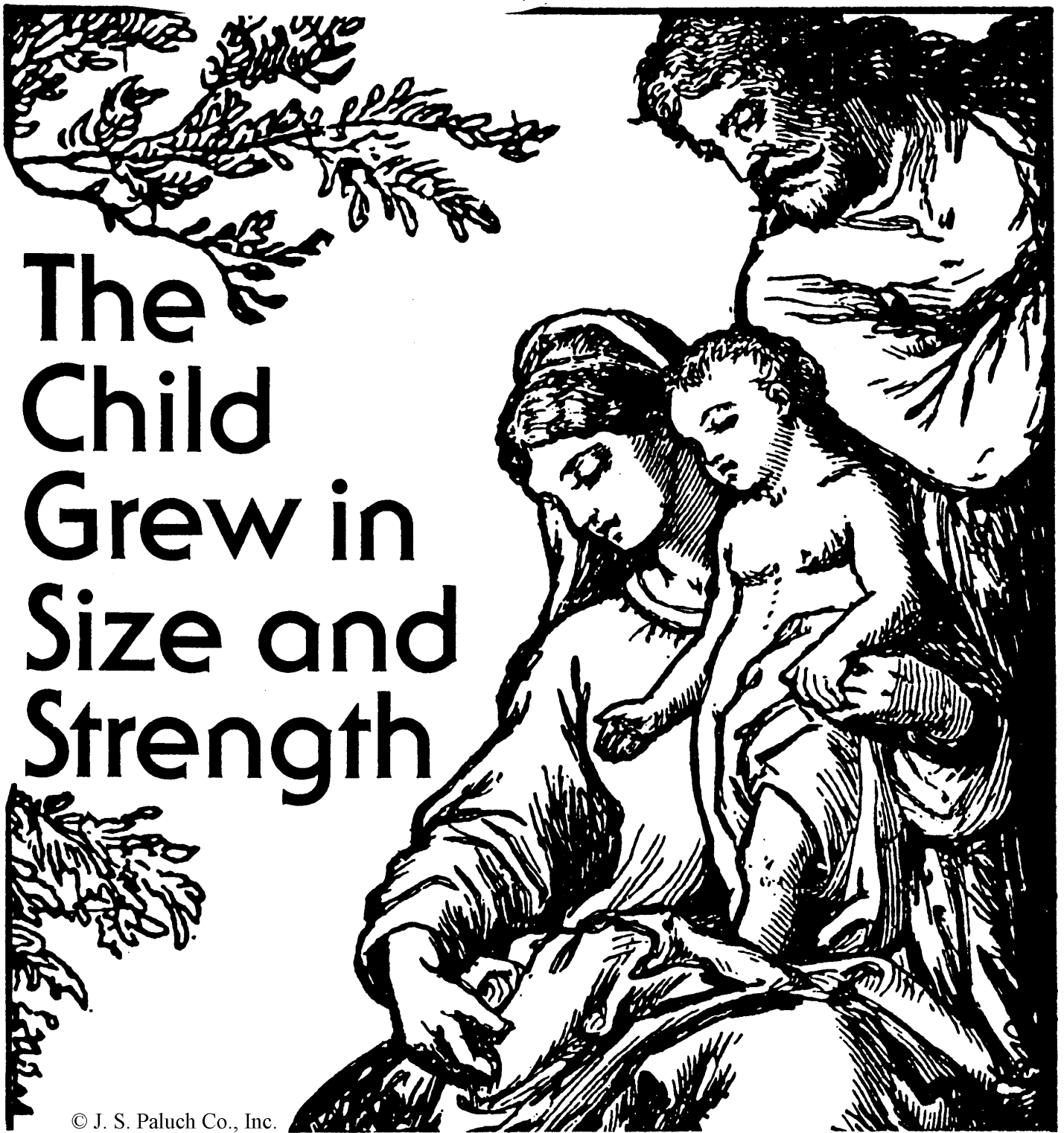


The Child Grew in Size and Strength





The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph December 28, 2008

My eyes have seen
your salvation,
which you have prepared
in the sight of all the peoples.
— *Luke 2:30-31*

PASTOR: REV. VICTOR MIRANDA

Associate Pastor: Rev. Victor Cruz

Pastor Emeritus: Rev. Cosmo Militello

Resident: Rev. Peter Kunnalakat

Permanent Deacons:

