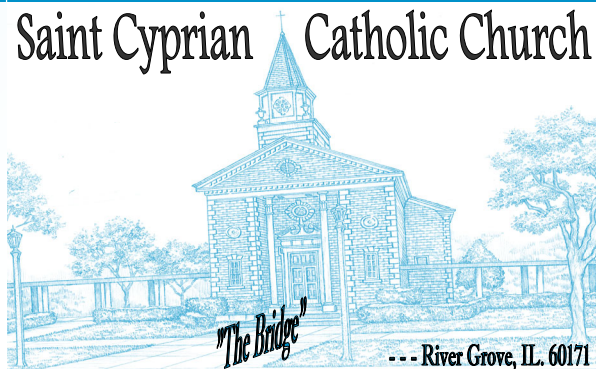


The Nativity of the Lord

Saint Cyprian Catholic Church

Peace

One Community... One Family...
Welcome!
... One World ...



Dec. 24/25, 2011 -- Vol. XIII - Issue 52

--- River Grove, IL. 60171

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Wishing You A Blessed Christmas

When the angel Gabriel came to Mary, the two of them were unnerved! Both were! One spiritual teacher said that Mary saw heaven in Gabriel's face and Gabriel saw earth in Mary's face.

On Christmas day heaven and earth come together! For, having said "Yes" to Gabriel for all of us, Mary gave birth to Jesus, God's ultimate word of love to us.



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STAN GORSKI

As we celebrate this wondrous birth let us resolve to say "yes," along with Mary. To say "yes" year in and year out, in all seasons, on all days, in the ordinary moments and in the special moments of every day. Let Jesus be at home in us as he was in Mary!

To all the parish family of St. Cyprian: a very happy and holy Christmas! May the one who brings us together keep us together!

Fr. Gene

PARISH DIRECTORY

RECTORY:

Office Hours:

MONDAY - FRIDAY
8:30AM - 8:00PM
(closed during Lunch 12PM - 1PM)

SATURDAY
9:00AM - 6:00PM

SUNDAY
8:30AM - NOON

Phone #'s :

(708) 453-4800 / 453-5308
Fax #: (708) 453-6141

EMAIL ADDRESS:

stcyprianchurch@netzero.net

WEB SITE ADDRESS:

www.stcyprian.org

2601 Clinton Street
River Grove, IL. 60171

SCHOOL :

2561 Clinton Street
(708) 453-6300
Fax (708) 453-6141

Extended Day Care:

(708) 533-4401

Religious Education:

2601 Clinton Street
(708) 453-5719

Pastoral Ministries

Rev. Eugene Gratkowski
Pastor

Rev. Thomas M. Powers
Pastor Emeritus

Sr. Kathleen Klingen, O.P.
School Principal

Ms. Mary Morvay
CRE

Mr. James Platt (retired)
Deacon

ST. CYPRIAN MEMORIAL FUND

On the last Sunday of each month; we remember those who have been enrolled in the **St. Cyprian Memorial Fund**.



Please Pray for all those enrolled
in the

St. Cyprian Memorial Fund

In Memoriam

This Memorial will help fund special items to be used during the liturgies. These gifts will be passed on to many future generations following us at St. Cyprian. Enrollment envelopes can be found in the bookrack in church. Cards are available in the rectory to send on to families you'd like to notify about the donation.


MASS INTENTIONS

Each day at every Mass-we pray for the intentions of our loved ones . This is a wonderful way to remember those who have passed away. You can have a mass said for their birthday, as a remembrance of their date of death, or for other occasions in your family. Intentions can be for the living or the deceased, they can be for the anniversaries or special intentions of thanksgiving or for a special need. Our Mass Book for the 2012 year is open and there are plenty of dates available. Mass intentions are \$10. Stop in the Rectory for more information. If you are going to a wake, we have cards that can be taken to the funeral home with the date and time of the Mass you request.



Please join us in Thanking
and Wishing ALL our generous
ADVERTISERS on the back
cover a Very Blessed Holy Day
and a Prosperous New Year!

