

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

Mirosława Sojka-Topor
Music Director

Administration

Denise Duda
Operations Director

Lynn Bailey
Ann Noonan
Assistant Business Managers

Monika Bochenek, 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



December 24, 2023
Fourth Sunday of Advent

*Joyfully anticipate the birth
of our 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.

Parish Information		Minister of Music:	Mira Sojka-Topor musicmin@stcyril.org (630) 257-2776
Parish Office:	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	Polish School:	www.polschool.com Halina Szyrzyna Principal: (630) 669-9058
School:	607 Sobieski Street, Lemont, IL Shirley Tkachuk, Principal (630) 257-6488; shirleyt@stcyril.org	Polish Club:	John Lichacz, President (773) 216-1108 polishclub@stcyril.org
Religious Education:	Monika Leja, Religious Education Administrator (630) 257-9314; mleja@sscmlemont.org	Minister of Care:	Dave Smietanski (630) 257-2776
Mass Schedule:		Parish Council:	Joe Martello, President
Monday thru Saturday: 7:00 AM		Bulletin:	bulletin@stcyril.org
Saturday: 5:00 PM Sunday Obligation		Helping Hands:	helpinghands@stcyril.org
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)		New Parishioners: 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	
Special Masses:		Baptisms: 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.	
Tuesday PM: devotions at 7 PM, 7:45 PM (Polish)		Marriage: The bride and groom are encouraged to be registered, active, contributing parishioners of SS. Cyril & 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.	
First Friday: 7:00 AM (English), 7:00 PM (Polish)		Social Media: 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.	
First Saturday: devotions at 7 PM (Polish), 9:00 PM (Polish)		Parish Website: www.stcyril.org	
Holy Days of Obligation: As announced		School Website: www.school.stcyril.org	
Sacrament of Reconciliation:		Parish Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/SSCMLemont	
Saturday: 4:00 - 4:30 PM		School Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/SSCMComets	
First Fridays: 6:00 - 7:00 PM			
Also available by appointment.			
Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick:			
Following the Monday morning 7:00 AM Mass			
Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration:			
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			
Parish Office Hours: Each weekday the office will be closed between the hours of 12:30 PM - 1:30 PM.			
Monday, Wednesday & Thursday			
9:00 AM to 3:00 PM			
Tuesday			
9:00 AM to 8:00 PM			
Friday			
9:00 AM to 1:00 PM			
Saturday & Sunday			
Closed			



**From the desk of Father Koys
Dear Parishioners,**

Christmas is above all the feast of the Incarnation. It's a time we are supposed to contemplate the mystery of the infinite, eternal all powerful God,

entering our finite, temporal and broken world. Wow, who can do that? Well, G.K. Chesterton leads us to this truth when he says, "There is no other story, no pagan legend (like Apollo slaying the Cyclopes) or philosophical anecdote (like; if a tree falls in a forest...etc) or historical event (like Washington's victory at Yorktown) that affects any of us with that poignant impression produced on us by the word Bethlehem." He tries to convince us that if we are unaware of the evil powers that are just as much a part of the scene as the manger, the sheep and shepherds, the 3 kings and of course Mary and Joseph, we will miss the point of Christmas and the meaning of Christianity. Unless we see that God came into the world to correct the world, to save all its inhabitants, to do battle against His forever present enemy, we call evil, we miss the point of Christmas.

There is something profound in describing Christ's birth as in a cave. Chesterton likes the image of the cave, not because it is a place of poverty or darkness, but because it is a place of hiding. You see, to consider the coming of God to earth in a cave, it makes the Incarnation something like the French underground during WWII, or the underground railway of our Civil War. Those who are trying to topple an evil regime need to avoid being detected by their adversaries. Jesus was born in a cave to be protected, like Jews had to be hidden in the attics of Catholic homes or the way Washington's soldiers crept up silently before they attacked the Hessians at Valley Forge. We may enjoy the tranquil peace of Bethlehem for a moment, but we miss the power of Christmas if we ignore the fact that

King Herod sent his henchmen to kill the baby. I am sorry for reminding you of this negative fact, on a feast day when you might expect the priest to give you only positive feelings. But it is a very positive thing to see God's entrance into our broken world as a sort of defiant thing as a victorious thing. "Christmas bells have something of the sound of the great guns of a battle that has just been won." Children may smile at the face of the cow breathing on Jesus, but us adults, who understand the good and the bad of this world should feel like shouting hurra, the calvary cometh, the victory is almost here. The powers of darkness are no match for this kid.