Mr. Mike Barnish

Mr. Ray Behrendt

Mr. Norberto Ojeda

RECTORY:

819 N. 16th Avenue

Phone (708)344-0757

Fax (708) 344-5906

RECTORY OFFICE HOURS:

Mon - Fri 9:00am - 5:00pm

PARISH STAFF:

JOSEPH AUGELLI,

Parish Business Manager

RANDY CERQUA,

Director of Music

MIKE CRUZ,

Director of Buildings & Grounds

ARNOLDO MARTINEZ,

Director of Religious Education

LOIS BEHRENDT, Eucharistic &

Lector Ministry & Ministry of Care

SCHOOL: 815 N. 16th Avenue

Phone (708)681-0240

Fax (708)681-0454

Website: shsmelrosepark.com

SCHOOL STAFF:

MRS. BARBARA CICONTE Principal

VENITA KALNICKY Secretary

CONVENT: 1503 Rice Street

Franciscan Sister's

Phone (708)344-6940

Dominican Literacy Center

Phone(708)338-0659

This Week

SUNDAY, SUNDAY, DECEMBER 28:

CCD - No Classes

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 31: New Year's Eve

8:00am Morning Mass

THURSDAY, JANUARY 1, 2009: New Year's Day

Blessed Virgin Mary Mother of God

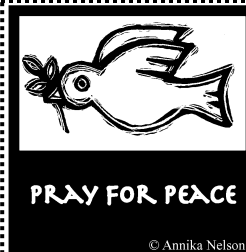
9:00am Mass

12:30pm Mass in Spanish

SUNDAY, JANUARY 4:

CCD Classes: 9:30am English; 11:00am Spanish (UGB)

2:00-4:00pm Spanish Social Rosca de Reyes (MH)



NEW YEAR'S PRAYER

God of time and of eternity,
with Christmas joy we praise you
for the year gone by
and for the year we have begun.

Your Son comes among us

to bring glad tidings to the poor,
to proclaim a year of grace
for all the world.

We bring you these promises
as signs of our love.

Strengthen us to follow

You more closely

during the coming year.



WELCOME

No matter what your present status is
in the Catholic Church.....

No matter what your current family or
marital situation is.....

No matter what your past or present
religious affiliation is.....

No matter what your personal history, age, back-
ground, race or color is.....

No matter what your own self-image or esteem is.....

**You are Invited, Welcomed, Accepted, Loved and
Respected here at Sacred Heart Parish!**

Ministry of Care

If you or your loved one is admitted to a hospital and would like a visit from a Parish Minister of Care, please call the Rectory Office. According to the HIPAA Act, patient names will no longer be passed on to us by the hospital of admittance without written consent from the patient. If you or a member of your family would like to receive Holy Communion and/or the sacrament of The Anointing of the Sick in the hospital or at home, please call the Rectory at 708-344-0757.

A Message from the Pastor



Dear Sacred Heart Family,

New Year celebrations mark our human history and relationships. This weekend we reflect upon the events, the people, the relationships, and the blessings which have punctuated 2008. At the same time we embark on the New Year 2009. We begin with hope and with the expectation that we will see new events, new people, and new relationships. We, hopefully, will have some time to pray and to ask God's blessings in our new endeavors.

As pastor of Sacred Heart Parish, allow me to thank you for all the shared events of the past year. We have gathered Sunday after Sunday to encounter the Father in his Word and at the Lord's Table. We have celebrated weddings, baptisms, funerals, first communions, first reconciliations, and confirmations. We can together be thankful that the Father has shown himself to us in the Assembly gathered for worship.

Thanks also for your work in service to others. To those who taught our children and young adults in religious education, Thank you. Our year has been marked by service to the poor and needy through our food pantry and clothes drive. We have been blessed in giving life to others: Giving Tree, monthly food collection, food and gifts for Thanksgiving, Easter and Christmas. We have discovered God's action in the ministry of many: Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, Music Ministry, Liturgy Committee, Altar Servers, the Ushers. We have been blessed by the spiritual and temporal services of the three deacons throughout the year. Weren't we blessed so much by God that our school continues to educate and form our children in faith and wisdom as future citizens? Thanks to all who are involved in the school and education: PTO, Athletic and Cheerleaders club, organizers of fund-raising programs and volunteers. We have increased in big numbers by sharing our faith and handing them over to our children in the Religious Education program. Blessed are our dedicated catechists. The "Holy Name Society" and "Women's Club" has fed not only our body, but our friendship and fellowship. Thank you.