NEEDED FOR: Parish Ministries, Programs, Utilities, Maintenance, etc.
Weekly Goal is \$ 7,500.00*

| | | |
|---|--|---------------------------------------|
|  <p>© J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.</p> | Collection amount Dec. 17/18 | (unavailable due to early press time) |
| | Children's (included in above) | \$ |
| | Last Year (corresponding date) | \$ |
| | Total year to date amount (deficit) under GOAL | (\$ 77,854.) |



**RING IN the NEW YEAR 2012
at our MAD HATTER PARTY
Saturday evening, Dec. 31st**



Not sure how to celebrate this New Year's Eve???
Join our "Mad Hatter Party" for a GREAT time nearby;
which nearly eliminates the hassle/hazards of the snow, ice, lousy service,
parking and those sometimes rude & rowdy revelers at the stroke of midnight!
We will WELCOME the New Year EARLY!

The fun begins immediately following the 5:00PM Mass.

Tickets on sale at the Rectory and ALL are INVITED!
\$12.00 each/\$30.00 FAMILY (2 Adults and Children 17 and UNDER)

PLEASE NOTE: No Tickets will be SOLD at the DOOR!

We Wish ALL a Safe, Healthy & Prosperous New Year !



COOKIE WALK THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU

It is very hard to find the words to describe "gratefulness".

To all those:

- who feverishly baked huge amounts and varieties of Christmas cookies
- dedicated ladies who came to the Pavilion Saturday preparing cookie trays
- who helped after each Mass to sell the cookies
- kitchen angels who prepared and served a truly delectable breakfast Sunday morning
- who came or stayed to help clean up; and
- who helped check in the cookie walkers!

We truly had fun working with each and every one of you. We are most thankful for all those who attended over the weekend and for helping us make \$1,706. You are all amazing.

Cookie Walk Coordinators
Diane Kmiecik and Bev Tarpey

**Sunday, December 25th
CHRISTMAS DAY
Rectory Office Closed**

**Monday, December 26th
Rectory Office Closed**

**Tuesday, December 27th
7:00 Choir Practice**

**Wednesday, December 28th
7:30 Seeds of Faith**

Thursday, December 29th

Friday, December 30th

**Saturday, December 31st
NEW YEAR'S EVE
5 pm Mass
(followed by)
Mad Hatter's Party
6:00 pm - 8:30 pm**

**Sunday, January 1st
NEW YEAR'S DAY
Masses at 7:30 am,
9:00 am & 11:00 am
Rectory Office Closed**



**If you have recently moved INTO St. Cyprian Parish
and/or would like to register as a parishioner, please notify
the rectory by stopping in or by calling us at: 708-453-4800**

Welcome to Our Parish

SCHOOL NEWS

MERRY CHRISTMAS

On behalf of the Adrian Dominican Sisters I wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy, Holy New Year. You will be remembered in the prayers and masses of the Adrian Sisters during the Christmas season at our Motherhouse in Michigan. It has been a long tradition for us to remember our loved ones and all with whom we minister as we celebrate these Holy Days of Jesus coming into our dark and distressed world. Your concerns are many and I pray that there is comfort in knowing that you are held in prayer by me and my sisters.

GRATITUDE

My sincere gratitude to all who remembered our John Honzl Scholarship this Christmas. The tags on the giving trees included presents for children and monetary gifts to St. Cyprian school. Your goodness will be rewarded in multiple ways. Your generosity in prayer and thanksgiving.

As a reminder, all charitable gifts given to St. Cyprian are tax deductible. If you need to make your gifts before the close of 2011 please remember that we are most in need and more than grateful for your generosity. Make checks payable to St. Cyprian School Scholarship.

ANNUAL COOKIE WALK

The December cookie walk would not have been so successful (\$1706) without your support. The bakers, donations and cooks are to be commended. My sincere thanks to Bev Tarpey and Diane Kmiecik for the organization, decorations and dedication to the event each year. To Ceil Mueller, John Krewer, Joe DeMarco and all those who helped in the kitchen. Your gift for bringing us all together for celebration is amazing!

