

# *SS. Cyril & Methodius Parish*

## *St. James at Sag Bridge Mission*

### Parish Staff

**Pastoral Ministry**  
Rev. Waldemar "Valdi"  
Stawiarski  
*Pastor*

Rev. Thomas Koys  
*Associate Pastor*

**Education**  
Shirley Tkachuk  
*Parish School Principal*

Monika Leja  
*R.E. Administrator*

Roxana Boyden  
*R.E. Administrative Assistant*

**Liturgy**  
Trish Nickleski  
*Liturgy Coordinator*

**Music Ministry**  
Miroslawa Sojka-Topor  
*Music Director*

**Administration**  
Denise Duda  
*Operations Director*

Lynn Bailey  
Ann Noonan  
*Assistant Business Managers*

Roxana Boyden, Debbie Grand  
Peggy Sniegowski, Ann Noonan  
*Parish Secretaries*

Nicole O'Hare  
*Bulletin Editor*

Coleen Mast  
*Evangelization Coordinator*

Bernice Raj  
*Cook/Housekeeper*

Ryszard Witkowski  
Paul Siro  
*Maintenance*



January 5, 2025

*The Epiphany of The Lord*



### Our Parish Mission Statement

We are a family of faith, entrusted with the gospel message of Jesus Christ. Rooted in a rich tradition of worship, service and prayer, we foster the unity and faith of this community. Enlivened by the Spirit, we share our gifts, talents and resources to bring about the Kingdom of God.

**The Parish Staff of St. Cyril's and St. James welcomes all to our historic parishes that have carried on the mission of Jesus Christ.**

<p><b>Parish Information</b></p> <p><b>Parish Office:</b> 608 Sobieski Street, Lemont, IL Denise Duda, Operations Director (630) 257-2776; (630) 257-9372 Fax rectory@stcyril.org website: www.stcyril.org www.facebook.com/SSCMLemont</p> <p><b>School:</b> 607 Sobieski Street, Lemont, IL Shirley Tkachuk, Principal (630) 257-6488; shirleyt@stcyril.org</p> <p><b>Religious Education:</b> Monika Leja, Religious Education Administrator (630) 257-9314; mleja@sscmlmont.org</p> <p><b>Mass Schedule:</b> Monday thru Saturday: 7:00 AM Saturday: 5:00 PM Sunday Obligation Sunday: 7:00 AM (English-No Music), 8:00 AM (Polish), 9:30 AM (English), 11:00 AM (Polish), 12:30 PM (English), 2:00 PM (Polish), 7:30 PM (English-No Music)</p> <p><b>Special Masses:</b> Tuesday PM: devotions at 7 PM, 7:45 PM (Polish) First Friday: 7:00 AM (English), 7:00 PM (Polish) First Saturday: devotions at 7 PM (Polish), 9:00 PM (Polish) Holy Days of Obligation: As announced</p> <p><b>Sacrament of Reconciliation:</b> Saturday: 4:00 - 4:30 PM First Fridays: 6:00 - 7:00 PM Also available by appointment.</p> <p><b>Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick:</b> Following the Monday morning 7:00 AM Mass</p> <p><b>Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration:</b> Located in the Divine Mercy Chapel in the Parish Life Building. Please contact: Lottie (630) 4442-9441, Mark (773) 727-7934, Margaret mtsniesz@gmail.com</p> <p><b>Parish Office Hours: Each weekday the office will be closed between the hours of 12:30 PM - 1:30 PM.</b> Monday through Friday 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM Saturday &amp; Sunday Closed</p>	<p><b>Minister of Music:</b> Mira Sojka-Topor musicmin@stcyril.org (630) 257-2776</p> <p><b>Polish School:</b> www.polschool.com Halina Szyrzyna Principal: (630) 669-9058</p> <p><b>Polish Club:</b> John Lichacz, President (773) 216-1108 polishclub@stcyril.org</p> <p><b>Minister of Care:</b> Dave Smietanski (630) 257-2776</p> <p><b>Parish Council:</b> Stan Brzezniak, President</p> <p><b>Bulletin:</b> bulletin@stcyril.org</p> <p><b>Helping Hands:</b> helpinghands@stcyril.org</p> <p><b>New Parishioners:</b> Download the new parishioner form online on our website. The form can be handed into the donation basket at Mass, mailed in, or brought into the parish office</p> <p><b>Baptisms:</b> Parents need to be registered, active and supporting parishioners prior to arranging a baptism at St. Cyril's. If this is a firstborn child, the parents are required to attend a Pre-Baptismal Preparation Class. Both sponsors should be adults and one an active, practicing Catholic.</p> <p><b>Marriage:</b> The bride and groom are encouraged to be registered, active, contributing parishioners of SS. Cyril &amp; Methodius. Arrangements are to be made with a priest or deacon as soon as possible. A Marriage Preparation Program is a requirement of the Archdiocese. To schedule a wedding, please contact the parish office.</p> <p><b>Social Media:</b> In an effort to enhance communication with our parishioners and visitors, please visit these websites to stay better connected with the many events and ministries of our parish.</p> <p><b>Parish Website:</b> www.stcyril.org <b>School Website:</b> www.school.stcyril.org <b>Parish Facebook Page:</b> www.facebook.com/SSCMLemont <b>School Facebook Page:</b> www.facebook.com/SSCMComets</p>
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**From the desk of Father Koys  
Dear Parishioners,**