This is why considering human history without Christ as history's most pivotal actor is the real tragedy of modernism. This is why Shakespeare had to hide his faith in his "tragedies" because he was not able to include the fullness of truth which is found in Catholicism. Full disclosure, I am one of those people who believe the Bard was a covert Catholic. G.K. goes on to say, "By the very nature of the Bethlehem story the rejoicings in the cavern were rejoicings in a fortress; properly understood it is not unduly flippant to say they were rejoicings in a bunker. It is as if, God Himself, the master of the universe was buried underground because His mission was to "undermine" the ancient world of the pagan gods and the polytheistic intellectuals. Such an insight into Christmas as a world changing event leads me to end with a plea. Resist at all costs the attempts of modern philosophers, to blur this message of Bethlehem by never using the terms B.C. or A.D. Those of us who left college before the year 2,000 remember that those initials mean "before Christ" and "annum Domine". To consider the coming of God into the world simply began a "common era" renders Jesus a common hero. Merry Christmas to all, and to all a good fight.

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



Dear SS. Cyril and Methodius Parishioners,

Merry Christmas!

May this Christmas be a most blessed and joyous one for all, filled with love and warmth, surrounded by family and friends!

Our entire National Blue-Ribbon School Family holds you in prayer and thanks you for your guidance and support. We are blessed to be a part of SS. Cyril and Methodius Parish! As always, thank you for your continued support and commitment to SS. Cyril and Methodius School.

The Students and Staff of SSCM School
Mrs. Shirley Tkachuk
Principal

You may have heard that the Tax Credit Scholarship Program is ending. This program has helped provide students with financial help to allow them to attend our school over the past several years. The Archdiocese of Chicago is working to help sustain some type of scholarship program. If you are interested in more information or donating, please contact the Office of Stewardship and Development at the Archdiocese of Chicago at 312-534-7959. You can designate SS. Cyril and Methodius School to receive your donation!

It is not too early to begin thinking about the 2024-2025 school year. If interested, please call our office at 630-257-6488. We can arrange for a tour or shadow day along with sharing all necessary information. Come visit & see all we have to offer!





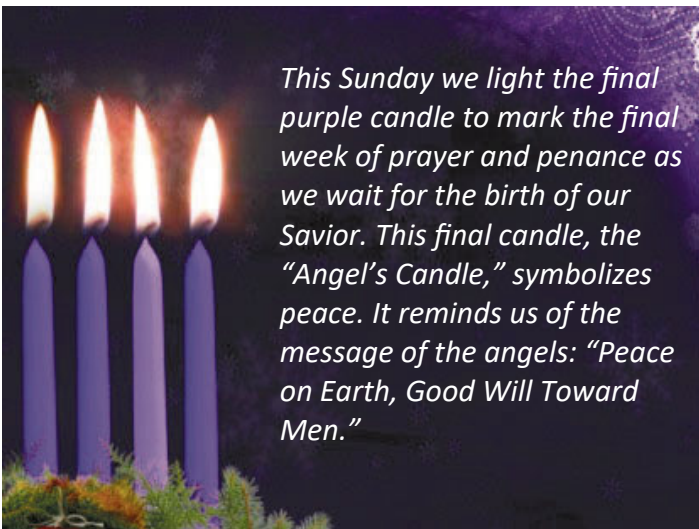
**SS Cyril & Methodius
Religious Education Program**
stcyrilre@sscmlemont.org
 (630)257-9314
www.re.stcyril.org

Mrs Monika Leja – RE Administrator



The Fourth Sunday of Advent

Mother Mary, pray for us, that we might be inspired by the way you received your life and God's. Draw us close to your Son, that we might trust Him with our lives, as He learned to trust His Father by His trust in you. Amen.



This Sunday we light the final purple candle to mark the final week of prayer and penance as we wait for the birth of our Savior. This final candle, the "Angel's Candle," symbolizes peace. It reminds us of the message of the angels: "Peace on Earth, Good Will Toward Men."

The (optional) fifth candle represents light and purity and is called "Christ's candle." It is placed in the middle and is lit on Christmas Day.



Wishing you a season of blessings from heaven above. May your world be filled with warmth and good cheer this Holy season, we wish you a joy-filled Christmas. A silent night, a star above, a blessed gift of hope and love. A Merry Christmas to all of our RE families!

Merry Christmas!



Śnieg okrył ziemię puszystą bielą, wokół się wszyscy ludzie weselą. Spłynęła z niebios dla nas nowina Najświętsza Panna powiła Syna. I my Dzieciątku dziś hołd oddajmy wspólnie Kolędę Mu zaśpiewajmy. Niech śpiew przy żłobku nasze serca jednoczy w tym pięknym czasie wyjątkowej nocy... Z okazji Świąt Bożego



Narodzenia dzieląc się z Wami wigilijnym Opłatkiem pragniemy wszystkim złożyć najserdeczniejsze życzenia. Aby nowonarodzony Chrystus wypełnił nasze serca pokojem oraz wzajemną miłością która wszystko zwycięża.

