

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.*

Pope John Paul II - Holy Family Prayer

“May the Holy Family, who had to overcome many painful trials, watch over all the families in the world, especially those who are experiencing difficult situations. May the Holy Family also help men and women of culture and political leaders so that they may defend the institution of the family, based on marriage, and so that they may sustain the family as it confronts the grave challenges of the modern age!

May Christian families find the light and strength to be united and to grow as the ‘domestic church’ especially in their diligent participation in the celebration of the Eucharist on Sunday.”

Eucharistic Liturgies

December 28, 2008 - January 4, 2009

Sunday

5:00 pm (Saturday) † Lee Ann Chisholm
 8:00 am † Rose Schuba
 9:30 am † Caesar P. Tabet
 11:30 am † Gail Wallace
 5:00 pm **No Mass**

Monday

6:30 am † Janice Loughlin
 8:15 am † Marian McGowan

Tuesday

6:30 am † Anna Ast
 8:15 am † Brian Hughes

Wednesday - *New Year's Eve*

8:15 am † Belinda Green
 5:00 pm † Michael Bansley, Jr.

Thursday - *New Year's Day*

9:30 am † Terrence Holloway
 11:30 am † Alexander Ross

Friday

6:30 am † Louis Patino
 8:15 am Special Intentions for Clare Rhee

Saturday

8:15 am Special Intentions for Mary Rhee
 5:00 pm † Renee Walsh

Sunday

8:00 am † Rose Schuba
 9:30 am † William Regner
 11:30 am † Ed Brown Family
 5:00 pm † Joseph Dillon, Sr.

St. Athanasius Parish Holiday Liturgy Schedule 2008

New Year's Eve Liturgies (Wednesday)

8:15 AM and 5:00 PM Masses

Solemnity of Mary

New Year's Day Liturgies (Thursday)

9:30 and 11:30 AM Masses

**There will be NO 5:00 PM Mass on
 Sunday, December 28.**

Generations Campaign Leadership Team
 member Bill Quinlan happily upping
 the pledge total.
 Thank you!



OFFERTORY COLLECTION REPORT

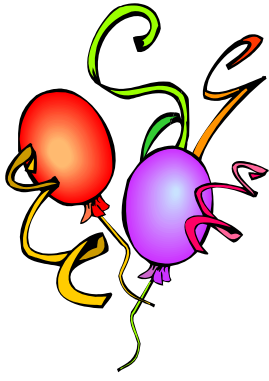
Offertory December 13/14	\$16,472
Retirement Fund Religious	\$4,207
Children's Envelopes	\$18.65
ParishPay for December	\$12,861

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS



This Week: Solemnity of Mary

Next Week: St. Agnes



A Resolution for Our Future

As we say goodbye to 2008, and we begin to make our annual lists of New Year's Resolutions, we ask you to consider putting the St. Athanasius *Generations Campaign* at the top of your list. If you have been eager to make a significant difference for the Parish you love, this is the perfect opportunity to become involved and help us move ever closer to success.

The campaign on behalf of Church repairs, establishment of a maintenance fund and acquisition of Lindley Park has already received more than \$1.8 million in gifts and pledges from the parishioners of St. Athanasius. In a very short period of time, we have made great progress, and there are still almost 800 registered families to make a decision about their level of support.

Do you love St. Athanasius? Are you interested in ensuring a bright future for our entire family of faith? Then let us hear from you! Make a New Year's Resolution that you will start 2009 by making your financial commitment to our capital campaign.

Complete the simple form below today and let us know you would like to schedule a personal visit with one of our Campaign Ambassadors, and then enjoy these final days of 2008 knowing you have made a difference in the life of the St. Athanasius faith community.



**YES! I RESOLVE TO DO ALL I CAN TO MAKE THE ST. ATHANASIUS
GENERATIONS CAMPAIGN A SUCCESS!!**

Please have a Campaign Volunteer call me to arrange a personal visit.

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____ Phone _____

Return via mail, offertory basket or hand deliver to the campaign office or call Jean at 847-332-1615.