This time of year, many young people take the plunge. No, not an ice bath. It's the time proposals are made and plans set in motion for a wedding. I share an article

from the Couple to Couple League, a Catholic organization dedicated to strengthening marriages and families, and hence society at large. More and more Catholic young people have lost the connection between the human love of husband and wife and the nature of God's sacramental grace which is divine love. For anyone who doesn't see marriage as a sacrament, this mediation may change their minds. If marriage is not a sacrament, then God is a fool. Deacon Turrentine asks...

"Do you "fall in love"? Or do you choose to love? Is love passive or active? Our original experience of love is passive. We first receive love, from our parents, other people, from God. Love evokes love. In its full development, love is not only active but life giving. We choose to love even when sacrifice is required and our sacrificial love helps others learn to love. Love is receptive. Love is active. Learning how to blend these two principles to combine them in a fruitful unity, is essential to marriage as it has been designed by God. A couple tries to weave their lives together, giving and receiving to create their own story of "two becoming one". Their unique story is truly a love story insofar as it is written in the context of God's redemptive story. God is the ultimate mystery of love. It reflects both the sacrificial love of Jesus for his Church and the fruitful love of the Trinity. Marriage is intended by God to unite man and woman and to give life. The unshakable unity of this love creates the right conditions to bring forth children and educate them in love. And children expand and deepen the unity of the parents who truly become one flesh in each of their offspring.

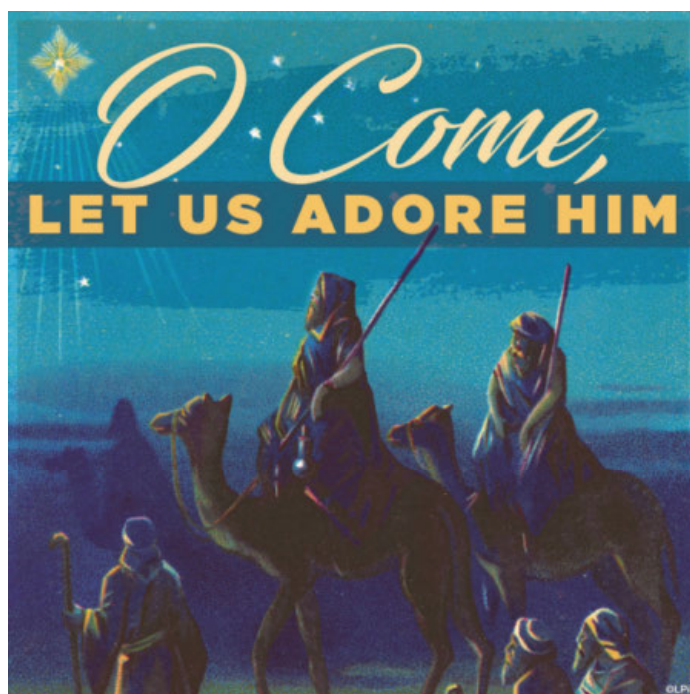
The challenging and ennobling mysteries of real love are obscured by the sadly impoverished view of sex and marriage prevalent

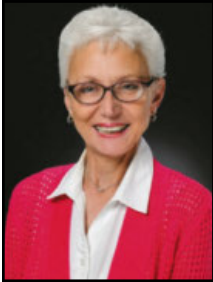
in our society, which is focused on getting rather than giving, on pleasure rather than sacrificial love. So many couples have never heard a compelling presentation of the beauty of God's plan for marriage. Christians should know that God intends marriage and family to be a school of love, a sacred community in which we constantly receive and grow in love and learn to share it with others."

**Fr Thomas Koys, M.A.,S.T.L.**

**And now a few things the Parish wants you to know:**

- Join Father Valdi in May of 2025 for a sentimental journey to Poland. Don't miss out on this meaningful experience. Please see the bulletin for more details.
- **Effective immediately, the Parish Life Building has new office hours. Monday through Friday the offices will be open from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM. We will still be closed on Saturday and Sunday.**
- A new year means tax time! If you would like a print out of your contributions from 2024, see the bulletin for the form to fill out and send to the office.





**SS. Cyril & Methodius School**  
**"Strength for the Journey"**

*SS. Cyril & Methodius School*  
*2019 National Blue Ribbon School*

Dear Parishioners,

Tomorrow our students will return to school following their break for Christmas. We will have a very busy month of January which will include the beginning of re-registration for the 2025-2026 school year and our celebration of Catholic Schools Week! During this special week we will celebrate our nation, community, staff, and students.

Please mark your calendars and plan to join us at the 9:30 Mass on Sunday, January 26th as we begin this special week. Mass will be followed by our Open House, school tours and the chance to visit with teachers and other staff members. Please stop in, visit our National Blue Ribbon School, and hear about all we have to offer!