St. James at Sag Bridge Mission

10600 S. Archer Avenue | Lemont, Illinois 60439-9344 | (Ph) 630.257.7000 |

Email: stjames1833@att.net | Website: www.historicstjames.org



My dear precious Jesus, I did not mean to take your place, I only bring toys and things and you bring love and grace.

People give me lists of wishes and hope that they came true; But you hear prayers of the heart and promise your will to do.

Children try to be good and not to cry when I am coming to town; But you love them unconditionally and that love will abound.

I leave only a bag of toys and temporary joy for a season; But you leave a heart of love, full of purpose and reasons.

I have a lot of believers and what one might call fame; But I never healed the blind or tried to help the lame.

I have rosy cheeks and a voice full of laughter; But no nail-scarred hands or a promise of the hereafter.

You may find several of me in town or at a mall; But there is only one omnipotent you, to answer a sinner's call.

And so, my dear precious Jesus, I kneel here to pray; To worship and adore you on this, your holy birthday.

CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR'S MASS SCHEDULE:

Sunday, December 24:

Christmas Eve Masses

7:00pm (Latin Novus Ordo) & Midnight

Monday, December 25:

Christmas Day Masses

8:15am, 10:00am and 12pm

Sunday December 31:

New Year's Eve Mass

7:00 pm (TLM)

Monday, January 1:

New Year's Day Masses

10am and 12:00pm

**Sunday Mass schedule will be the same
for the December 24 and December 31**

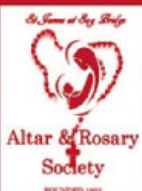
**Sunday mass obligations:
8:15am, 10am, 12noon**

TOGETHER WE STAND FOR THE UNBORN

Roe v Wade was overturned, but the battle for life continues. You can make your voice heard at the Annual March for Life in Washington, DC. Want to join the St James bus? All required registration information is at historicstjames.org.

Winter is here!

Can you help homeless men stay warm this winter? Drop men's coats and blankets (in good condition) in the box in Charlie's Chapel. (Sorry, no women's or children's coats please.)



The ladies of the Altar & Rosary Society wish everyone a very blessed Christmas. May our Savior come to you with the gift of Love, the blessing of Hope and the promise of Peace.

**MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL AND
A JOYOUS NEW YEAR!!**



The rectory office will be closed from Monday December 25 to Monday, January 1, and will reopen on Tuesday, January 2. In case of an emergency, call the rectory. There is an emergency phone number on the greeting that you may call.

For Young Ladies
We will offer a formation-al program to enrich the spiritual lives of St James' young ladies age 7 thru early teens. For more info & to register, visit our website or sign-up in back of Church. First meeting: Jan 8 at 4:30pm



Wednesday, Dec 27
Adoration 5-7pm
Confessions 6-7pm Mass 7pm
No Wine & Wisdom this week.

St Stephen's Day Hike ~ Tues, Dec 26 ~ 9:30am

Get your walking shoes on and work off Christmas dinner with a brisk walk through the woods! We'll gather in the parking lot after 8am Mass or you can meet us in the Saganashkee Slough – Central parking lot off 107th Street at 9:15. Hot cocoa in Sag Hall after.



MASS	ALTAR SERVERS SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31	
8:15am	Joe Beecher, Mark Henze, Christos Latsonas, Matthew Rebello	
10am	Will Pawlisz, Matthew Sullivan, Christopher & Cody Pienkos	



Mass Intentions

Note: Please allow 2 weeks notice to book Mass intentions

MONDAY, DECEMBER 25 — CHRISTMAS DAY

8:15AM ✠John Henze
Health & Healing—Ethan Heatly
10AM: ✠Marianne Koys
12:00PM: ✠Kathleen Wagner

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 26

8:00AM Health & Healing—Ethan Heatly
Health & Salvation of Robert Andrews

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 27

7:00PM ✠Jeanne Christensen
Birthday Blessings—Chris Pienkos
Health & Salvation of Robert Andrews

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 28

8:00AM Blessings for the Guzior Family
Health & Salvation of Robert Andrews
✠Leon & ✠Margaret Dourlet

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 29

6:00PM Special Intention for Gabriela
✠Carol Altieri
Health & Salvation of Robert Andrews

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 30

8:00AM Health & Salvation of Robert Andrews
Blessings-Blessed Family Montessori School
✠Rev. Thomas Commons

Feast of the Holy Family

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31—NEW YEAR'S EVE

8:15AM ✠John Lyon
✠Thomas F. Coughlin
10AM: ✠Joanna Henze
Health & Salvation of Robert Andrews
12:00PM: ✠Leon & ✠Margaret Dourlet
7:00PM **VIGIL MASS—SOLENNITY-MARY, MOTHER OF GOD**
Health & Healing—Jose Velasco

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

THE PARISHIONERS OF ST JAMES



Our weekly *Offertory* collection from December 10, 2023 was \$5,508. Online giving (Give Central) for regular and maintenance collections totalled \$3,053.