Interested in making a year-end gift to the campaign?
***Please be aware that the Parish House will close
for the New Year holiday at noon on Wednesday, December 31, 2008.***

Thursday Soup Kitchen Thank You!

A BIG thank you goes out to Noodles and Co. of Evanston who donated the pasta and sauce for our entree on December 11th. The food was ready to serve and was abundant - enough for the Soup Kitchen serving as well as leftovers for the shelter. We appreciate our other helpers too: Jack Egosfske, Meaghan Morel, Gretchen Hartke, Tom Harvey, Sheila Fenn, Mary Finnegan, Steve Jennings, Fran Morel, and Richard Carlson. Merry Christmas to all of you and we are looking forward to our next serving on January 22nd!

Karen, Kris, and Christine

Food Drive Next Weekend, January 3/4

Non-perishable items such as peanut butter, beans, canned meats and fish, pasta, tea and coffee are appreciated. Donations will be collected in the bin in the church for the Hemenway United Methodist Food Pantry. The Peace and Justice Ministry thanks you for your continuing support!

Weekly Food Collection

St. A's is now collecting food every week, not just on the first weekend of each month, because the food pantries are in desperate need of more donations. The collection box will be in the vestibule near the Lincoln Street entrance.

Rev. Ssekamanya Thank You

Dear Fr. Libera and your Parishioners,
I call you friends for you have been so good to me. I am writing to express my most sincere gratitude and appreciation for all that you so generously did to make my visit to your parish successful and fruitful.

It was evident to me that much time and planning went into all the preparations for my visit. I was made to feel comfortable and I found your parishioners to be warm and very welcoming. I appreciate this and I thank you so much for such kindness and wonderful hospitality.

Thank you also for your support to the mission of the Church in Lugazi over the years. Your support is a big contribution to our challenging ministry. Please consider visiting us in the near future. We would love to have you.

I pray that what we shared will strengthen our fraternal relationship.

I wish you God's blessings, and a merry Christmas.

Fraternally yours,

Rev. Matthias Ssekamanya
Bishop of Lugazi Diocese
Uganda

Please Remember In Your Prayers...

The sick and their caregivers, especially **Jack Pinter**, **James Wazorick**, **Tom Leoni**, **Charmayne Swanson**, former parishioner **John Lally**, **Elizabeth Adamson**, **Joanne Steenveld**, **Kathleen O'Toole**, **Bill O'Connor**, **Paul Mooney**, nephew of Bob & Nancy Doyle, **Isabella Makalska**, **Helene Joelo**, **Ursula Peghini**, **Mary Ficek**, **Norman Seligman** and **Frederick Maximus Oneuoha**, brother of Ruphina Pettis;

Those in the military, especially **Catie Staub**, daughter of David and Mary Therese Staub, **Ensign Anthony Grusich**, USN, son of Lois and Bill Grusich, **Petty Officer 3rd Class Ryan Olsen** and **PFC Kyle Olsen**, grandsons of Jane and Emmitt Ingram, and **Matthew Chrobak**, nephew of Eric Harkna and Tonise Paul;

Those who have died.

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. Agnes Scholarship Thank You

Beloved friends of St. Athanasius,
We would like to thank you for welcoming us to St. Athanasius this year and for your wonderful outpouring of generosity and Christian charity in your gifts to St. Agnes of Bohemia's Scholarship Fund. Every year students who otherwise would not receive a Catholic education are blessed by the generosity of St. Athanasius. In these troubling economic times, when so much is uncertain, your kindness endures. With over \$13,000 raised for St. Agnes' scholarship fund, St. Athanasius' influence on our students' futures continues to be incredible.

Every day in Little Village, the Students of St. Agnes place their hope, their faith, and their beliefs on the line. The challenges they face (poverty, gangs, violence, racism, and many others) will not disappear tomorrow. From pre-kindergarten to eighth grade graduation, our students face these realities head-on every day. They choose not to succumb, but to triumph; to show the power of the human spirit when it has God as its foundation and source. We believe St. Agnes is an instrument of God's love and we thank you for your dedication to our mission, our efforts, and our children.