SS. Cyril and Methodius School also offers tuition assistance.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Shirley A. Tkachuk

Principal



ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

## TRANSFORM LIVES



### THROUGH THE CATHOLIC SCHOOLS SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Chicago's archdiocesan Catholic schools provide a strong academic foundation enriched by values of faith, service and compassion. For many families, especially in areas of the city facing significant financial and social challenges, accessing this life-changing education remains just out of reach.

Catholic schools nurture the whole child – mind, body and spirit – instilling integrity, service and leadership values. These schools foster a sense of belonging and purpose, creating environments where students are educated and inspired to make a difference in their communities.

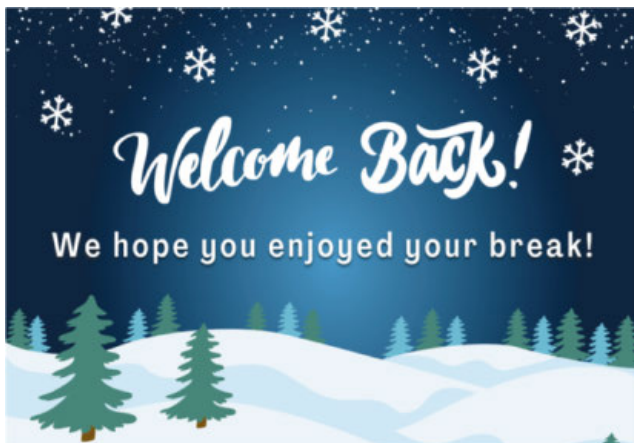
All of our Catholic schools serve our communities generously, but some schools face significant financial needs. These schools serve diverse, vibrant communities where families often face financial hardships. Your support directly impacts these families, helping to ensure that more children have access to the quality education they deserve – regardless of their economic situation.

**Your gift to the Catholic Schools Scholarship Program:**

- **Provides Access:** Removes financial barriers for families in need.
- **Transforms Lives:** Gives children the tools they need to succeed academically and spiritually.
- **Strengthens Communities:** Builds neighborhoods with a focus on faith, service and care for one another

Please consider supporting schools where the need is greatest. Every dollar you give helps ensure that Catholic education's values and teachings reach those who will benefit from them most.

**Join Us in Making a Difference**  
[archchicago.org/scholarships](http://archchicago.org/scholarships)







SS Cyril & Methodius  
Religious Education Program  
[stcyrilre@sscmlmont.org](mailto:stcyrilre@sscmlmont.org)  
(630)257-9314  
[www.re.stcyril.org](http://www.re.stcyril.org)

Mrs. Monika Leja – RE Administrator



**Welcome back!!**

Religious Education  
Classes Resume:

Monday session 1/6/2025

Wednesday session  
1/8/2025

Friday session 1/3/2025



Catechists are currently working on first semester report cards. Once their submissions are completed, the RE office will email report cards

individually to the parent email on file. Report cards are expected to begin being emailed mid to late January.



Sacrament of Reconciliation  
February 1, 2025

Sacrament of Confirmation  
March 8, 2025

**Parents of 2nd and 8th grade students:**

Thank you to those that have submitted their child's 2nd Grade Sacrament/Confirmation registration forms. If you have a 2nd or an 8th grader receiving a sacrament this year please visit our website [www.re.stcyril.org](http://www.re.stcyril.org) to fill out the appropriate sacrament registration form for your child. **Please refer to the email that was sent from the Faith Formation office last December** with details regarding Reconciliation/Communion or Confirmation. Contact the Faith Formation office if you have any questions regarding these upcoming sacraments. God Bless!

## St. James at Sag Bridge Mission

10600 S. Archer Avenue | Lemont, Illinois 60439-9344 | (Ph) 630.257.7000 |  
Email: [stjames1833@att.net](mailto:stjames1833@att.net) | Website: [www.historicstjames.org](http://www.historicstjames.org)

### Mass Schedule

#### WEEKENDS:

Sundays: 8:15am, 10:00am and 12:00pm (TLM)

#### WEEKDAYS:

Mon/Tues/Thurs/Sat 8:00am,  
Wed 7pm, Fri 6pm

#### ADORATION:

Adoration on Wednesday 5-7pm.

#### CONFESSION SCHEDULE:

Wednesday 6:00pm & Saturday 8:30am.  
Otherwise by appointment.

#### BAPTISMS, WEDDINGS & FUNERALS:

Contact the rectory office.

#### SICK & HOMEBOUND PASTORAL CARE:

Please notify rectory.

#### RECTORY OFFICE HOURS:

Wed, Thu & Fri: 9:00am to 2:00pm.



#### **Our Lady of Fatima Statue**

You may host our beautiful statue for one week (Sun to Sun). Scan to sign up or go to [historicstjames.org](http://historicstjames.org).

**JANUARY & FEBRUARY OPENINGS BEGINNING JAN 5**



Pray the rosary daily & in public when possible!



#### *Our Wednesday Knitters*

A lot of knitting by the St James knitters resulted in a delivery to the pregnancy resource center in LaGrange: 27 sleep sacks, ten blankets, and hats & booties! You are welcome to join them each Wed in the rectory 10am to noon. For questions call Kim 630-841-9070.