Our reporting of the weekly *Offertory* collection from December 17, 2023 will be delayed due to early submission to the bulletin publisher.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!!



Christmas Season Schedule of Services 2023



SS. Cyril & Methodius Parish

Fourth Sunday of Advent Masses December 24th

7:00 AM (English), 8:00 AM (Polish)
9:30 AM (English), 11:00 AM (Polish)

***NO 12:30 PM, 2:00 PM PM, 7:30 PM MASSES**

Christmas Eve, Sunday, December 24th in Church
1:00 PM (English)

3:00 PM Children's Mass (English)
5:00 PM (English)

8:00 PM Children's Mass (Polish)
10:00 PM (Polish)

12:00 Midnight Mass (English)

Christmas Day, Monday, December 25th

7:00 AM (English)
8:00 AM (Polish)
9:30 AM (English)
11:00 AM (Polish)
12:30 PM (English)
2:00 PM (Polish)

New Year's Masses

The Holy Family of Jesus,
Mary & Joseph
Sunday, December 31st

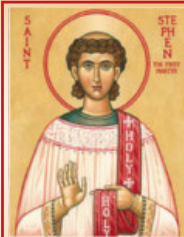
7:00 AM (English)
8:00 AM (Polish)
9:30 AM (English)
11:00 AM (Polish)
12:30 PM (English)
2:00 PM (Polish)

***NO 7:30 PM MASS**

New Year's Day

Monday, January 1st, 2024
Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God
***NOT A HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION**

8:00 AM (Polish)
9:30 AM (English)
11:00 AM (Polish)
12:30 PM (English)



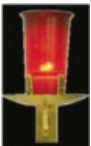
Feast of St. Stephen
Tuesday, December 26th

7:00 AM (English)
11:30 AM (Polish)
7:00 PM (Polish)



Blessed Sacrament Candle Intention
For Week of December 25th Through
December 31st ~Chapel

† IN LOVING MEMORY OF
KENNETH ULANSKI
by Wife & Children



Blessed Sacrament Candle Intention
For Week of December 25th
Through December 31st ~Church

† ZA DUSZĘ Ś.P. ALOJZY WONTORCZYK
by Żona z Dziećmi



Please consider using
GiveCentral for online parish
donations. Sign up at
givecentral.org



Holiday Parish Life
Building Office Closings

Monday, December 25th
Tuesday, December 26th
Monday, January 1st



**ATTENTION ~ Senior
Luncheon Notice**

There will **not** be a
January senior luncheon
due to the fact that the
1st Tuesday of the month
is the day after New Year's and people
will still be very busy and tired!! We will
resume our **next senior luncheon in
February**. Look for more information
soon. Until then, have a wonderful
holiday season and God Bless!



Wedding Banns

Alyssa Rolnik and Paul Szymanski
Antoinette Mock and Matthew Chraca

*On behalf of Father Valdi,
Father Koys and the entire
SS. Cyril & Methodius Parish &
St. James at Sag Bridge Mission
Staff we wish you a...*



Błogosławionych Świąt Bożego Narodzenia

Z okazji Świąt Bożego Narodzenia pragniemy przekazać nasze najserdeczniejsze życzenia dla Parafian Kościoła św. Cyryla i Metodego, członków Klubu Polskiego, i ich Rodzinom. Niech Betlejemka Gwiazda rozświecili Wasze serca Bożą miłością, a Narodzenie Pańskie przyniesie obfitość łaski i spokoju.

Życzy:
Zarząd Klubu Polskiego

Merry Christmas



We send our warmest greetings to everyone at St. Cyril and Methodius Church and the Polish Club, along with your families. May you all feel the love and peace from the Christmas Star and the birth of Jesus this holiday season. Merry Christmas to all.

From: The Polish Club of Lemont





JESZCZE POLSKA NIE ZGINIEŁA

KOŁĘDOWANIE

December 31st, 2023

A group of Christmas carolers from the Polish Club of Lemont will be Christmas caroling outside of St. Cyril church after each Holy Masses. All are welcome!



31 grudnia 2023

GRUPA KOŁEDNICZA KLUBU POLSKIEGO
Zaprasza na tradycyjne Kołędowanie przy Szopce po każdej Mszy św.

Za kołędę dziękujemy, zdrowia, szczęścia wianujemy, byście sobie długo żyli, zdrowi i szczęśliwi byli na ten Nowy Rok!



