100 for three tickets – that gives you up to 30 chances to win \$1,000 over a 3-month period. Proceeds support Divine Savior's and St. Joseph's ministries and parishes.

In November, December and January, we'll have 10 Grand Prize winners of \$1,000!
That's 30 \$1,000 winners! Monthly drawings will be held in The St. Joseph Church Narthex at 4801 Main Street following 5 pm Mass on November 20, 2011 and December 18, 2011, and at St. Joseph Trivia Night on January 21, 2012 – everyone is welcome! You don't need to be present to win. Additionally, if you sell a winning ticket, you'll be entered into a \$1,000 drawing that month.

Each ticket is a \$50 donation, or get THREE tickets for \$100.
All entrants will be added back to the Raffle for subsequent drawings.




Here's how to enter
For tickets, please contact Pat Harbauer at pharbauer@ameritech.net or 630-241-0642. You can also buy tickets at the Divine Savior Church Office, or mail to: Divine Savior Church Office, Attn: Grand Raffle 6700 Main Street, Downers Grove, IL 60516.

Enter the Grand Raffle today for your chance to win!
As we did last year, Divine Savior will receive 20% of the sales from our parish.




ST. JOSEPH SCHOOL
EXCELLENCE IN CATHOLIC EDUCATION

			
Saturday, January 7 5:00 PM	Annalia Dolce Matthew Straus Sarah Major	Bev Goste Kathy Hamilton Christ John Marilyn John Unfilled	Scott Ambrose
Sunday, January 8 8:00 AM	Autumn Steed Reevan Monteiro Christopher Neumann	Donna Clavey Roy Clavey Nancy Danielewicz Barbara Fidanza Dave Gallagher Pam O'Donnell Unfilled	Lucille Gallagher
Sunday, January 8 10:00 AM	Rachel Pfeifer Jack Loris Josh Rudolph	Christine Campagna Debbie Campagna Katie Campagna Paul Jara Nicole Nowak Janet Orr Unfilled	Confirmation
Sunday, January 8 11:30 AM	Matthew Santie Brendan O'Sullivan Kevin O'Sullivan	Marilou Alvarez Mara Alvarez Eric Dizon Joann Halpin Unfilled	Marietta Dizon
Sunday, January 8 1:00 PM (Spanish Mass)			

Mary, Mother of the Priest Jesus, is especially Mother to all Priests. Pray to Mary to ask her guidance in your life.

Holy

Bible

January 1, 2012

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: 1 Jn 2:22-28; Jn 1:19-28
 Tuesday: 1 Jn 2:29 — 3:6; Jn 1:29-34
 Wednesday: 1 Jn 3:7-10; Jn 1:35-42
 Thursday: 1 Jn 3:11-21; Jn 1:43-51
 Friday: 1 Jn 5:5-13; Mk 1:7-11 or Lk 3:23-38 [23, 31-34, 36, 38]
 Saturday: 1 Jn 5:14-21; Jn 2:1-11
 Sunday: Is 60:1-6; Ps 72; Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12

Mass Intentions



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Monday, January 2-Saints Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops and Doctors of the Church

8:30 AM— † Randy Siefert

Tuesday, January 3-Christmas Weekday

8:30 AM— † Eugene Wrobel

Wednesday, January 4-Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious

8:30 AM— † John Ruff

Thursday, January 5-Saint John Neumann, Bishop

8:30 AM— † Ruth Loy

Friday, January 6-Christmas Weekday

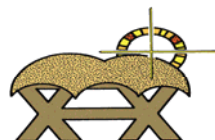
8:30 AM— † Bertille Klein

Saturday, January 7-Saint Raymond of Penyafort, Priest

5:00 PM— Jeanette Mush

Sunday, January 8-The Epiphany of the Lord

8:00 AM— † Ruth Loy
The People of God
10:00 AM— † Joe Kosin
11:30 AM— † Tom Murphy
1:00 PM— Christopher Garcia



Monday, January 2, 2012

Offices closed

Tuesday, January 3, 2012

Legion of Mary	7:00 PM	CR
Men's Club	7:00 PM	PC
RCIA Journey	7:30 PM	RB

Wednesday, January 4, 2012

Religious Education A [8]	4:00 PM	PC
Religious Education A [8]	6:25 PM	PC
10:00 Choir	7:00 PM	C