### **2025 FLOWER SIGNUP CHART:**

Now available in the back of Church.  
There are two flower arrangements per date & each bouquet is \$35.00.

### **Bake Sale Today**

**Fundraiser bake sale for the St James group going to the National March for Life—Jan 5 after all masses**

### **Cold weather has arrived...**

Can you help homeless men stay warm this winter? Place blankets & men's coats, new or in good condition, in the box in Charlie's Chapel. (Please no women's or children's.)

### **It's 2025!**

And before you know it, it will be time for those studying hard now to receive their sacraments. Whether it's Baptism, Confession, First Communion, or Confirmation, or all of these, the recipients would benefit from your prayers. **Please pray for:** the candidates in RCIA and all those in the CCD program.

### Theology of the Body

Moved to 2<sup>nd</sup> Thurs this month, Jan 9  
7 to 8:30pm in Sag Hall

"Theology of the Body" is a series of talks given by St. Pope John Paul II at his papal audiences. He explores many wonderful aspects of human love. All adults are invited to join in as Fr Koys leads the discussion.

### Wine & Wisdom – Jan 8

Portions of a documentary, "No Mercy," which documents the slippery slope of euthanasia will be shown. Come join this important discussion on the value of life.

#### *Wine & Wisdom – Jan 15*

*Current events in Rome will be presented & discussed.*  
Wednesdays join us for: Adoration 5 to 7pm. Confessions 6 to 7pm. Mass 7pm, Wine & Wisdom –8 to –9:15pm





**A Christmas Pageant - The Cast**

Many thanks to these hardworking actors & their support staff for a beautiful, delightful telling of our beloved Christmas story. See photo album on our website: [historicstjames.org](http://historicstjames.org)

**MORNING OF REFLECTION  
"Growing in Grace and Holiness"  
Wednesday, January 8th 10:00-1:30**

- \* Each month's Morning of Reflection includes prayer, meditation, and time for sharing.
- \* Continental Breakfast and Lunch will be served.
- \* \$30 Donation requested.
- \* Mount Assisi Convent (13900 Main St. Lemont).

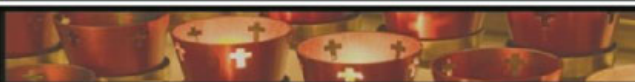
Please RSVP to [carriepeters2@sbcglobal.net](mailto:carriepeters2@sbcglobal.net) or Bernadette (Bernie) Smigielski 630-257-7844 ext. 223

**At 3PM Every Friday**

Be part of the St James prayer sentinel! Gather for prayer each Friday at Access Health to pray for the moms & dads considering abortion – and for their babies. Invoke our Lord's Mercy at the Mercy Hour!

**Ministry of Care**

If you or a loved one is homebound & would like to receive the Eucharist, please sign up online or via paper form in Church, or call Fr Koys or rectory.



**VOTIVE OFFERINGS FOR THE WEEK OF 1/5/25**

St. James Altar & Rosary Society  
All the Poor Souls in Purgatory  
United States of America  
For Our Children—Heather, Ryan & Colleen



*Mass Intentions*

*Note: Please allow 2 weeks notice to book Mass intentions*

**MONDAY, JANUARY 6**

8:00AM ✠ Steven Graceffa  
Birthday Blessings—Bernice Raj

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 7**

8:00AM ✠ Joe Slowik  
Blessings for New Job

**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8**

7:00PM Blessings for Andreas Shannon

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 9**

8:00AM Birthday Health & Blessings—Bernice Raj  
✠ Rita Wall

**FRIDAY, JANUARY 10**

6:00PM Birthday Blessings—Suzanne Beecher

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 11**

8:00AM ✠ Joseph Szczech  
Health & Healing—Neal Hartz

*Baptism of the Lord*

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 12**

8:15AM ✠ Mary Aiello  
10AM ✠ Barbara Becker  
Birthday Blessings—Diana Kurowski  
12:00PM ✠ Richard McKay  
Birthday Health & Blessings—Joe Gal

Our beautiful bouquets of flowers surrounding our altar were made available:

**IN LOVING MEMORY—ANTONETTE L. EVANS**

Our Weekly Offering



Our reporting of the weekly *Offertory* collection from December 29, 2024 will be delayed due to early submission to the bulletin publisher.

Our weekly *Offertory* collection from December 22, 2024 was \$5,668. Online giving (Give Central) totalled \$1,530.