**Z biurka wikariusza pastora
Drodzy Parafianie,**

Boże Narodzenie to przede wszystkim święto Wcielenia. To szczególny czas, kiedy powinniśmy zastanowić się nad tajemnicą nieskończonego, wiecznego

i wszechmocnego Boga, który przychodzi do naszego niedoskonałego świata. Kto inny jak nie Bóg mógłby to zrobić? G.K. Chesterton prowadzi nas do tej prawdy, mówiąc, że „Nie ma żadnej innej historii, żadnej pogańskiej legendy (jak Apollo zabijający Cyklopów) ani anegdoty filozoficznej (jak drzewo przewracające się w lesie... itp.) ani wydarzenia historycznego (jak zwycięstwo Waszyngtona pod Yorktown), które wpływałoby na nas z tak poruszającym wrażeniem, jak słowo Betlejem”. Próbuje nas przekonać, że jeśli nie zdajemy sobie sprawy ze zła, które jest równie częścią tej sceny co złóbkę, owce i pasterze, Trzej Królowie i oczywiście Maryja i Józef, przegapimy sens Bożego Narodzenia, a co za tym idzie znaczenie chrześcijaństwa. Chyba że uwierzymy, że Bóg przyszedł na świat, aby go naprawić, aby zbawić wszystkich ludzi, aby walczyć z Jego wiecznie obecnym wrogiem jakim jest zło. To wtedy dopiero zrozumiemy głębiej sens Bożego Narodzenia.

Coś głębokiego tkwi w opisie narodzin Chrystusa w stajence. Chestertonowi podoba się obraz stajenki, nie dlatego, że jest miejscem ubóstwa czy ciemności, ale dlatego, że jest miejscem schroniska, ukrycia się. Otóż rozważanie przyjścia Boga na ziemię w stajence sprawia, że Wcielenie staje się czymś w rodzaju francuskiego ruchu oporu podczas II wojny światowej czy tajnej kolei naszej wojny domowej. Ci, którzy starają się obalić złowrogi reżim, muszą unikać pułapek przeciwników. Jezus urodził się w stajence, aby być chronionym, podobnie jak Żydzi musieli być ukrywani na strychach katolickich domów, czy jak żołnierze Waszyngtona cichaczem zbliżali się, zanim zaatakowali Hesjan w Valley Forge. Tradycyjnie, możemy cieszyć się spokojem „Betlejem” tylko przez

chwilę; ale niestety, niezauważona moc Bożego Narodzenia zostanie pominięta gdy zignorujemy fakt, że król Herod wysłał swoich oprawców, aby zabić Dziecię. Przepraszam, że przypominam o tym negatywnym fakcie w dniu święta, kiedy można by się spodziewać, że ksiądz dostarczy tylko pozytywnych uczuć. To bardzo pozytywna rzecz, gdy widzimy wejście Boga do naszego niedoskonałego świata jako coś definitywnego, coś zwycięskiego. "Dzwony bożonarodzeniowe mają coś z dźwięku wielkich dział bitwy, która właśnie została wygrana". Dzieci mogą uśmiechać się do twarzy krowy dmuchającej na Jezusa, ale my dorośli, którzy rozumiemy dobro i zło tego świata, powinniśmy wołać hurra!, idzie kawaleria, zwycięstwo jest tuż za rogiem. Moc ciemności nie jest w stanie stawić czoła temu dzieciątku. Dlatego rozważanie historii ludzkości bez Chrystusa jako najważniejszego aktora historii to prawdziwa tragedia modernizmu. To też Shakespeare musiał ukryć swoją wiarę w swoich "tragediach", ponieważ nie był w stanie uwzględnić pełni prawdy, którą można znaleźć w katolicyzmie. G.K. kontynuuje, mówiąc: "Z samej natury opowieści betlejemskiej radość w stajence była radością w twierdzy; właściwie, nie jest zbyt lekkomyślnie powiedzieć, że była to radość w bunkrze. To tak, jakby sam Bóg, Pan wszechświata, był pochowany pod ziemią, ponieważ Jego misją było „podważenie” starożytnego świata pogańskich bogów i intelektualistów politeistycznych. Taka wizja Bożego Narodzenia jako zdarzenia zmieniającego świat prowadzi mnie do zakończenia z prośbą. Przecistawiając się za wszelką cenę próbom nowoczesnych filozofów, którzy próbują zamazać przesłanie Betlejem, nigdy nie używając terminów p.n.e. lub n.e. Ci z nas, którzy opuścili college przed rokiem 2000, pamiętają, że te inicjały oznaczają "przed Chrystusem" i "annum Domini". Uważanie przyjścia Boga na świat za początek "wspólnej ery" czyni Jezusa zwykłym bohaterem. Wesołych Świąt dla wszystkich, a także wszelkich dobrych zwycięstw.

