

The Chimes

of Saint Athanasius Parish

www.stathanasius-evanston.org

Eucharistic Worship

Monday - Friday 6:30 and 8:15 am
Saturday 8:15 am, 5:00 pm
Sunday 8:00, 9:30 and 11:30 am
LifeTeen 5:00 pm

Our Mission

*"Do this in memory of Me."
We, the members of the
Catholic Community of
St. Athanasius Parish,
are each called by baptism
to continue the work of
Jesus Christ embracing all.
We aspire to worship, love,
thank and serve God.
We are open to what
God calls us to become.*

WATCHING

Not all of life is my doing.
Not every deed is done by me.
Not all activity is my own.
Yet I am part of all that lives and moves and has being.

I see the athlete on the field, the dancer on the stage,
the child playing, and something stirs within me.
I know how it feels to do what they are doing.
Their movements touch the athlete, the dancer, the child
in me. I too, run and dance and play.

The eyes are the windows of the soul,
it is said, revealing what animates and inspires me.
The eyes are the bridge between souls, I say.
Watching, looking, seeing,
I behold the connection of all living things.
I commune with the soul
which animates and inspires the other.

Watching the liturgy unfold, I recognize the liturgy
within. In the movements of others I see my own
stirrings. I glimpse as in a glass darkly the common
liturgy of life in which I share.

Barbara Schmich

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Living Advent

Eucharistic Liturgies

December 17 - December 24, 2006

Sunday

5:00 pm (Saturday) † Mary Walsh
8:00 am † Rose Schuba
9:30 am † Dolly Hallstrom
11:30 am † Ed & Rosemary Brown
5:00 pm † Philip Varua

Monday

6:30 am † Richard Kent
8:15 am † Joseph Andrzejewski
7:30 pm Communal Penance Service

Tuesday

6:30 am † Deceased Members of the Luby Family
8:15 am † George McDonald

Wednesday

6:30 am † Nick DiVito
8:15 am † Maynard Gamber, Jr.
† Maynard Gamber, Sr.

Thursday

6:30 am † Faye Frank
8:15 am † David Van Der Bosch, U.S.M.C.

Friday

6:30 am † Norman (Bud) Lawrence
8:15 am † Arthur Stake

Saturday

8:15 am No Mass
5:00 pm † Edith M. Peschon

Sunday

8:00 am † Ruth Pierre
9:30 am † Mary Joan Robinson
11:30 am † Richard Kane
4:00 pm † Lillian Stanek
5:30 pm † Michael Bansley, Jr.
9:45 pm Caroling Service
10:30 pm † Rose Schuba

St. Athanasius Parish Christmas 2006

Communal Penance Service

Monday, December 18 7:30 PM

Individual Reconciliation

Saturday, December 23
8:45 – 11:00 AM and 3:00 – 4:45 PM

Fourth Sunday of Advent Liturgies

Saturday, December 23
5:00 PM Mass
Sunday, December 24
8:00, 9:30 and 11:30 AM Masses

Christmas Eve Liturgies (Sunday)

4:00 PM Mass - Children's Choir
5:30 PM Mass
9:45 PM Christmas Carol Service
10:30 PM Evening Mass - Parish Choir

Christmas Day Liturgies (Monday)

8:00, 9:30 and 11:30 AM Masses

New Year's Eve Liturgies

Saturday, December 30
5:00 PM Mass
Sunday, December 31
8:00, 9:30 and 11:30 AM Masses
No 5:00 PM LifeTeen Mass

Solemnity of Mary

New Year's Day Liturgies (Monday)

9:30 and 11:30 AM Masses

Christmas Wish Basket Program

Please bring the food and gifts you have signed up for to the school gym TODAY between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. Christmas Wish Baskets will be delivered to the Howard Area Community Center by volunteers at noon.

It's a LifeTeen Christmas

LifeTeen meets **TODAY**. All high school teens are invited to our Christmas Party in the Teen Room from 6:15 to 8:30 pm.