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!!**

MASS	ALTAR SERVERS SUNDAY, JANUARY 12
8:15am	Christos & Frankie Latsonas, Alex Pawlikowski, Eric Delactorre
10am	Marty & Tommy Comer, Matthew Sullivan, Daniel Newsom

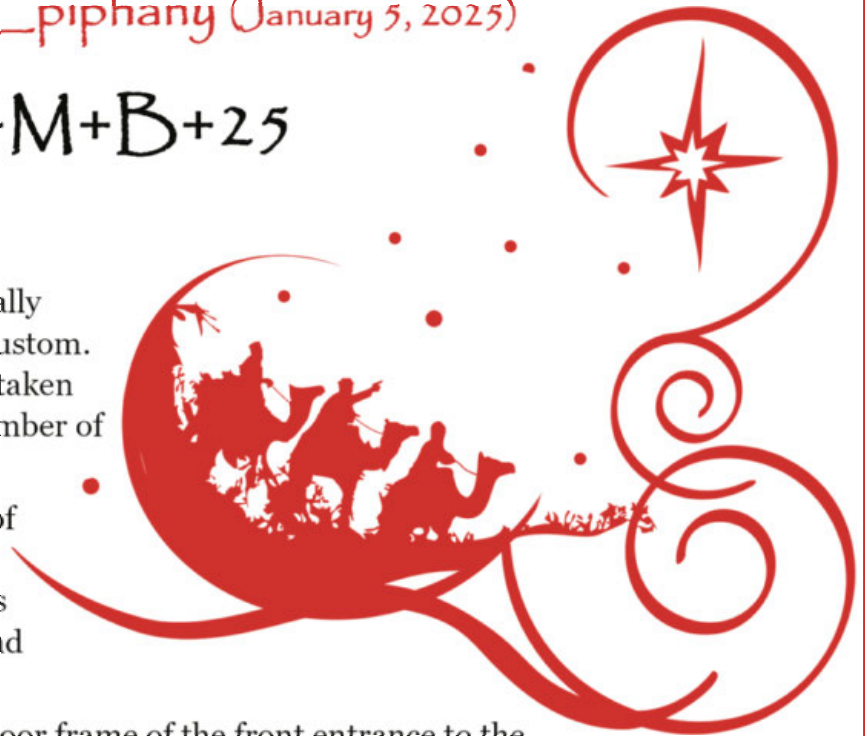
## Bless Your Home on Epiphany (January 5, 2025)

20+C+M+B+25

The blessing of homes, using specially blessed chalk, is a popular Epiphany custom. The chalk is blessed at Mass and then taken home by families where the senior member of the household leads the blessing.

Chalk, a product of clay, symbolic of the human nature of Jesus, is used to make the inscription which reminds us that we have invited God's presence and blessing into our home.

The upper horizontal piece of the door frame of the front entrance to the home is inscribed with the Cross of Salvation, together with the indication of the year and the initials of the Three Wise Men. Their names were established in the eighth century and are traditionally remembered as Caspar, Melchior and Balthasar, although these names are not found in Scripture. The inscription also stands for Chistus Monsionem Benedict, which means "Christ, Bless this Home".



### The popular form of the inscription is: 20+C+M+B+25

As the inscription is being made on the doorway the following prayer can be said:

*May all who come to our home this year rejoice to find Christ living among us;  
and may we seek and serve, in everyone we meet, that same Jesus  
who is your incarnate Word, now and forever. Amen.*

*God of heaven and earth, you revealed your only-begotten One to every nation by the  
guidance of a star. Bless this house and all who inhabit it.*

*Fill us with the light of Christ, that our concern for others may reflect your love.  
We ask this through Christ our Savior. Amen.*

*Loving God, bless this household.*

*May we be blessed with health, goodness of heart, gentleness, and abiding in your will.  
We ask this through Christ our Savior. Amen.*





Dear Friends of SS. Cyril and Methodius School,

Our entire school family hopes you are doing well! We are into the beautiful Season of Advent. It is a most special time of year as we think and prepare to celebrate the birth of our Lord, Jesus Christ. He is the greatest gift anyone has ever received!

As a school, we are deeply thankful for all our families and parishioners. Your constant guidance and support are truly a blessing! Please know we hold you in our prayers every school day.

This year our school has faced the challenge of a \$300,000 budget shortfall. It is a large, but not insurmountable amount. The shortfall is the result of families leaving our school over the summer months.

Representatives from the Archdiocese of Chicago met with Father Valdi, Denise Duda, and myself to develop a plan to help our school. Everyone's goal is to not just help the school this year, but to continue as we always have, to be financially sound for the future.

The result of this meeting was to begin the "SS. Cyril and Methodius School-Keep SSCM Excellent"- \$600,000 Challenge. The school has been challenged to raise \$300,00. The parish is offering a dollar-for-dollar match up to \$300,000 over the next two years.

Thanks to the hard work of Father Valdi, and his commitment to the success of our school, several parishioners and school families who were contacted have already responded and are helping us to reach our goal. Our school is extremely grateful for their support! We are more than two-thirds of the way to achieving our goal!

Now we are reaching out to all parishioners and school families to contribute what you can to help us get to \$300,000. A pledge card is included. Please consider how you can help and return the card to the collection basket or to school.

Whether you are a current or former school family, a parishioner, an SSCM Alum, or someone who is the product of Catholic education, you have the chance to give back, for all the blessings you have already received in your life!

Catholic schools in our nation have been paramount in teaching the values that parents seek to instill in their children. At SS. Cyril & Methodius School, we have worked hard and take pride in teaching a well-rounded education that has served as a foundation for a better future since 1884.

Thank you all for your support!