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

Mass Intentions

Monday — December 25th (The Nativity of the Lord-Christmas)

7:00 AM GOD'S BLESSINGS FOR GUZIOR FAMILY

(English) † JEAN SROKA

Fr. by Daughter Joann

Stawiarski † FRANCISZEK & APOLONIA TEMPLIN
by Family† STANLEY & VICTORIA LAYMAN
by Mark & Rita Gimbel

8:00 AM † JOHN & CHRISTINE BUDZ

(Polish) by Rodzina

Fr. † ALOJZY WONTORCZYK

Stawiarski by Alex i Dominika

† ZBIGNIEW ŁUCARZ

by Siostra z Rodziną

† JÓZEF, HELENA I ANDRZEJ BYRDAK

by Rodzina Mrozek

9:30 AM † DECEASED MEMBERS OF POVALISH

(English) & WOZNIAC FAMILIES

Fr. by Margie Povalish

Stawiarski † SHARON MCCARTY & HARRY KIELMA
by Family

11:00 AM † MARIA I JAN KARKOSZKA I SYN GRZEGORZ

(Polish) by Córka

Fr. † ADAM I ZOFIA GRELE

Stawiarski † ZMARLI RODZICE Z RODZIN CHUDZIK

I WITKOWSKI

by R. G. Witkowski

† MARCIANA BENTLEY

by E. Bentley

12:30 PM † STANLEY & KENNETH KEDZIOR

(English) by Marie

Fr. † ADAM SOCHACKI & JOSEPH SIUCIAK

Stawiarski by Family

† RICHARD & LORA MARTELLO

by Family

2:00 PM O BOŻE BŁ. I OPIEKĘ M.B. DLA JANINY

(Polish) I BOGUMIŁA KOKORZYCKI (60 Rocznicą Ślubu)

Fr. † TADEUSZ I ZBIGNIEW KOWAL

Stawiarski by Rodzina

† KAROL MACHAJ

by Żona z Rodziną

NO 7:30 PM MASS*Tuesday — December 26th (Feast of St. Stephen)**

7:00 AM FOR ALL PARISHIONERS LIVING & DECEASED

† ZDZISŁAW BAGINSKI

by Baginski Family

11:30 AM † EDWARD DZIEDZIC

by Żona Helena Dziedzic

† WŁADYSŁAW KNAGA

by Rodzina

7:00 PM † WŁADYSŁAW ZAPALA I JÓZEF WOZNIAC

by Rodzina

† JAKUB CHLEBEK

by Elizabeth Chlebek

Wednesday — December 27th

7:00 AM † FRAN WOHEAD

by Altar & Rosary Society

Thursday — December 28th

7:00 AM † DANEK KRZYMSKI

by Family

Friday — December 29th

7:00 AM † PAUL D. ROMANOWSKI

by Mom

Saturday — December 30th

7:00 AM † ROBERT J. JELINSKI

by Robert Todd Jelinski

5:00 PM

Fr. Koys

THANKSGIVING FOR ALL BLESSINGS FOR

DANUTA & PETER

THANKSGIVING & GRATITUDE FOR

WONTORCZYK FAMILY

THANKSGIVING & GRATITUDE FOR CISLO &

HENSLEY FAMILIES

by Family

† KENNETH ULANSKI (10 Anniv.)

by Wife & Family

Sunday — December 31st (The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph)

7:00 AM FOR ALL PARISHIONERS LIVING & DECEASED

Fr. Koys

8:00 AM † EDWARD DZIEDZIC

Carmelites by Żona Helena Dziedzic

† MARIA KAJPUST

by Syn z Rodziną

9:30 AM † ADRIAN KLIMCZAK

Fr. Noga by Klimczak Family

11:00 AM Ó BOŻE MIŁOSIERDZIE W INT. BOGU WIADOMEJ

Carmelites by John

† ANDRZEJ ŻELAZNY (3 Rocznicą Śmierci)

by Rodzina Ledwoń

12:30 PM † JOZEF GARB

Fr. Rataj by Wife

† STANLEY SUCHECKI, MARIA & JAN STOCH

by Family

2:00 PM DZIEKCZYNNÓ-BŁAGALNA W INT. RODZINY SKOBEL

Carmelites DZIEKCZYNNNA W INT. DAWCY

by Marcin

† STANISŁAWA I FRANCISZEK PISKOROWSCY

by Wnuczka

† JÓZEF NIEMINSKI (4 Rocznicą Śmierci)

by Rodzina

***NO 7:30 PM MASS**

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

Leon Chmielewski Jr.

Emilia Pilecki

Terri Sowa

Lori Reagan Suski

Anita Anderson

Bob Wheeler

Ria Supan

Karen Singer

Leo Smietanski

Nadia Skrzecz

Elena (Helen) Prew

Dan McNichols

William Casica

Byron Thoren

Matt Przybocki

Don Alleuijka

John Kalata

Jenny Alfano

John Pavlovic

Sally Labno

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 9 & 10, 2023**

Envelopes	513	14,777.00
Children's Envelopes	5	6.00
GiveCentral (12/4-12/10)	148	<u>4,513.00</u>
Total		19,296.00
Immaculate Conception		\$4,160.00

Budgeted: \$14,200.00 / Actual: 19,296.00 / \$5,096

513 envelopes plus 148 GiveCentral Sunday donations represent 31% of 2,100 registered parishioner families.