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS



This Week: St. Agnes,
Our Sharing Parish

Next Week: Christmas

Thank You from the Women's Center

St. Athanasius Parish collected a total of over \$1,828.54 in this year's Baby Bottle Project! Fantastic! This is an incredible blessing to *The Women's Centers* and the women and babies that we serve.



These funds allow us to provide real, practical assistance to women in crisis pregnancies, helping them to choose life for their babies, and assisting them in coming to a place of confidence and self respect. We have over 5000 appointments with women every year and give away over \$800,000 in material goods!

We want to express to you and everyone at St. Athanasius our sincere appreciation. Congratulations and thanks again!

Sincerely in Christ,

Mary Strom

Executive Director

Tim Truckenbrod

Director of Development

Mission Thank You

Today we received a check from the mission office in Chicago, the result of the appeal made at St. Athanasius Parish the weekend of August 6 on behalf of the missionary work of the Sisters of the Holy Child Jesus. We were informed that your people generously donated \$3,458.46 in that collection. With their sacrifices, your people united themselves with the missionary work of the Church.

The Sisters of the Holy Child accept this donation with grateful hearts, realizing that any donation means a sacrifice on the part of the donor. The money will go far in our work with the poor. Let your people know that every penny of that gift goes to the missions!

You and your parishioners will be remembered every time Mass is celebrated at Dalton Center. It is the one way we can thank our Benefactors who make it possible for us to continue our work in mission lands.

The welcome extended to me when I visited your parish was greatly appreciated.

Gratefully,

Sister Rosemary Hayes, SHCJ

Obligations for the Fourth Sunday of Advent and Christmas Day

Parishes, ministers and all the faithful will face an unusual situation this year, since the **fourth Sunday of Advent** falls on **December 24, Christmas Eve**. This means that all the morning Masses on December 24 are for the fourth Sunday of Advent, while Masses celebrated later in the late afternoon / early evening will be for the Vigil of Christmas, the Nativity of the Lord.

Below are a few points to keep in mind as Parishes and the faithful prepare to celebrate these beautiful and sacred liturgies:

- * Both the fourth Sunday of Advent (December 24) and Monday, December 25, the Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord (Christmas) are days of precept – that is, the faithful are obligated to observe these days by participating in Mass.
- * Anyone who participates in Mass on the morning of Sunday, December 24 fulfills the Sunday precept.
- * Anyone who participates in Mass on Monday, December 25 (Christmas Day) fulfills the precept of the Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord.
 - o This includes the Vigil Masses for Christmas, celebrated in the evening or during the night of December 24.
- * **It is not permissible to attend *one* Mass on December 24 and fulfill both obligations at once.**

Fr. Rich Sztorc to Host Trip to Eastern Europe

Journey with Fr. Rich and Fr. Joe Curtis as they explore the classic capitals of Warsaw, Krakow and Prague, October 4 - 15, 2007. Visit the Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa and the church of the Infant Jesus of Prague. The tour is being arranged by Trans World Travel at a cost of \$3,249 per person, double occupancy. The price includes round trip airfare from Chicago, 3 & 4 star hotel accommodations, comprehensive sightseeing and admissions, meals as outlined in the itinerary and taxes for included services. An informational meeting will take place on Sunday, January 21 at 2:00 pm at St. Mary of Vernon, 236 US Hwy 45 in Indian Creek (Vernon Hills). For more information, or to obtain a brochure, contact Fr. Rich at 847-328-1430, extension 103, or call Trans World Travel at 847-432-2400.

Christmas Eve Pageant

Rehearsal for our Christmas Eve Pageant is on Friday, December 22, at 4 pm. Those who signed up for the pageant should plan to be there. If you did not sign-up and would like your child(ren) to be part of the pageant, come to the rehearsal.