No small thanks to those who generously supported the parish financially to continue our ministries in spite of financial meltdown and economic crisis. Thanks to the Finance Committee for their oversight and good management of the goods and resources of the parish. I personally would like to thank God for the gift of our parish manager and administrative staff who have supported and guided me in good times and in bad times, in sickness and in health.

New Year's is often described as 'luminal'; we stand on the threshold of two worlds. As we move from 2008 to 2009, may we move from blessing to blessing, for God's life in the past to a graced future. On New Year's we remember that as we move to our future, God moves with us. Happy and blessed New Year 2009. I hope and pray that the New Year will bring us special gifts... pray more, give more and live long.

CHRISTMAS FLOWER MEMORIALS **2008**



Thank you to all whose generosity have made possible the flowers and décor surrounding our Christmas liturgy. It makes our celebration of Christmas very 'special' and Meaningful. May the Christ Child's Gifts of Light, Peace, Joy & Love be upon you, your family and friends throughout the year.



Merry Christmas New Year Blessings!

IN MEMORY OF:

John Luca
Larry Beneitone & Betty Rooney
Helen & Martin OBrien
Helen & Herbert James & Betty Rooney
Frank Cerra
Deceased Mase & Cairo Families
Tony Brucci

BY:

Great Grandparents Mr. & Mrs. Rinaldi
Eileen Beneitone
Corinne & Dan James
Corinne & Dan James
Lucille Cerra
Sandra Cairo
Brucci Family

Sacred Heart Parish would like to thank God, and all of you who have been so generous to our call for Fall Drive. It's truly a thanksgiving when we give the first fruit of our labor to God. May God bless all of you. To date we have received pledges from the following families:

Mr. & Mrs. Patrick Parrilli
 Mr. & Mrs. Richard Baczak
 Mr. & Mrs. Bob Book
 Mr. & Mrs. Richard Carbon
 Mrs. Lazara Dubraca
 Carol Fasano
 Mrs. Rosanne Formusa
 Ms. Marge Gagliano
 Mr. & Mrs. John Giancarlo
 Mr. & Mrs. Ralph Imbrogno
 Mr. & Mrs. B. Jimenez
 Mr. & Mrs. Stanley Kasper
 Ms. Dorothy Muratore
 Mr. & Mrs. Peter Pitassi
 Ms. Margaret Santore
 Mrs. Agatha Scanio
 Mrs. Fran Springer
 Mr. & Mrs. Albert Bruscato
 Mr. Patrick Buckley
 Mrs. Julie Cieslak
 Mr. & Mrs. Vincent Consalvo



Mr. & Mrs. Lou Storto
 Mr. & Mrs. Frank Toplak
 Mr. & Mrs. Rogelio Tudd
 Mr. & Mrs. Alfred Acey
 Ms. Victoria Alonzo
 Mr. William Barcal
 Mr. & Mrs. Arthur Becker
 Philomena Cardaropoli
 Mr. & Mrs. Brad Dahly
 Mrs. Jean Ganske
 Mr. & Mrs. Timothy Gerster
 Mr. & Mrs. E. Nava
 Mrs. Betty Sandeen
 Mr. & Mrs. John Schaefer
 Mrs. G. Tadych
 Ms. Francine Valentine
 Mr. & Mrs. Norbert Zupinski
 Ms. Barbara Huff
 Mr. Thomas Huff]
 Mrs. Louise Johnson
 Mr. Bryant Mincy

(New pledges will be listed in the future)



This past week the Women's Club gave the parish a check for \$2,500. This money was generated by their recent fund-raising Christmas Bazaar on December 6th. We wish to express the gratitude of the entire parish for this generous gift. The money was produced by much time and effort. We would like to thank Barbara Richter, the president of the Women's Club, Irene Sanders, Betty Novelli, and all the members for their diligent efforts for the good of Sacred Heart Parish.



"And be thankful." -Colossians 3:15

St. Paul's reminder to be thankful is a great way to end the year. The good steward is always thankful. We recognize that we are God's people and everything we have is a gift from God. When we fill our hearts with gratitude we can stop striving for more and start appreciating and sharing the gifts we have already been given.