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

**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

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

Due to an earlier publication deadline, the contribution totals for the weekend of December 16th & 17th are unavailable for this bulletin. They will be in next weekend's bulletin.

Christmas 2023

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

As we celebrate the birth of Jesus, we also celebrate the birth of our hope. When he came among us as one like us in all things but sin, he lifted us up to new and transformed life. In fact, he opened for us the way to share in the very life of God. One of the prayers of the Mass gives us these words: "...may we come to share in the divinity of Christ who humbled himself to share in our humanity."

The struggles that we face in our personal lives and in our wounded world do not have the last word. We are meant for more. We are meant for full and eternal life. I pray that our celebration of the Lord's birth will remind us of the glory that will carry us beyond the challenges, sometimes truly significant challenges that mark our lives and our world.

We must also remember that the Lord did not just come among us once and long ago. He continues to walk with us as we walk with each other. Our celebrations of the Eucharist remind of that. And he will never abandon his people. He is now and always Emmanuel, our God with us. Our journey is his journey. And this year, having celebrated the first of two synods of the Church, we are especially aware that he accompanies us as we accompany one another.

In this holy season, I invite you to pray. Take time, create a quiet space, look on the creche, read the gospels, and allow yourself to know that he is near and that he walks with you. If you do so, I can assure you that you will know his peace. Then, take what you learn from him to your family, to your workplace, to your community, and to entire world. The gift of Jesus, the Incarnate Word of God, is not something we can hold for ourselves. We are called and destined to share it with others.

As I celebrate the Eucharist, I will remember you and pray that you will have a living sense of the Lord among us, the one who walks with us and draws us forward into the fullness of his life.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Blasé Cardinal Cupich

Archbishop of Chicago





The Eucharist is all about God's LOVE for you!

Two thousand years ago, Jesus shielded us with His body. He gave His body, His life, to save us from a terrible disaster – not an earthly disaster, but one whereby sin could have claimed our lives. He gave His body to protect us, and we are able to live on because of His love. On the night before He died, Jesus gave the very same instruction to His apostles. He told them, "Remain in my love." (JN 15:9) In these words, Jesus was preparing His apostles for their First Holy Communion. They were going to receive His Body and Blood. The words that Jesus spoke at the Last Supper were not simply for the apostles: They are for us as well.

Remaining in Christ's love is our vocation.

We are called to live on in the love of Jesus. When Jesus pronounced those words, he hoped that His presence would remain with the apostles as they continued to live as He had taught them. Through their ongoing words and actions, even after His death and rising, the apostles were to re-present and re-enact Christ's love.

How can Jesus be our medicine?

The love of Jesus is a very special kind of love. He loved through His teaching, through His compassion, forgiving sinners, and healing the sick. **In the Eucharist, Jesus gave us the greatest way for His compassion, forgiveness and healing to occur.** He gave us what St. Ignatius of Antioch called, **"The medicine of immortality."** Father John Horn, S.J., echoes the same sentiment about Jesus' healing in these words, **"The key to participating in Christ's deepest healing graces resides in one's willingness and ability to rest safely in prayer contemplating, as a child, God's loving gaze."**

We see a picture of the babe in the manger and yet we are able to understand that this Child is God. Similarly, when we hear the words, "This is My Body, This is My Blood," we move beyond the appearances of bread and wine, and our faith allows us to speak the words of Thomas the Apostle, "My LORD and My God."

May you find peace in God's loving gaze this Christmas Season!

(from *The Medicine of Immortality* by Monsignor Joseph Diermeier, New Hope Publications)



Quality Work – Reasonable Prices

DEMMIS PLUMBING & SEWER

Ask for a
PARISHIONER DISCOUNT

EMERGENCY SERVICE **630.991.3641**

www.demmisplumbing.com

Lic# 055-044826

ACCEPTING NEW PATIENTS

DR. JOHN MASTRUD, D.D.S.

• General & Cosmetic Dentistry • Implants

Parishioner

15947 W. 127th St., Suite H, Lemont 630-257-2133



FREE AD DESIGN

with purchase of this space

CALL 800-950-9952

Zarzycki Manor Chapels, Ltd.

Funeral, Cremation & Memorial Services

Willow Springs

708-839-8999

Also located in Chicago.