The front of *The Chimes* clearly states that you are continuing the work of Jesus Christ. Your gift to St. Agnes is a shining example of this. You pass on the faith. You teach children to serve others and to love without reservation. You inspire our students and faculty to continue using their God-given gifts to create a better future for all.

Thank you once again for your example of Christ to us. Our world is all the better for it. We will keep you and your loved ones in our prayers always.

Sincerely,

Father Don Nevins
Pastor

Sean MacCready
Director of
Development

Parish Mission Thank You

Dear Friends,
It was a joy to be with you to assist with "Celebrating God's Gifts." I very much appreciated your warm welcome, attendance and kind words.

I am grateful to Fr. Libera for his kind invitation and to the Parish Retreat Team (Bridget Hotchkiss, Lori Goszczynski, Jean Peters, Pat Schmidt, and Karen Sellers) who worked hard to provide a prayerful atmosphere in which to conduct the parish retreat. Their work made all the difference in the world. Many thanks to Denise Galloway, John Foley, Tim Patton and Joe Nedoss who shared a portion of their lives and journeys of faith with us. Thanks to Steve and Chris who coordinated and led the music, to the lectors, to the greeters and those who served. I also want to acknowledge and thank Dorothy for the delicious evening meals. Finally, thanks to those who set up and served us during our socializing time. You all did it so very well!

A special word of thanks for the \$1,396.00 you donated. This will be primarily used to assist the poor of Peru. It will also be used to help our retired and ailing priests and brothers as well as those dependent on the Augustinians for their care. Finally, your kindness will help to keep me "on the road."

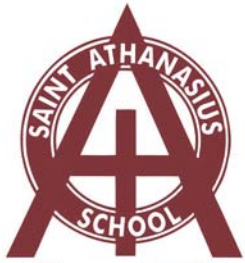
I wish you success as you continue to discover what it means to be Church, to be parish, together. Please take advantage of the marvelous opportunity provided by "*Living Your Strengths*." It will serve you and the parish well in further discovering your many gifts. Let us continue to listen to the story of God's love for us found in so many varied and surprising places. Truly God's love for us is a gift, the only gift we really need. As we share God's love with others, let us keep one another in prayer.

A Most Blessed Christmas to you and your loved ones! How good it was to be with you!

Gratefully,

James Friedel, OSA

See for yourself all that our school has to offer!



St. A's

**Kindergarten
to 8th Grade**

(847) 864-2650

2510 Ashland Ave.

Evanston, IL 60201

www.saintas.net



Open House & Presentation

10:30 a.m. to noon

9:30 to 11:00 a.m.

Sunday, January 25

Wednesday, January 28

- Talk with parents, students, teachers and our principal
- View our outstanding facilities
- Learn how St. A's unique curriculum and programs help children flourish
- Full-day and half-day kindergarten options
- Students of all faiths are welcome
- Financial aid available

Foundation for Children in Need Thank You

Dear Father Tom and all the Parishioners of St. Athanasius' Parish,
Greetings and best wishes to you. We'd like to send our heart-felt wishes for a Merry Christmas and Joyful New Year. May the Child Jesus bless you abundantly.

We left the United States at the end of September and are safely settled back in India where we're able to pursue our passion, working directly with the needy families and individuals of the Foundation for Children in Need. All of our projects in India are going well. Due to your generosity, we are able to offer aid to so many of the less fortunate. For this we are deeply grateful and we ask that you continue your kind support. It is truly a blessing to feel the love and support each of you shows through your generous sharing and prayers. You are often in our thoughts and prayers. We give thanks every day for your continued support and none of our work would be possible without your generosity.

With much excitement and gratitude we're happy to announce that on November 17th we had the blessing and opening of Casey and Melanie Barber Memorial Chapel at St. Xavier's home for the Aged. FCN takes care of fifty elderly at this wonderful home. Please visit our website for more details: www.fcndia.org.

Thanking you once again and wishing you all the best.