MASS ATTENDANCE COUNT - Dec. 20/21, 2008

	ADULTS	TEENS	CHILD	TOTAL
5:00 PM	126	4	5	135
7:30 AM	43	1	3	47
9:00 AM	63	1	3	67
11:00 AM	90	2	14	106
12:30 PM	140	40	55	235
TOTALS	462	48	80	590

School News

Sacred Heart School
815 N 16th Avenue, Melrose Park, Il 60160

2008/2009

HONOR ROLL 1st QUARTER FIRST HONORS

PRINCIPAL AWARD: Elizabeth Russo - 6th Grade, Debra Barnish, Malcom Conley, Justin Rienton - 8th Grade

4 TH GR	5 TH GR	6 TH GR	7 TH GR	8 TH GR
Elli Serna	Nicholas Golding	Kassandra Calvillo Antonio Colella Genesis Fuentes Dominique Mangano Sofia Monteon Nicholas Moore Elizabeth Rienton Natalie Sanchez Jesse Wilson	Nello Barone Bianca Colella Genie Guerra Leslie Sanchez	Leo Aiello Ahlyshiah Mahan

HONOR ROLL 2ND QUARTER SECOND HONORS

4 TH GR	5 TH GR	6 TH GR	7 TH GR	8 TH GR
Erin Ciconte Ivana Colella Francisco Monteon Jolina Tevenal	Giovanni Montes Michael Tevenal	Allyson Mahnke Juan Carlos Manqueros Christopher Marroquin Natalie Mincy Kailah Powell Danny Venzor	Derian Aguirre Eric DelRivero Jonathan Pagan Jocelyne Robles	Jacquelyn Santiago Jeannette Zapien

**AREA HIGH SCHOOL
HONOR ROLL MENTIONABLES.....**

Immaculate Conception:

1ST HONORS:

Megan Barnish, Gianna Colella, Mallory Pantaleo

2ND HONORS:

Danielle Bradley, Miguel Cavazos, Celeste Guzman, Katie Krezel, Jessica Monteon, Nicolette Tindall

Guerin Prep:

2ND HONORS: Jessica Cervantes, Jose Ramirez

CONGRATUALIONS and Keep up the good work!

CHOOSE A CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL....

On Saturday, January 10, 2009 all Catholic high schools in the Archdiocese of Chicago will offer an entrance exam for eighth grader interested in attending their schools. Students in Catholic high school reach high levels of academic achievement, they graduate and do well in college and beyond, excel as persons, become oriented toward service and build a better community, and achieve a sense of purpose, something to believe in.

Please contact the Catholic High School you are interested in to find our more information.

Sacred Heart School News...

Our school students collected 873 items in the Annual School Canned Food Drive this past November. Three of our teachers have been nominated for the 2009 Golden Apple Award for grades Pre-K-3. Someone in the school or community that feels that they have had a positive impact on the lives of our students: Mrs. Pfeifer, Kindergarten, Miss Kathi Burke, Second Grade, & Miss Grammas, Third Grade. Congratulations & we wish all of them the best of luck!

The school is in need of a temporary, minimum 3 months, secretarial position immediately.

Necessary skills needed:

- Performing secretarial & clerical duties
- Assisting the principal with daily duties
- Answering phones
- Welcoming visitors
- Bookkeeping w/ QuickBooks knowledge (a must)/Accounting Skills
- A love for children
- Monday-Friday 7:30a.m. - 3:00p.m.
- Will discuss hourly pay

Please call the school @ 708-681-0240 and we will return your call.

INFORMACION PARROQUIAL

MISA: Primeros Viernes de cada mes a las 7:00pm

CONFESIONES: Cada sábado de 4:00 a 5:00pm y cada primer viernes de mes de 6:00 a 6:45pm

ADORACION EUCARISTICA: El primer Jueves de mes de 1:00 a 7:00 p.m., con la bendición del Santísimo a las 7:00 p.m.

BAUTISMOS: Se celebran el segundo domingo del mes a las 2:30 p.m. Los papas y padrinos deberán asistir a una clase Pre-Bautismal que se lleva a cabo cada primer lunes del mes a las 7:00 p.m. en la Rectoría. Por favor hagan los arreglos para el Bautismo cuando asistan a esta clase.

MATRIMONIOS: Arreglos para la boda tendrán que hacerse por lo menos con cuatro meses de anticipación para asegurar tiempo para las amonestaciones y poder adquirir los documentos necesarios. Es el deseo de la Iglesia que todos los matrimonios sean solemnizados con una Misa Nupcial.