Soup Kitchen

The next **Sunday** soup kitchen will be **TODAY** at Hemenway United Methodist Church, 933 Chicago Avenue, 1:30-4:30 pm (meal served at 2:45). Contact Michael Masini (847-869-4321). The next **Thursday** soup kitchen will be **December 21** at First United Methodist Church, 1630 Hinman Avenue, 4:30-7:30 pm (meal served at 6:00). Contact Karen Ryan (332-1850), Kris Koenig-Morel (475-2104) or Christine Carlson (869-4160).

ParishPay Program

Provide ease of mind for yourself, while strengthening community and stewardship for St. Athanasius. Please consider using our ParishPay Program to plan your contributions. Funds are withdrawn from your checking account or credit card monthly. To participate, you may sign up online at www.parishpay.com, download an enrollment form from our website at www.stathanasius-evanston.org, or call the parish office and ask to have a form sent to you. Questions? Contact Barbara Bonier at 847-328-1430, ext. 142 or bbonier@stathanasius-evanston.org.

Will You Have a Chance to Pray Before Christmas?

You will if you come to our parish Prayer Group meeting on December 19, at 7:30 pm, in the Fitzgerald Center. What do we do? We read a Scripture passage and reflect on its meaning for our lives right now, both silently and with each other if we wish. We spend time saying prayers together, having silent meditation, and then prayers of petition and thanksgiving. We are a laid back and low key group who are learning to pray together. Come join us.

Book Group Meeting

On Thursday evening, December 21, the St. A's Book Group will meet at 7:30 pm in the Fitzgerald Center. We will be discussing the book, *Never Let Me Go* by Kazuo Ishiguro, author of the best seller and film, *The Remains of the Day*. If you have read the book and would like to come for the discussion, we welcome you. We also serve good refreshments!!!

Hospital Volunteers Needed

Holy Family Long Term Care Hospital, 100 N. River Road in Des Plaines, is in need of volunteers to assist the staff and patients. Please contact Sr. Rita Marie, CSFN at 847-297-1800, extension 1061.

Please Remember In Your Prayers. .

The sick and their caregivers, especially **Peter Black**, brother of Mary Rooney, **Vickie Burke**, **Renee Walsh**, **Mary Ellen Seeger**, mother of Carol Teske, **Cory Stejskal**, **Tim Gobat**, **Norman Seligman**, **Rosalie VerPlancke**, **Milton Watson**, **Leland Smith**, **Margaret Shanafield**, **Sally Elam**, **Lisa Hildebrand**, **Charles Derrickson**, **Jane McDonough**, **Jennifer Klandrud** and **Frances Morreale**;

Those in the military, especially **Matthew Chrobak**, nephew of Eric Harkna and Tonise Paul, **Maura Sullivan**, daughter of Ken and Mary Sullivan, and **Catie Staub**, daughter of David and Mary Therese Staub;

Those who have died, especially **Mary Frances Steinhauser**, mother of Ann Adamson, **Steven Brandstrader**, brother of Liz Luby, **Allen Hoover**, brother-in-law of Marion Amling, and **Sheri Payne**, sister-in-law of Jeff Bolle.

PLEASE NOTE: Names of the Sick recommended to our prayers will remain in the bulletin for **one month**. If you wish their names to remain beyond that time, please call the parish office.

St. A's Music Notes

Come hear St. A's choir
lift their voices in joyous song to herald Christ's birth!

Sunday, Dec 24th, 9:45-10:30 pm
(before the 10:30 evening Mass)

Carol Concert Program
(with readings from scripture)



Mozart Alleluia
Mary, Did You Know
The Angel Gabriel
The Angel Carol
The Wexford Carol
Now Glad Of Heart
Shepherd's Pipe Carol
Baby, What You Going To Be
Black Gospel medley:
Sweet Little Jesus Boy
Poor Little Jesus
Wasn't No Room
Rise Up Shepherd and Follow
What Month Was Jesus Born In?
Children Go Where I Send Thee
Minuit chrétien (O Holy Night)