With Love and Prayers,

Tom Chitta

An Invitation to Join Our ParishPay Offertory Program

St. Athanasius Parish is participating in an online program called **ParishPay**. This program, through the Archdiocese of Chicago, allows us to process donations via automatic withdrawals from bank accounts or credit cards. There are two ways to sign up:

- 1) You may fill out the form below and return it to **Barbara Bonier** in the parish office, or
- 2) You may sign up online at www.parishpay.com.

Sign up once and the donations are taken care of for you once a month. What could be easier?
We are very grateful for all of your continuing support and hope that this program will provide another option for handling your contributions.

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Name _____
Street _____
City _____ Zip _____
Phone _____ Email _____

DONATION INFORMATION (\$10.00 minimum for each category)

I wish to lovingly give the following amount MONTHLY: \$ _____
I also wish to include a MONTHLY amount for **Generations Campaign**: \$ _____
I also wish to include a MONTHLY amount for **St. Agnes, Our Sharing Parish**: \$ _____
I also wish to include a MONTHLY amount for **St. Vincent dePaul**: \$ _____
I also wish to include a MONTHLY amount for **Soup Kitchen**: \$ _____
For **Easter** collection in the month of Easter, please additionally deduct: \$ _____
For **Christmas** collection in the month of December, please additionally deduct: \$ _____

BANK ACCOUNT INFORMATION

Routing #: _____
(9 digit bank identifier along bottom of check)
Account #: _____
Name of Bank: _____

- OR -

CREDIT CARD ACCOUNT INFORMATION

Please keep in mind that when you use your credit card, approximately 3% of your donation will be deducted as processing fees.

Circle One: Visa MasterCard American Express Discover

Account #: _____

EXPIRATION: _____ / _____

Name on Card: _____

Parish Calendar

Sunday, December 28

Monday, December 29

StrengthFinder Session, 7 pm, Parish House

Tuesday, December 30

Wednesday, December 31

Thursday, January 1

Friday, January 2

Saturday, January 3

Sunday, January 4

New Year Blessing

Heavenly Father, in this time of new beginnings, we recall how the heavens celebrated the birth of Christ.

We think back to the new kingdom he proclaimed, and remember the new life we gained in our baptism. In this time of new beginnings, and at the beginning of this New Year, may we always act as good examples of the new life in you that all Christians have and be the same for others.

Give us the joy that is ours as adopted members of God's family.

Amen.

Staff Extension List 847-328-1430

- | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| 100 Parish Office | 116 Jean Lauri |
| 100 Janice Moore-Rivas | 120 Jim Potthast |
| 101 School Office | 123 Mary Lietz |
| 103 Fr. Sztorc | 124 Lori Goszczynski |
| 105 Marion Amling | 125 Steve Carson |
| 107 Judy Berg | 129 Bridget Hotchkiss |
| 111 Fr. Libera | 142 Barbara Bonier |
| 114 José Moreno | 143 Karen Sellers |
| 115 Susan Castagna | |

Liturgical Ministers

Next Weekend January 3/4

5:00 pm Saturday

Presider TBA

Lector Rick Blabolil

Servers Michael & Connor Carlin,
Molly Braasch

Eucharistic Ministers

Jackie & Mike Brennan, Jan Zeller,
Helen Stake, Richard Byrne

8:00 am

Presider TBA

Lector Amy Fischl

Servers Anna & Sean Cox, Matteo Brucato

Eucharistic Ministers

Nancy Taylor, Sally Hageman,
Mary Sullivan, Deborah Haracz,
Josie Vorda

9:30 am

Presider TBA

Lector Barbara O'Connor

Servers Matthew & Michael Consolo,
John Charron

Eucharistic Ministers

Barbara O'Connor, Rita Bambrick,
Donna Consolo, Jill Blabolil,
John Osterlund

11:30 am

Presider TBA

Lector Bill Harmon

Servers Lizzie Caan, Kevin Cole, Nico Couri

Eucharistic Ministers

John & Troy Dentzer,
Mary Ann Harvey, Rosemary Welch,
Claire Labbe

5:00 pm Sunday

Presider TBA



Working with the Scriptures

December 28, 2008 (Sir. 3:2-6, 12-14)

Twelve-year-old George was what many people would call a “loser.” Passed through a series of foster homes, this morning he was appearing in Juvenile Court for shoplifting. As it turned out, George wasn’t actually a very good thief. He hadn’t learned yet about security cameras and alarm systems. But, depending on the outcome of this morning’s hearing, his education could be just beginning.