FUNERALES: Todos los arreglos deben hacerse en la Rectoría por un miembro de la familia cercano. Es recomendado que la familia reciba la Santa Comunión durante la Misa de Funeral.

ENFERMOS: Se les llevara la Santa Comunión a los enfermos conforme lo pidan. En caso de la posibilidad de muerte, por favor llame al sacerdote inmediatamente.

NUEVOS PARROQUIANOS: Les damos la bienvenida a Melrose Park y particularmente a nuestra Familia de la Parroquia de Sagrado Corazón. Por favor registrense en la Rectoría tan pronto como les sea posible.

CAMBIO DE DIRECCION: SI SE CAMBIA DE PARROQUIA O SE MUDA A UNA DIRECCION NUEVA, POR FAVOR NOTIFIQUE A LA RECTORIA LO MÁS PRONTO POSIBLE.

MINISTERIO HISPANO: PRESIDENTE: Fulgencio Rico

VICE- PRESIDENTE: Alfredo Jimenez

FIESTA DE LA SAGRADA FAMILIA

La primera lectura de hoy nos recuerda el mandamiento de amor y respeto a nuestros padres, con un amor que se extiende hasta la vejez, cuando ya no puedan cuidar de nosotros y necesiten que nosotros cuidemos de ellos. La discriminación contra los ancianos es un pecado que está siempre entre nosotros. El contraste entre la fortaleza de los jóvenes y la decadencia del poder de los padres puede ser difícil.

Debemos recordar la sabiduría de Sirácides: "La caridad para con el padre no será olvidada ¿Muestra el respeto adecuado a tus padres? ¿Eres paciente y obediente? ¿Cómo puedes mostrar tu agradecimiento a tus padres o tutores?"

La segunda lectura nos recuerda las correctas relaciones que deben existir entre los cristianos, especialmente los familiares. A los niños se les pide obedecer a sus padres. Los padres no deben irritar a los hijos hasta el punto de desalentarlos.

Nuestro amor nos reta a mostrar amor, cuidado, y respeto por nuestros padres. La verdadera obediencia es siempre una expresión de amor. Sin embargo, hay otro lado. Los padres deben también respetar la belleza y la unicidad de sus hijos y hacer todo lo que esté a su alcance para motivarlos y ayudarlos a crecer.

El hogar de la sagrada familia era simple. Jesús fue un niño que rió, lloró y jugó como todo niño. Bajo el cuidado de María y José, Jesús aprendió sobre la alianza de Dios con el pueblo escogido. El rezó con sus padres en la sinagoga. En una familia con fe amor y paz, él creció en sabiduría, edad y gracia.

Las familias están compuestas por personas que cuidan unas de otras en los buenos y malos tiempos. EL Evangelio de Lucas nos recuerda que Jesús entendió lo que significa ser parte de una familia. Pídele que te ayude a crecer como él en sabiduría para que la gracia de Dios esté contigo.

En este Domingo, pongamos en oración a todas nuestras familias y pidamos a Dios que por medio del hogar de Nazareth, nos ilumine para que en el 2009, podamos mejorar como hogar dentro de esta hermosa familia que es nuestra Iglesia.

ANUNCIO ESPECIAL: Invitados a participar en la Misa del 1 de Enero a las 12:30 P.M. de 2009 y en la Misa de Primer Viernes de Enero 02 a las 7:00 P.M.

Igualmente a través de este medio, quiero compartir con toda la familia hispana mi saludo de Navidad y Año Nuevo. Que el Divino Niño nacido en nuestros hogares, les traiga la fe, la salud física, material y espiritual; además de todo lo que realmente necesitan para construir su felicidad. Igualmente deseo a todos un feliz y próspero Año Nuevo 2009. Gracias por toda la amistad y apoyo que como persona y sacerdote que me prodigaron en el 2008. Pido a Dios que para el 2009 nos permita a juntos como familia humana y como Iglesia, acercarnos más a su Reino.



Mickey Clohecy, Doug Dohrn Jr., Jose & Modesta Gonzalez, Dr. Mike Koller, Patricia Martin, Frank McGarr, Mary Meyerhofer, Rev. Cosmo Militello, Rev. Victor

Miranda, Sam & Emily Nobile, Hilario Ramirez, Agatha Scanio, Sharon Wildman.....