Shirley Tkachuk  
Principal

**\*Please see the "Keep SSCM Excellent"  
Pledge Card on Page 13.**



### A Note From Our Pastor

The Church teaches that receiving Holy Communion is not a private action but a communal one, as the very word "communion" implies. For that reason the norm established by Holy See for the universal Church and approved by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops is for the faithful to process together as an expression of their coming forward as the Body of Christ and to receive Holy Communion standing. Processions are an ancient practice of the Church and have been part of the liturgy from the earliest days, assisting the faithful to always keep in mind that we are a pilgrim people, making our way together to the fulness of the heavenly banquet Christ has prepared for us. We process into the church. We process up to bring the gifts. We process to receive Holy Communion. We process out to carry the Lord into the world.

Nothing should be done to impede this sacred ritual of receiving communion or diminish its powerful symbol by disrupting an important moment in which the faithful, in processing together, express their faith that they are called to become the very Body of Christ they receive. Certainly reverence can and should be expressed by bowing before the reception of Holy Communion, but no one should engage in a gesture that calls attention to oneself or disrupts the flow of the procession by assuming another posture. That would be contrary to the norms and tradition of the church, which all the faithful are urged to respect and observe.

## SENTIMENTAL JOURNEY TO POLAND

Kraków, Wieliczka, Wadowice, Zakopane, Auschwitz, Częstochowa, Torun, Malbork, Gdańsk, Sopot, Warszawa

Under spiritual guidance of :  
Fr. Waldemar(Waldi) Stawiarski

**\$200 DISCOUNT**  
FOR EACH PERSON WITH  
A PAYMENT OF \$1500 BY  
09/30/24



**\$ 3695 AIRLINE TICKETS INCLUDED**  
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- ✓ Accommodation in 4\* and 5\* hotels in double rooms;
- ✓ Breakfasts and dinners;
- ✓ All entrance tickets;
- ✓ Group health insurance.

**MAY 4-16TH, 2025**

St. Joseph Travel/ Rek Travel

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First payment: \$1,000 by 11/01/2024. Second payment: \$1,000 by 01/01/2025  
Final payment by 03/01/2025

Zelle, cash cc or check issued to Rek Travel Services LLC. Memo: Pilgrimage to Poland

## Catholic Schools Week January 26 – February 1, 2025



# Catholic Schools

United in Faith and Community





**Z biurka wikariusza pastora  
Drodzy Parafianie,**

O tej porze roku wielu młodych ludzi podejmuje ważny krok. To czas, kiedy pary się zaręczają, a plany dotyczące ślubu nabierają realnych kształtów.

Pragnę podzielić się artykułem pochodzącym z katolickiej organizacji o nazwie Couple to Couple League, której celem jest umacnianie małżeństw i rodzin, a tym samym całego społeczeństwa. Coraz więcej młodych katolików zatraciło związek między ludzką miłością męża i żony a naturą sakramentalnej łaski Boga, która jest miłością boską. Dla tych, którzy nie postrzegają małżeństwa jako sakramentu, ta refleksja może zmienić ich zdanie. Jeśli małżeństwo nie jest sakramentem, to Bóg jest głupcem. Diakon Turrentine stawia pytanie...

„Czy „zakochujemy się”? Czy też wybieramy miłość? Czy miłość jest bierna czy aktywna? Nasze pierwsze doświadczenie miłości jest bierne. Najpierw otrzymujemy miłość – od rodziców, od innych ludzi i od Boga. Miłość rodzi miłość. W swoim pełnym rozwoju miłość jest nie tylko aktywna, ale także dająca życie. Wybieramy miłość nawet wtedy, gdy wymaga ona poświęcenia, a nasza ofiarna miłość pomaga innym uczyć się kochać. Miłość jest chłonna. Miłość jest również aktywna. Umiejętność połączenia tych dwóch zasad w owocną jedność jest kluczowa dla małżeństwa, jakie zaprojektował Bóg. Małżonkowie starają się splatać swoje życie, wzajemnie uzupełniając się, by stworzyć własną historię „dwojga stających się jednym”. Ich wyjątkowa historia jest prawdziwą historią miłosną, o ile wpisana jest w kontekst odkupieńczej historii Boga. Bóg jest ostateczną tajemnicą miłości. Małżeństwo odzwierciedla zarówno ofiarną miłość Jezusa do Jego Kościoła, jak i owocną miłość Trójcy Świętej. Małżeństwo zostało przez Boga zamierzone jako jedność mężczyzny i kobiety oraz jako źródło życia. Niezachwiana jedność tej miłości stwarza właściwe warunki do wydawania na świat dzieci oraz wychowywania ich w miłości. Dzieci z kolei poszerzają i pogłębiają jedność rodziców, którzy

naprawdę stają się jednym ciałem w każdym ze swoich potomków.

Wyzwania i wzniosłe tajemnice prawdziwej miłości są przysłonięte przez smutno zubożoną wizję seksu i małżeństwa dominującą w naszym społeczeństwie, które koncentruje się na braniu zamiast dawaniu, na przyjemności zamiast na miłości ofiarnej. Tak wiele par nigdy nie usłyszało przekonującej prezentacji piękna Bożego planu dla małżeństwa. Chrześcijanie powinni wiedzieć, że Bóg zamierzył małżeństwo i rodzinę jako szkołę miłości, świętą wspólnotę, w której nieustannie otrzymujemy miłość, wzrastamy w niej i uczymy się dzielić nią z innymi.”