Oplatky - Christmas Wafers Available

In the Latin Rite, the bread and wine offered at the Mass are referred to as oblata (offerings). The word Bethlehem means "House of Bread." The breaking of the bread is a sign of charity, unity, and friendship. Religious family traditions and customs bring the truths of Faith into the home. One of these beautiful Christmas customs is the Christmas Wafer. A Wafer bearing a simple design commemorative of Christ's birth is broken by the head of the family and distributed to each member, with a simple prayer of God's grace and the welfare of the present and absent members of the family. While doing so each member of the family is kissed and is wished a joyful feast. The other family members then greet one another in the same way. Family customs remind us that we seek and obtain salvation with the help of others at all times.



Oplatky will be available at the back of the Church or in the Parish Office.

Advent

A Sense of the Season

December is the time for expressing the hope and strengthening the dreams that will carry us through the next year. Advent is the way we as church express our hopes. Prophetic visions, prayers and songs calling for the Lord to come do help us to hope profoundly. Advent allows us to do what most others do in December—but to see in the coming Lord the answer to our dreams. In our Catholic tradition, keeping Advent means singing the songs of expectation, of our hopes and longing, before we enter into the full-throated praise of Christmas carols.

Here are a few lines from our tradition on what Advent is about. “Advent has a twofold character: as a season to prepare us for Christmas when Christ’s first coming is remembered; as a season when that remembrance directs the mind and the heart to await Christ’s second coming at the end of time. Advent is thus a period for devout and joyful expectation.” (*General Norms for the Liturgical Year and the Calendar, #39*)

Thomas Merton, in his book *Seasons of Celebration*, reviewed the ways Saint Bernard of Clairvaux approached these comings of Christ. The first advent was Christ’s birth. The other will be at the end of time. Faith in these two stimulates recognition of a third, the advent of Christ in our church now, today. Viewed from this perspective, the Advent liturgy, with its scriptures, prayers and songs, is neither a romantic return to the Old Testament while we wait for the baby at Bethlehem, nor is it an exercise in expressing hope for an ever-receding end of time. The Advent liturgy is neither nostalgic nor illusory. When we take the tradition and enter it fully, we become Advent, the people in and through whom Christ comes.

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Christmas Eve

4:00 pm

Presider Fr. Sztorc

Lector Children

5:30 pm

Presider Fr. Sztorc

Lector Jane Carney

9:45 pm Carols - 10:30 pm Mass

Presider Fr. Libera

Lectors Robert Coats, Chris Talbot

Christmas Day

8:00 am

Presider Fr. Sztorc

Lector Eileen Parkinson

9:30 am

Presider Fr. Libera

Lector Rick Blabolil

11:30 am

Presider Fr. Sztorc

Lector Josie Vorda

Parish Calendar

Sunday, December 17

Family Program, 9 am-Noon, School

Athletics, 1-5 pm, Gym

Men's Basketball, 7-9 pm, Gym

Monday, December 18

Athletics, 3:30-9 pm, Gym

Tuesday, December 19

Athletics, 3:30-6 pm, Gym

Cub Scouts, 7-9 pm, Gym

School Board, 7 pm, Hartke

Wednesday, December 20

RCIA, 7-9 pm, Fitzgerald Chapel

Thursday, December 21

Christmas Show, 7 pm, Gym

Friday, December 22

Saturday, December 23

Sunday, December 24

Weekday Servers December 18 - 23

8:15 am Monday/Tuesday/Wednesday
Grace Kaminski, Emily Kreid
Thursday/Friday/Saturday
Fiona & Seamus McMahon