AND ALL OF OUR HOMEBOUND PARISHIONERS.
Heavenly Father, Look upon our brothers and sisters who are ill. In the Midst of illness and pain, may they be united with Christ, who heals both body and soul; may they know the consolation promised to those who suffer and be fully restored to health. We ask this in the name of Jesus the Lord.

*If you or one of your loved ones wish to be included on or taken off the sick list, please call Rectory at 344-0757 before the first of each month.

Rest in Peace Agnes Coyne
 Ronald Tagliere

NEW YEAR'S HOURS

Our Rectory office hours for the Holiday's will be:
 Wed. December 31, New Year's Eve: 9:00am-5:00pm
 Thur. January 1, New Year's Day: Office Closed
 Fri. January 2: Office Closed

Please note...There will be NO Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on Thursday, January 1, 2009, since this is New Year's Day. The next Adoration day will be the first Thursday in February.

GOD'S PROMISE.....

The lengthy passage from Samuel is a wonderful exposition of God's promise to the house of David: that his throne would forever be gloriously occupied by his descendants. Hidden in the mystery of the prophecy is the promise of the Savior, the Messiah, Son of God and Son of David. The prophet Nathan, speaking in God's name, poetically turns around David's plan to build a house for God, and announces God's plan to build a "house," that is, a dynasty for David. From this house of David will come the Messiah, the Christ, not in kingly splendor as David ruled, but as a humble man, destined to rule forever and over all. When God gives a gift, it's amazing what we are given—so different from what we ever could have imagined.

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SUNDAY, DECEMBER 28

HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

SAT 5:00pm +**Terry Barcal** by Barcal Family
 +**Eugene Falbo** by Family
 7:30 +**Pat Naples** by Mr. & Mrs. Len Gassmann
 9:00 +**Antonetta Felske** by Family
 11:00 +**Lisa & Rocco Sangiacomo** by Family
 +**Dolores Abruzzini** by Eileen Beneitone
 12:30pm(Spanish)+**Delfina Bonilla** by Family

MONDAY, DECEMBER 29

8:00 +**Mary Pawelko** by Mary Ann Tyl
 +**Marianne Massaro** by Treffens Family

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 30

8:00 +**James Aleknus** by Family
 +**John Toplak** by Family

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 31

8:00 +**Ramirez Family**
 +**Teresa Hogan** by Richter Family

THURSDAY, JANUARY 1

Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God

9:00 +**Frank & Josephine Pantano** by Family
 +**Frank Nardulli** by Daughter Mary Jo

FRIDAY, JANUARY 2 St. Basil the Great & St. Nazianzen

8:00 +**Eleanor M. Jurek** by Principe & DalCerro Families
 -**Ramirez Family**

7:00pm Spanish Mass




SATURDAY, JANUARY 3 Holy Name of Jesus

8:00 +**Joseph Martin** by Sue Barajas & Dan Feeny
 5:00 +**Bernard Tyl** by Mary Ann Tyl

SUNDAY, JANUARY 4 Epiphany of the Lord

7:30 +**Frank & Alice Hrubes** by Family
 9:00 +**Anna Wally** by Family
 11:00 +**Carmene & Raffaella Rocco** by DelRegno Family
 -**Fr. Miranda-For Healing** by Janice & Carol Ann
 12:30pm(Spanish)-Misa para el Pueblo

LITURGICAL MINISTER SCHEDULE for Saturday/Sunday, January 3/4, 2009

	5:00 pm	7:30 am	9:00 am	11:00 am	12:30 pm
 Lectors Commentators	Grace Marella	Sue Zupinski	Lois Behrendt	Kim Graaff Kristin Trusco	Lupita - L Alfredo - L Eduardo - S Maribel - C
 Eucharistic Ministers	Mike Carlini - W Nancy Marella - W Patti Carlini - H	Beatriz Ramirez - W Cris Dorwart - W Sister Jan - H	Barb Richter - W Pat Gage - W John Lullo - H	Fabrizia Felella- W Diane Trusco - W Mary E. Krezel -H Debbie Szeszko - H	Pilar Angelita Armando
 Altar Servers	Justin Rienton Lizzy Rienton	n/a	Eric Torres Ric Torres	Antonio Colella Gianna Colella	Eddy, Esteban, Alex