**Fr Thomas Koys, M.A.,S.T.L.**

**Kilka spraw z życia parafii:**

- Dołącz do pielgrzymko-wycieczki z ks. Waldemarem „Valdi” w maju 2025 roku i wybierz się na jedną z najpiękniejszych podróży do Polski. Więcej strzegółów w biuletynie.
- **Uwaga! Zmiana godzin otwarcia parafialnego.** W trybie natychmiastowym biuro będzie otwarte od poniedziałku do piątku w godzinach 8:00AM – 4:00PM. Soboty i niedziele biuro nieczynne.
- Nowy rok to również okres podatkowy! W celu uzyskania zestawienia złożonych składek w roku 2024 proszę wypełnić formularz znajdujący się w biuletynie a następnie przesłać go do biura.



**Mass Intentions**

**Monday — January 6th**

7:00 AM GOD’S BLESSINGS FOR GUZIOR FAMILY  
 GOD’S BLESSINGS FOR ALEXANDER  
 NOWOBILSKI (birth)  
 by Godmother  
 † JULIA KALATA  
 by Marie

**Tuesday — January 7th**

7:00 AM CHRISTMAS FLOWER MEMORIAL  
 † ADAM CHOLEWA  
 by Family  
 7:00 PM O BOŻE BŁ. I ZDROWIE DLA KASI (urodziny)  
**Fr. Valdi** by Rodzina  
 O BOŻE BŁ. I OPIEKĘ M.B. DLA KRYSZYNY  
 PRĘDKI (urodziny)  
 by Mama  
 † STANISŁAW FALTYN  
 by Zofia Ligas  
 † KONSTANTY CHUDZIK  
 by Córka z Rodziną

**Wednesday — January 8th**

7:00 AM † THOMAS “TOM” SUCHALA  
 by Geno & Laura Sciacca  
 † ANDREW WROBEL  
 by Family

**Thursday — January 9th**

7:00 AM † FOR ALL SOULS IN PURGATORY  
 † LUPE & TOM SCHAEFER  
 by John Stach

**Friday — January 10th**

7:00 AM † FRANK WOZNIAK  
 by Lois Kazich

**Saturday — January 11th**

7:00 AM FATHER’S DAY NOVENA  
 5:00 PM † JOHN A. SEGVICH  
**Fr. Valdi** by Joseph & Maria Maruszczak  
 † JANE GRZYBOWSKI  
 by Mary Kowalczyk

**Sunday — January 12th**

7:00 AM FOR ALL PARISHIONERS LIVING & DECEASED  
**Fr. Valdi** † JUNE SONTAG  
 by Denise & John O’Connor  
 † ROGER MALAK  
 by Wife  
 8:00 AM O BOŻE BŁ. I ZDROWIE DLA CÓREK Z RODZINAMI  
**Carmelite** † WOJCIECH I MARIA BADNARA  
 by Córka  
 † JAN, ANIELA I STANISŁAW STASZEL  
 by Siostra  
 † JÓZEF I FRANCISZKA DZIĄBA  
 by Rodzina  
 9:30 AM † EDWARD “ED” SCEPKOWSKI  
**Fr. Valdi** by SS. Cyril English Choir  
 11:00 AM O BOŻE BŁ. DLA MARI I STANISŁAWA  
**Carmelite** KOWALCZYK (Rocznica Ślubu)  
 O BOŻE BŁ. I OPIEKĘ M.B. DLA DAMIANA  
 KOWALCZYK (25 urodziny)  
 † ANDRZEJ GAWRON (Rocznica Śmierci)  
 by Ewa i Andrzej Surówka z Rodziną  
 † ZOFIA I JÓZEF WALKOSZ  
 by Anna Milan  
 12:30 PM GOD’S BLESSINGS FOR BONNIE MIERZWA (birth)  
**Fr. Valdi** by Mama  
 GOD’S BLESSINGS & HEALTH FOR MARIE  
 NIEDOSPIAL  
 by Grele Family  
 † STANLEY SADELSKI  
 by Children & Family  
 2:00 PM † STANISŁAW HOLENDER  
**Carmelite** by Rodzina  
 † WŁADYSŁAW, MARIA I KAZIMIERZ ZAPAŁA  
 by Zapała Family  
 7:30 PM FOR ALL PARISHIONERS LIVING & DECEASED  
**Fr. Koys**



Please call the parish office if you have a loved one you would like our parish community to pray for.