Thursday, January 5, 2012

Religious Education B [8]	4:00 PM	PC
Religious Education B [8]	6:25 PM	PC
8:00 Choir	7:30 PM	C

Friday, January 6, 2012

PADS Cooking	3:00 PM	PC
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Saturday, January 7, 2012

AA Meeting	6:30 AM	PC
EPIC—Journey-Church History	9:00 AM	PC

Sunday, January 8, 2012

Confirmation [7]	9:30 AM	PC
Baptism Workshop 1	11:00 AM	CR

KEY: A=Away; C=Church; CR=Conference Room; G=Grounds; M=Mass; MSR=Mother Seton Room; N=Narthex; PC=Pastoral Center; RB=Rectory Basement



Contacting the Parish

The Parish Office is open Monday-Wednesday from 8:00 AM - 8:30 PM (closed 12:30 to 1:00), Thursday from 8:00 AM - 2:30 PM (closed 12:30 to 1:00), Friday 9:00 AM—1:00 PM. Closed on Saturday and Sunday.

PARISH OFFICE: 6700 Main Street
Downers Grove, IL 60516-2799
630-969-1532
FAX: 630-969-1724
e-mail - Parish@divinesavior.net

Fr. William J. Conway, Pastor, ext. 24
FrBillConway@divinesavior.net

Fr. Robert E. Pietras, Pastor Emeritus

Fr. John Tapper, Weekend Associate

Deacon Paul Newey, Pastoral Associate, ext. 25
DeaconPaul@divinesavior.net

Rosemary Bleuher, Director of Adult Enrichment, ext. 28
Rosemary@divinesavior.net

Janet Alikpala, Associate Director of Music, ext. 34
Janet@divinesavior.net

Daniel Garcia, Custodian, ext. 21
Parish@divinesavior.net

Susan Hartig, Business Manager, ext. 23
Sue@divinesavior.net

Tracy O'Brien, Parish Secretary, ext. 21
Tracy@divinesavior.net

Gloria Pirkins, Evening Secretary, ext. 21
Gloria@divinesavior.net

Dee Sinclair, Facilities Manager, ext. 21
Dee@divinesavior.net

The Religious Formation office is open Monday—Thursday 8:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. and during class times on Wednesday and Thursday evenings.

RELIGIOUS FORMATION OFFICE:
630-969-1673
FAX: 630-969-0201
e-mail - ReligiousEd@divinesavior.net

Mark Hoffmeyer, Director of Religious Formation, ext. 32
Mark@divinesavior.net

Linda Burke, Administrative Assistant/Registrar,— ext. 31
Linda@divinesavior.net

Cathi Loris, Program Coordinator, Grades 1-8—ext. 30
Cathi@divinesavior.net

Cheryl Steed, Program Preschool Coordinator—ext. 29
Cheryl@divinesavior.net

ADDITIONAL E-MAIL ADDRESSES

Office: Parish@divinesavior.net
Bulletin: Bulletin@divinesavior.net
Religious Ed: ReligiousEd@divinesavior.net
Lectors: Lectors@divinesavior.net
Eucharist Min.: EM@divinesavior.net
Servers: Servers@divinesavior.net

WEB SITE:
<http://www.divinesavior.net>

MASS SCHEDULE

MONDAY-FRIDAY: 8:30 AM
SATURDAY: 5:00 PM
SUNDAY: 8:00 AM
10:00 AM
11:30 AM
1:00 PM (Spanish Mass)

HOLY DAY MASS SCHEDULE

Check website or call Parish Office for Mass times

RECONCILIATION/CONFESSION SCHEDULE

SATURDAY: 3:30-4:40 PM and by appointment

PARISH REGISTRATION

Stop in the Parish Office during regular business hours to register as a Divine Savior Parishioner.

BAPTISMS

Once a month at Sunday Mass. Arrangements must be made two months in advance. Parental preparation requires registration in the Parish, active Saturday or Sunday participation in Parish Worship and attendance at Baptismal Preparation meetings. Please call the office to make arrangements.

MARRIAGES

Arrangements for celebration of marriage must be made with the Pastor at least six months in advance. Weddings are not scheduled on Sundays.

COMMUNION FOR THE HOMEBOUND

Ministers of Care are available to bring Communion to the homebound. Please call Parish Office.

RCIA

Anyone seeking information about becoming a fully participating member of the Catholic Faith should contact the Parish Office. Classes begin in September.