Liturgical Ministers

Next Weekend December 23/24

5:00 pm Saturday

Presider Fr. Sztorc

Lector Dan Delaney

Servers J.T. Vilus, Evan Swenson, Angel Toledo

Eucharistic Ministers

Tom Meany, Lori & Stan Goszczynski,
Ellen Beyer, Helen Stake

8:00 am

Presider Fr. Libera

Lector Jerry Garner

Servers Jack & Patrick Walsh, Justine Andrus

Eucharistic Ministers

Jose Vorda, Kerry Hubata, Jean Lauri,
Nancy Taylor, Bruno Jaselskis

9:30 am

Presider Fr. Libera

Lector Barb O'Connor

Servers Thomas & Matthew Zampa,
Nolan Winkler,

Eucharistic Ministers

Bob Curley, Gabe Rodriguez,
Kevin Leonard, Ken Taylor,
David Staub

11:30 am

Presider Fr. Sztorc

Lector Jim Denardo

Servers Connor Berg, Patrick Walsh,
Nora Charron

Eucharistic Ministers

Nancy Murray, Mary Sotir,
Joan Johnson, Devin Kincaid,
Jim Kincaid

5:00 pm Sunday

**No Mass - See Christmas Eve/Christmas Day
Schedule**

Readings for the Week of December 17, 2006

Sunday: Zep 3:14-18a/Phil 4:4-7/Lk 3:10-18

Monday: Jer 23:5-8/Mt 1:18-25

Tuesday: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Lk 1:5-25

Wednesday: Is 7:10-14/Lk 1:26-38

Thursday: Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a/Lk 1:39-45

Friday: 1 Sm 1:24-28/Lk 1:46-56

Saturday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Lk 1:57-66

Next Sunday: Mi 5:1-4a/Heb 10:5-10/Lk 1:39-45

Working With The Scriptures

December 17, 2006 (Luke 3:10-18)

“What should we do?” The question is asked in different ways but, basically, what people are asking is, “What is God’s will for me?” My answer is much like Luke’s response in today’s Gospel – do what you are already doing, but do it well. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. is quoted as saying that if you are a ditch digger, you should dig ditches so well that when you die all the angels in heaven will say, “There lived a great ditch digger!”

Tess works at the Post Office. Typically her day is fairly predictable – a rush of people dropping off mail on their way to work, office workers coming in mid-morning to pick up company mail, and folks running in at the end of the day to drop off mail on the way home; but that all changes around the middle of November. From then until Christmas, the line of customers forms early and goes on all day long. Some of the other postal workers complain, but Tess doesn’t mind. In fact, Tess really enjoys helping people at Christmas time. Seeing the stacks of cards and boxes that people bring to her counter and thinking about all of the people who will receive them makes Tess smile. And when Tess smiles it makes her customers smile, too.

“What should we do?” “...share...stop collecting more than what is prescribed ...be satisfied.” It’s not really all that difficult. Just do what you are already doing, but do it well. Are you a lawyer? “...do not falsely accuse...” Are you a clerk? “...do not practice extortion...” Are you a healthcare professional? Be compassionate. Do you work in food service? Maintain a clean and wholesome environment. Tess is only doing her job, but the way that she does it makes all the difference. She does it well. People always walk away from Tess’ counter feeling just a little bit happier than when they came in. And I suspect that when she dies the angels will say, “There lived a great postal worker!”

How do we do what we do? When we die, what will the angels say about us?

Vinal Van Benthem

3rd Sunday of Advent

“Have no anxiety at all, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, make your requests known to God.” (Philippians 4:6-7)

St. Paul reminds us that our God is an abundant God, the ultimate giver of gifts. God promises to give us all that we need. When we trust that God will take care of us, it is easier for us to share what we have been given.

First Night Evanston 2007

First Night Evanston’s 14th Annual New Year’s Eve Celebration “Stagelights and Starlight” will be held from 4:00 pm to 1:30 am. Buttons are \$14 for adults, \$8 for children 6-12, children 5 and under are free. For more information, call 847-475-NITE or visit the website at www.firstnightevanston.org.

Hospital Volunteers Needed

Holy Family Long Term Care Hospital, 100 N. River Road in Des Plaines, is in need of volunteers to assist the staff and patients. Please contact Sr. Rita Marie, CSFN at 847-297-1800, extension 1061.