Modern Service with Traditional DignitySM Since 1915

Family Owned & Operated

Peaceful, serene setting nestled amongst beautiful forest preserves.

www.ZarzyckiManorChapels.com

ADT-Monitored Home Security

Get 24-Hour Protection From a Name You Can Trust

- Burglary
- Fire Safety
- Flood Detection
- Carbon Monoxide

Authorized Provider | SafeStreets

833-287-3502

B 4C 01-4000



Markiewicz Funeral Home

108 Illinois Street, Lemont, Illinois
630-257-6363
www.markiewiczfh.com

No Job Too Large or Small
JOHN YERKES & SONS, INC.
PLUMBING AND Lic. #10238
SEWERAGE CONTRACTORS
773.776.1300



Auto, Home, Condo, Renters,
Business, Life, and Pet Insurance
Tina Tzinares, Agent
630-789-1866 | www.TinaInsuresMe.com



**VIKING
ROOFING**
LICENSED INSURED 708.425.8786



NICKS BUILDING SUPPLY, INC
Best Solid Wood Doors in Stock (exterior , interior , garage)
We Build Doors to Fit the Opening Size | Made in USA
Call : 219 663 2279 • www.nicksbuilding.com
Only Hour South of Chicago • Mowimy po Polsku



COMPREHENSIVE, QUALITY FOOT CARE
Diana Emini, DPM Michelle Kim, DPM
Podiatric Physicians & Surgeons
630.863.7517 (Derby Plaza)
14236 McCarthy Rd., Lemont
www.dmfootandankle.com



✓ RESIDENTIAL ✓ COMMERCIAL

- Carpets • Upholstery
- Fine Rugs • Tile & Grout
- Green Cleaning
- Pet Odor Removal
- Air Duct & Dryer Vent
- Water Damage Restoration

Certified • Bonded • Insured

DAVID O'ROZCO
Parishioner
Call for a free estimate
(630) 257-2719
www.leoandsons.com



**SUPPORT OUR
ADVERTISERS!**

HYDROFOAM®



Luke Uscinski
630-508-1998

www.gomodernstructures.com



**MARTIN
PTASINSKI**
mówię po polsku
708-467-0000
Attorney
Wills - Trusts - Closings

**Forzley
Eye Clinic**



DR. SAMUEL FORZLEY
Optometrist - Parishioner
1192 Walter Street
(630) 243-2020

POLISH ROMAN CATHOLIC UNION OF AMERICA

Join us today!



**PRCUA 150
years**

Life Insurance, Annuities & Member Benefits
(800) 772-8632 | PRCUA.ORG |

Guess Who's Selling
Medicare Plans?
Czy Wiesz Se Medicare Nie
Pokrywa Wszystkiego W 100%?

**AGATA
CZERWOSZ**



773.600.7474
708.876.8484

By calling the number above, you will reach
a licensed insurance agent. Not affiliated
with or endorsed by the Government or
Federal Medicare Program

9844 S. Roberts Rd., Palos Hills

DR. JULIANNE KOS



Optometrist
Vision Care

15531 127th St., Ste. 102, Lemont
(630) 257-6145
Parishioner



**LEMONT
CRYSTAL
GRAND
BANQUETS**

- All Occasions
- Funeral Luncheons
- Catering

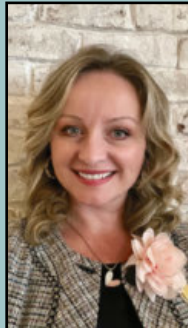
630.257.0200
12416 S. Archer Ave.
CrystalGrandBanquets.com



**FREE
AD DESIGN**

with purchase
of this space

CALL
800-950-9952



- Private & Group Makeup Classes
 - Foundation Shade Matching
 - Age Fighting Skin Care Consultations
 - Gifts for All Occasions
- Call : 847-567-4641

Lemont, IL
Mówię po Polsku

MARY KAY

Joanna Wesoly | Skincare & Makeup Coach

Buying or Selling your Home?

Kupujesz lub sprzedajesz swój dom?



- Designated Managing Broker & Owner of Realty Executives Elite
- Full Time, Honest, and Professional Service
- Competitive Commission Rates
- Professional Photo shoot, Virtual Tour, and Drone Photography



CALL | ZADZWON: Nobody sells more homes
in Lemont than
Realty Executives Elite!

CHRIS BUDZ Mówię po Polsku
Designated Managing Broker/Owner
630.660.9642 33+ Year Lifelong
chrisbudz@realtyexecutives.com Parishioner



REALTY EXECUTIVES ELITE | 15400 127TH ST., LEMONT, IL 60439



773-715-0912

24 HR EMERGENCY SERVICE

Mowimy po Polsku

SALES • INSTALLATION • SERVICE • REPAIR
LICENSED • BONDED • INSURED



For ad info. call 1-800-950-9952 • www.4lpi.com

St. Cyril & Methodius, Chicago, IL

A 4C 01-4000