**2024 Contribution Statements**

Contribution statements for 2024 will be mailed upon request only. If you would like your statement, please fill out the information below and return it via the PLB drop box, by mail or place it in the collection basket at church. Please include your envelope number. Your statement will be mailed to you after January 31st.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Envelope #: \_\_\_\_\_

- |                        |                   |
|------------------------|-------------------|
| Emilia Pilecki         | Arthur Zelezinski |
| Michael Rajski         | Jaeann Sangerman  |
| Daniel Byrne Szafoni   | Bob Duscet        |
| Marge Doucet           | Mike Laskowski    |
| Ann Pere               | Denise Johnson    |
| Alexander Dziaba       | Guy Martin        |
| Carol Preis            | Joan Albert       |
| Irene Forst            | Ray Przedziecki   |
| Terry Hallandworth     | William Podborny  |
| Nick Gorisch           | Stanislaw Kopera  |
| Mark Malewski & Family | Cindy Evankoe     |
| Malgorzata Bies        | John Dzielski     |

The name of an individual will stay on the prayer list for two months. Please contact the parish office if you would like to prolong the prayer request.



**Parish Contributions  
 December 21 & 22, 2024**

Envelopes	565	16,409.00
Children’s Envelopes		.00
GiveCentral (12/16-12/22)	118	<u>2,672.00</u>
<b>Total</b>		<b>19,081.00</b>

*Budgeted: \$15,700.00 | Actual: 19,081.00 | \$3,381*

565 envelopes plus 118 GiveCentral Sunday donations represent 33% of 2,100 registered parishioner families.

*Your donations help meet our immediate needs, repairs and improvements. We sincerely appreciate your generosity.*

**Due to an earlier publication deadline, the contribution totals for the weekend of December 28th & 29th are unavailable for this bulletin. They will be in next week’s bulletin and Christmas totals will be included at a later date.**



**Please pray for...**

*We ask you to please keep in your prayers the following parishioners who are on active duty in the military:*

**Capt. Catherine R. Chappell**, Pilot HC130, U.S. Air Force; **Frank Romanowski**, Army Combat Medic; **SPC Ryan Sherwood**; **PVT Robert Kyle O’Hare**, US Army; **Dominic Maiella**, US Marine Corps; **Jonathan Plonka**, US Air Force; **Matas Maleiska**, US Navy; **Cole Kowalczyk**, Army Specialist; **LT. Colonel Ken Hussey**, Army

*Please inform the parish office if there are any changes or additions to the above list.*



*May Perpetual Light  
 Shine Upon Him*


In your prayers, please remember the soul of **Richard “Rick” S. Smith**.  
 May his soul and the soul of all our faithfully departed family and friends rest in everlasting peace.

**Pope’s Prayer Intention for January 2025**

**Pope Francis emphasizes the importance of the right to an education.**




**Let us pray for migrants, refugees, and those affected by war, that their right to an education, which is necessary to build a better world, might always be respected.**



**HOLY HOUR OF REPARATION TO THE HOLY FACE**  
 In Reparation for the Sins of Atheism, Blasphemy, and Profanation of Sunday

**Holy Hour Details**  
 Divine Mercy Adoration Chapel  
 When: Thursday Evenings  
 Time: 7:00PM—8:00PM

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(Including blessed oil touched to the Relic)

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*Thank you for your generosity!!*

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**2nd Collection January 11th & 12th  
 SSCM Parish School**

There will be a second collection for SSCM School. Please support our parish school & help them to continue to keep providing an excellent Catholic education.



## EVANGELIZE: SHARE THE GREATEST GIFT THIS NEW YEAR! The Gift of Faith

Do you know someone who has lost their faith?

- If they lost their keys or their dog, would you help them search? Probably.

But if they have lost their faith, how do we help them find it?

Do you know someone who has never had the faith? A neighbor, cousin, co-worker?

- They may have celebrated Christmas and known something deep inside is missing.

Do you know someone who is not yet baptized?

Do you know someone who was introduced to the faith in childhood and their parents didn't follow up, leaving them to their own limited resources?

The GREAT COMMISSION from Jesus to us:

*"Go out to all the world and spread the Good News of Salvation, baptizing them in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, and teaching them all I have commanded you. And I will be with you until the end of the age."*



Who needs to be Evangelized?

- **Children** need to be evangelized to grow in faith and understanding. Teach them to pray, teach them the Commandments, bring them to Mass and Adoration.
- **Alienated Catholics** who have left the Church need to be evangelized so they know how much we miss them and how much God loves them and wants them to return to Him. They need His grace.
- **People who have no faith** need to be evangelized so they can be welcomed into a new life with Christ and the Church with faith, hope, and supernatural love. We need supernatural help today.
- And most of all, **WE need to be evangelized ourselves** to strengthen our relationship with Jesus Christ and the Church.

How do I do this? The Holy Spirit will use your natural gifts and talents for the work of evangelization if you are open and willing to respond to Christ's call.

**Pray. Listen. Read the Bible and the Catechism. Share your faith. Invite others.**

*Need help coming back to the faith, bringing someone back, or deepening your faith?  
Contact our parish Evangelization Coordinator, Coleen Mast [cmast@archchicago.org](mailto:cmast@archchicago.org)*

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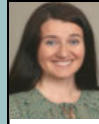
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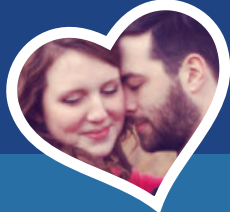


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