Annual Christmas Concert

TODAY, at 3:00 pm, the Chicago Boy Choir, will present its annual concert of carols and other songs of the season. The concert will be held at Our Lady of Victory Church, 5212 W. Agatite, Chicago. Free admission. For more information, call 773-286-2950.



St. Athanasius Parish

1615 LINCOLN STREET • EVANSTON, ILLINOIS 60201-2340 • 847-328-1430

www.stathanasius-evanston.org

Pastors

Rev. Thomas Libera, *Pastor* (tlibera‡)

Rev. Richard Sztorc, *Associate Pastor* (rsztorc‡)

Parish Office

847-328-1430 (fax) 847-328-1809

Admin. Assistant's Hours: Monday 8:30 am-1:30 pm

Tuesday - Friday 11:30 am-4:30 pm

Reception Hours: Monday/Tuesday 4:30-8:30 pm

Wednesday - Friday 4:30-6:30 pm

Saturday 10 am-4 pm; Sunday 10 am-1 pm

Parish Office Staff

Karen Sonnicksen Sellers, *Parish Administrator* (ksellers‡)

Barbara Bonier, *Office Manager* (bbonier‡)

Marion Amling, *Business Manager* (mamling‡)

Janice Moore-Rivas, *Administrative Assistant* (jmoore‡)

Pastoral Staff

Buildings and Grounds

Jose Moreno, *Facilities Manager* (jmoreno‡)

Catholic Chaplain

Evanston Hospital 570-2330

Sr. Ann Weiler, O.S.F.

Deacon

Richard S. Jay

Music Ministry

Steve Carson, *Director* (scarson‡)

Pastoral Associates

Lori Goszczynski, *Bereavement, Ministers of Care* (Lgoszczynski‡)

Diane Maloney, *LEAVEN* (dmaloney‡)

Religious Education

Carolyn Groves, *Director* (cgroves‡)

Bridget Hotchkiss, *Coordinator* (bhotchkiss‡)

Youth Ministry

Christina Thompson, *Director* (cthompson‡)

Parish School

2510 Ashland Avenue

Evanston, IL 60201-2319

School Office 847-864-2650 (fax) 847-475-7385

Parish School Staff

Susan Castagna, *Principal* (scastagna@saintas.net)

Mary Lietz, *Asst. Principal* (mlietz@saintas.net)

Suzanne Hanley, *Secretary* (shanley@saintas.net)

Chimes Articles

The deadline for submitting information to the parish office is Friday at Noon, **10 days prior to publication date.**

Best method is to email the document as an attachment to chimes@stathanasius-evanston.org.

‡ - @stathanasius-evanston.org

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)

is a several-month process for an adult wishing to become a Catholic through the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist) or through a Profession of Faith. These rites are celebrated at the Easter Vigil. Please contact Fr. Rich Sztorc.

Infant Baptism

is generally celebrated on the first and third Sundays of the month at 1:00 pm in the Church. The Baptism Preparation Program for parents and godparents, if possible, is held each month. Please call the Parish Office to make arrangements.

Confirmation

preparation begins in the middle of 7th grade and is celebrated during the winter of 8th grade. For adult/high school confirmation, call the Religious Education Office.

The Eucharist

is brought to the homebound by Care Ministers. Arrangements are made by calling Lori Goszczynski. First Eucharist preparation for children begins in 1st grade and is celebrated in the spring of 2nd grade.

Matrimony

arrangements are made by contacting one of the priests at the Parish Office. Arrangements a year in advance allow for adequate reservation time, participation in marriage preparation programs and liturgical planning.

Anointing of the Sick

is celebrated in the Fall during a communal celebration. Special requests for this sacrament can be arranged by calling the Parish Office.

Reconciliation

is celebrated on Saturdays, after the 8:15 am Eucharist until 9:30 am, in the sacristy near the front doors of the Church during the Holy Hour. Communal Reconciliation Services are held during Advent and Lent.