“God sets a father in honor over his children...” Sirach’s words probably wouldn’t have meant much to George. His father had been only a somewhat shadowy figure in his life at best. Foster fathers had tried, but their attempts at discipline had usually just managed to push George farther away until they threw up their hands in frustration and George ended up back in the system. It seemed that nothing in George’s life had ever gone right.

Nothing, that is, until today. Had anyone been looking when the judge entered the courtroom, they would have seen something curiously different about the man. White haired and rather tall, the judge looked directly at George, rather than down at his papers or in the general direction of George’s court-appointed attorney, when he spoke. No one, in George’s short lifetime, had ever looked at him quite this way. What’s more, while George’s mumbled responses to the judge’s questions were barely audible, the man actually seemed to hear him.

I cannot say what will happen as a result of George’s brief encounter with what is probably the first adult in his short life to actually treat him with anything even remotely resembling respect. We can only pray that any spark of hope struck in George today won’t be snuffed out before it has a chance to take hold. George doesn’t know much about a father’s love, but that’s never stopped God before.

Unfortunately, there are hundreds of Georges out there, and not every judge is like this one. George has encountered the love of God in this courtroom, but what will happen to him tomorrow? If society turns it’s back on George and those like him, who will hear the prayer in their silence?

Vinal Van Bentem

Readings for the Week of December 28, 2008

Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or Gn 15:1-6; 21:1-3/Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17 or Heb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19/Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22, 39-40
Monday: 1 Jn 2:3-11/Lk 2:22-35
Tuesday: 1 Jn 2:12-17/Lk 2:36-40
Wednesday: 1 Jn 2:18-21/Jn 1:1-18
Thursday: Nm 6:22-27/Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21
Friday: 1 Jn 2:22-28/Jn 1:19-28
Saturday: 1 Jn 2:29---3:6/Jn 1:29-34
Next Sunday: Is 60:1-6/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12

Confirmation for Adults

The Archdiocese of Chicago sponsors adult Confirmation preparation for adults 18 years of age and older who are active Catholics and have received the sacraments of Baptism and Eucharist. A program will meet 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm on all the Mondays and Tuesdays in January 2009 at Meyer Center, 3525 S. Lake Park Avenue, Chicago. For information and registration, interested candidates may email Patrick Redington at the Office of Catechesis & Youth Ministry at (312) 243-3700.

Two Li'l Fishes

You can provide meals during the holidays to homeless men, women and children in Chicago through a designated gift to the Greater Chicago Food Depository. Your gift will be used by “Two Li'l Fishes,” a lunch program for the homeless at the Preston Bradley Center in the Uptown neighborhood. To expand the meal program from four to seven days will require additional funding for food purchases, supplies, equipment and salaries. If you would like to help Two Li'l Fishes directly, send a check to: Two Li'l Fishes, Preston Bradley Center, 941 W. Lawrence Avenue, Chicago 60640. You can also send a check to the Greater Chicago Food Depository, Account #A00512, 4100 W. Ann Lurie Place, Chicago 60632.



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 Hours: Monday - Friday 8:30 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 9 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-rivas‡)

Jean Lauri, *Campaign Administrative Assistant* (jlauri‡)

Pastoral Staff

Buildings and Grounds

Jose Moreno, *Facilities Manager* (jmoreno@saintas.net)

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‡)

Religious Education

Bridget Hotchkiss, *Coordinator* (bhotchkiss‡)

Youth Ministry

Jim Potthast, *Director* (jpotthast‡)

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, *Assistant Principal* (mlietz@saintas.net)

Mary Quish, *Assistant Principal* (mquish@saintas.net)

Judy Berg, *Communications Coordinator* (jberg@saintas.net)

Anne Marie McMichael, *Secretary* (amcmichael@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.