Many, many, many thanks to the Sisters of St. Francis, Sisters Rita Mae, Joyce, Louise and Mary, for the 100+ dozens of homemade cookies!!! You are so present to the St. Cyprian Community and we are grateful for the countless ways you contribute to us (especially the baking). God Bless You.



St. Cyprian School
A+ in Education

CHRISTMAS BREAK

We look forward to the Christmas break to recall the peace of the season. School will resume on January 3, 2012. Bus service will resume on January 4. January calendars will be sent home on the day we return to school.

SAVE THESE LABELS & BOXTOPS

St. Cyprian School is again participating in the Campbell's labels for education program and Boxtop\$ for Education cash for the school.

ALL Campbell's soups, Franco-American Spaghetti's, Swanson broth and poultry, Pace salsa and Picante sauces, V8 Juice, Pepperidge farm breads, cookies, and goldfish.

ALL General Mills cereals, Betty Crocker products, Old ElPaso, Totino's, Pillsbury, Hamburger Helper, Green Giant frozen products, Fruit Roll-up's, Kleenex Tissues.

PLEASE NOTE: we NEED THE ENTIRE LABEL from Campbell Soup Products. The Box Tops for Education need the **EXPIRATION DATE LEFT ON.**

**MERRY CHRISTMAS
AND
A HAPPY NEW YEAR**

LOVE

**Let those who never loved before,
love now:
Let those who always loved,
love the more.**

--Anonymous

The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

-- John 1:5

**STEWARDSHIP...
IRA Charitable Gifts
are STILL AN OPTION**

(But only until December 31, 2011)

Last year, Congress re-authorized legislation that allows you to make charitable gifts from your IRA accounts during 2011 without incurring income tax on the withdrawal. That provision is set to expire on December 31, 2011 and it might not be renewed.

The IRA Charitable Rollover provides you with an excellent opportunity to make a gift during your lifetime from an asset that would be subject to multiple levels of taxation if it remained in your taxable estate.

To qualify:

You must be age 70 ½ or older at the time of gift.

Transfers must be made directly from a traditional IRA account by your plan provider to the parish. Funds that are withdrawn by you and then contributed do NOT qualify. Gifts from 401k, 403b, SEP and other plans do not qualify.

Your plan administrator may make the check out to the parish and mail the check to you. But you must postmark the check to us by December 31, 2011.

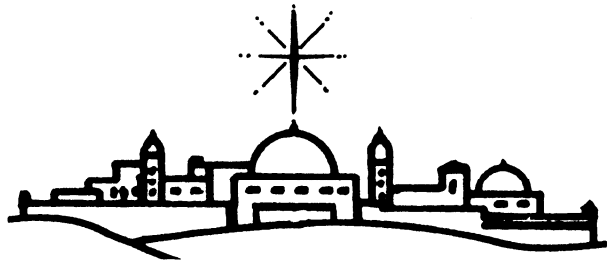
Gifts must be outright. Distributions to donor-advised funds, certain supporting organizations, or life-income arrangements such as charitable remainder trusts and charitable gift annuities are not allowed.

Benefits – Qualified charitable distributions: Can total up to \$100,000;

Are not included in your gross income for federal income tax purposes on your IRS Form 1040 (no charitable deduction is available, however);

Rich Goode, of the Archdiocese, can provide a sample letter of instruction that you can send to your IRA plan provider. For more information, please feel free to call Rich at 312/534-7848.

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MERRY CHRISTMAS

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&

**a Safe and Healthy New Year
to all family & friends away
from home, especially:**

- 2nd Lt. Branden J. Ozga - Fort Lee, VA.
- PFC Michael J. Marisie - Okinawa
- Juliana Ramos and Ricky Ramos
- Sgt. Anthony Dowling (Medic) - Iraq
- LCPL - Kevin Greenwald - Afghanistan
- AS AA Samantha Doran - Persian Gulf
- MA SN Christine Doran - Bahrain
- Spc. Cory Shoemaker - Iraq
- Spc. John Richardson - Iraq
- Sgt. Paul Phillips - Iraq
- Sgt. Stephan Rarick - Iraq
- Larry Kubbins - Army
- David Hughes - USA
- Pfc. Robert Torres - Kuwait
- CWO 4 Hector Gonzalez - Iraq
- Staff Sgt. Jason Williams - USA
- Patrick Marzillo - Marines
- CH(CPT) Lyle Shackelford - Iraq
- Spec. 1st Class - Virgil Domingo
- Col. Kevin J. Mullally - Germany
- Petty Officer - Kevin Johnson - Iraq



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**Please help us keep this list of Active
Military Personnel "up-to-date" by notifying
the rectory (A.S.A.P.) of changes such as;
newly enlisted, discharged, re-deployed.
Our prayers go with them ALL!**



JUST A REMINDER !

Due to the privacy act we no longer are informed of those patients from our parish who are in the hospital. Please - if you or a family member are hospitalized and want to be on our prayer list "CALL" the rectory.

Those who within the last two weeks have been hospitalized and/or have become seriously ill:

**Robert Gesse,
Jack Sochnuk,
Robert Pope**

Those who within the last month need continuing prayers:

**Jim Mellett, Barbara Nevers,
Marilyn Zawne, Anna Lach,
Mary Angelico, Delia Saboya,
William Pyzyna, John Iovinelli,
Babies Lily Anna & Gabriella
Hilgart**

Those who have requested remaining on the prayer list:

(must contact the rectory to request remaining on this list beyond initial full month)

**Marie Lantgen, George Stockwell,
Anthony Saracco, Carolyn Nanni,
Michael DeLuca, Domenic Nanni,
Jim Suerth, Bill Socki, Tom Mayer,
Michael Scarpaci, Jim Hepner,
Ruth Ferrell, Nanette Slovak,
Jovanni Ramos, Brittany Steffens,
Julio Bergollo, Sharon Meyer,
Deacon Jim Platt, Marion Riss,
Bernard Kennedy, Sr.,
John Shannon, Michael Riester,
Daniel Staniec, Sean Sullivan,
Kataryna Lantgen, John Scheleski,
Rita Tudron, Sylvia Lemanski
&
all those in our Armed Forces**

In Sympathy 

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✠ All the Faithful Departed



Teach me your paths, Lord

**Saturday evening MASS at 5:00 PM
Sunday mornings at 7:30, 9:00 & 11:00
Weekday mornings at 8:00 AM
&
Eve of most Holydays at 7:00PM**

SACRAMENTS:

BAPTISM - All arrangements are to be made in advance by calling the rectory at (708) 453-4800. Baptisms are held on the 4th Sunday every month.

RECONCILIATION - Saturday 4:15 to 4:45 PM. Individual appointments can be made by calling the rectory.

MARRIAGE - Preparations should be made 6 months in advance. Call the rectory for additional information.

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK & COMMUNION CALLS - Please call the rectory to have a priest come for the Sacrament of the Sick. Our parish family will be happy to pray for you when you are sick. Please call the rectory to have your loved ones included on our prayer list.

BULLETIN ARTICLES - Must be in the rectory by 8^{AM}, on the Friday, 10 days prior to the Sunday the information is to appear in. Dead - line may be EARLIER if there is a major HOLYDAY and/ or HOLIDAY!!

MISSION STATEMENT
of the
St. CYPRIAN PARISH COMMUNITY

St. Cyprian's is a Catholic community that strives,
in its works and in its worship,
in its witness and welcome to all,
to live the Gospel
in union with one another and with Jesus,
who is the heart of all that matters.



Stop in the rectory to find out how to enroll a loved one and/or commemorate any special family blessing or event.



Saturday, December 24th
4:30 PM

- ✦ Ed Gradassi
- ✦ L.B.
- ✦ Domenic Nanni
- MIDNIGHT MASS**
- ✦ People of St. Cyprian

Sunday, December 25h
7:30AM

- ✦ Bruno Jaroszek
- ✦ Tom Beauvais
- ✦ Charles Miska
- 9:00AM**
- ✦ Stanley & Caroline Augustyn
- ✦ Deceased members of Becker & Micek Families
- ✦ Burnette & Walter DeVriendt
- ✦ Anne Marie & Wally Wilson
- ✦ Marge & Louis Chiappetti
- ✦ Donald Patke
- 11:00AM**
- ✦ Fred Vacca
- ✦ James R. Quartello
- ✦ Sam Savaglio
- ✦ Joseph Compell
- ✦ Sylvia McMillan

Monday, December 26th
8:00AM

- ✦ Lois Finley

Tuesday, December 27th
8:00AM

- ✦ Cecile & Frank Priebe

Wednesday, December 28th
8:00AM

- ✦ Tom Beauvais
- ✦ Dorothy Kane

Thursday, December 29th
8:00 AM

- ✦ Frank Mueller
- ✦ Pietro Fiorentino
- ✦ Charles Miska

Friday, December 30th
8:00 AM

- ✦ Antonietta Tasca
- ✦ Frank Tarczynski

Saturday, December 31st
8:00 AM

- ✦ Tom Beauvais

Saturday, December 31st
5:00 PM

- ✦ Memorial Remembrances
- ✦ Neuenfeld Family
- ✦ Joey Currire

Sunday, January 1st

7:30AM

- ✦ Bruno Jaroszek
- ✦ Stella Wasilewicz
- ✦ Lorri Bilik

9:00AM

- ✦ Al Taraska

11:00AM

- ✦ James R. Quartello
- ✦ Joseph Compell
- ✦ Sylvia McMillan



TODAY'S READINGS

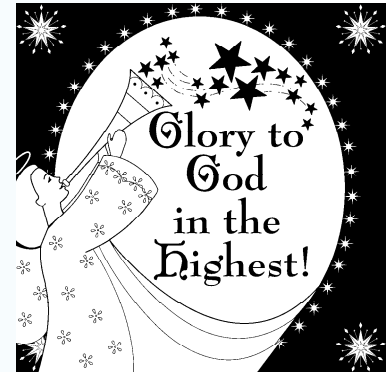
First Reading -- All the ends of the earth will behold the salvation of our God (Isaiah 52:7-10).

Psalm -- All the ends of the earth have seen the saving power of God (Psalm 98).

Second Reading -- God has spoken to us through the Son, the very imprint of God's being (Hebrews 1:1-6).

Gospel -- The Word became flesh; from his fullness we have all received grace (John 1:1-18 [1-5, 9-14]).

The English translation of the Psalm Responses from the Lectionary for Mass (c) 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.



READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Mon: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Mt 10:17-22

Tues: 1 Jn 1:1-4; Jn 20:1a, 2-8

Wed: 1 Jn 1:5 -- 2:2; Mt 2:13-18

Thurs: 1 Jn 2:3-11; Lk 2:22-35

Fri: Sir 3:2-7, 12-14 or Gn 15:1-6; 21:1-3;

Col 3:12-21 [12-17] or Heb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19; Lk 2:22-40 [22, 39-40]

Sat: 1 Jn 2:18-21; Jn 1:1-18

Sun: Nm 6:22-27; Ps 67; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21

| Dec.31 /Jan.1 | Lector | Min. of Bread | Min. of Cup | Server |
|---------------|--------------|----------------|----------------|------------------|
| 5:PM | J. Gurnig | A. Petras | P. Gurnig | J. Rasmussen |
| | Sr. Louise | D. Horist | C. Baloun | J. Gurnig |
| | | C. Rakow | | |
| 7:30 | B. Parylak | J. Burzynski | M. Davis | M. Davis |
| | | C. Hilgart | D. Hudgins | J. Lio |
| 9:00 | M. Chmura | A. Jajko | C. Chmura | S. McNally |
| | J. Iovinelli | J. Jajko | R. Shotsberger | A. Shotsberger |
| | | G. Rizzo | | |
| 11:00 | L. Ozga | M. Casamassimo | A. Cannizzaro | L. Monette |
| | E. Monette | N. Krzys | M. Trujillo | A. Trujillo |
| | | L. Lewis | | Servers weekdays |
| | | | | n/a |