

# Saint Mary Parish

Established 1865 - Evanston, Illinois

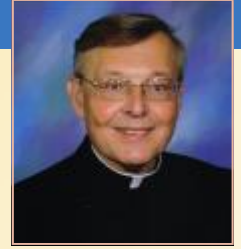
Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time – January 30, 2011

**Blessed are the poor in spirit,  
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.”**  
– Matthew 5:3



January 30 -  
February 6, 2011  
**Pope John XXIII  
School**

**Catholic Schools  
Week Mass**  
Sunday, February 6  
at 11 a.m.  
**Saint Mary Parish**



Dear People of God,

What are we looking for in life? What are we finding? During these cold weeks of winter, it is easy to grow impatient and critical as we anxiously await the arrival of spring. Yet, each day is a profound gift from God and a new beginning (despite the Bears losing to the Packers last Sunday!). Do you find joy in life? Do you bring joy to others? The following beautiful story captures well how the presence of God is made visible through us no matter the time of year. Enjoy the following and pass it on. . . . .

### **Where Is God's Perfection?**

In Brooklyn, New York, Shush is a school that caters to learning disabled children. Some children remain in Shush for their entire school career, while others can be mainstreamed into conventional schools. At a Shush fundraising dinner, the father of a Shush child delivered a speech that would never be forgotten by all who attend.

After extolling the school and its dedicated staff, he cried out, "Where is the perfection in my son Shaya? Everything God does is done with perfection. But my child cannot understand things as other children do. My child cannot remember facts and figures as other children do. Where is God's perfection?"

The audience was shocked by the question, pained by the father's anguish and stilled by the piercing query. "I believe," the father answered, "that when God brings a child like this into the world, the perfection that he seeks is the way people react to this child."

He then told the following story about his son Shaya: One afternoon Shaya and his father walked past a park where some boys Shaya knew were playing baseball. Shaya asked, "Do you think they will let me play?" Shaya's father knew that his son was not at all athletic and that most boys would not want him on their team. But Shaya's father understood that if his son was chosen to play it would give him a comfortable sense of belonging.

Shaya's father approached one of the boys in the field and asked if Shaya could play. The boy looked around for guidance from his teammates.

Getting none, he took matters into his own hands and said, "We are losing by six runs and the game is in the eighth inning. I guess he can be on our team and we'll try to put him up to bat in the ninth inning." Shaya's father was ecstatic as Shaya smiled broadly. Shaya was told to put on a glove and go out to play short center field. In the bottom of the eighth inning, Shaya's team scored a few runs but was still behind by three. In the bottom of the ninth inning, Shaya's team scored again and now with two outs and the bases loaded with the potential winning run on base, Shaya was scheduled to be up.

Would the team actually let Shaya bat at this juncture and give away their chance to win the game? Surprisingly, Shaya was given the bat. Everyone knew that it was all but impossible because Shaya didn't even know how to hold the bat properly, let alone hit with it. However, as Shaya stepped up to the plate, the pitcher moved a few steps to lob the ball in softly so Shaya should at least be able to make contact. The first pitch came in and Shaya swung and missed. One of Shaya's teammates came up to Shaya and together held the bat and faced the pitcher waiting for the next pitch. The pitcher again took a few steps forward to toss the ball softly toward Shaya.

As the pitch came in, Shaya and his teammate swung at the bat and together they hit a slow ground ball to the pitcher. The pitcher picked up the soft grounder and could easily have thrown the ball to the first baseman.

Shaya would have been out and that would have ended the game. Instead, the pitcher took the ball and threw it on a high arc to right field, far beyond reach of the first baseman. Everyone started yelling, "Shaya, run to first. Run to first." Never in his life had Shaya run to first. He scampered down the baseline wide-eyed and startled. By the time he reached first base, the right fielder had the ball. He could have thrown the ball to the second baseman who would tag out Shaya, who was still running.

But the right fielder understood what the pitcher's intentions were, so he threw the ball high and far over the third baseman's head. Everyone yelled, "Run to second, run to second." Shaya ran towards second base as the runners ahead of him deliriously circled the bases towards home.

As Shaya reached second base, the opposing short stop ran to him, turned him in the direction of third base and shouted, "Run to third." As Shaya rounded third, the boys from both teams ran behind him screaming, "Shaya, run home." Shaya ran home, stepped on home plate and all 18 boys lifted him on their shoulders and made him the hero, as he had just hit a "Grand slam" and won the game for his team.

"That day," said the father softly with tears now rolling down his face, "those 18 boys reached their level of God's perfection."

On the journey with you,

*Fr. Greg*

P.S. A reminder that today begins Catholic Schools Week in the Archdiocese of Chicago. We have much to celebrate with our fantastic Pope John XXIII School. I invite all of you to join in our celebration of Catholic Schools Week next Sunday at the 11 a.m. Liturgy. We are proud of our outstanding school and together let's celebrate!

Two new ministries were launched in the last two weeks and both are marvelous successes! Our Newcomers' Dinner in the rectory was filled with much laughter, wonderful discussion and outstanding food. Our newly formed Friday Club for those who are separated, divorced, widowed or never married met and shared their thoughts after viewing the movie, *The End of the Spear*. Thank you to all who helped organize and begin the new ministries. Great sharing and super start!

*Editor's note: to see pictures from the first meeting of the Friday Club and the first Newcomer's Dinner, visit our web site at [www.stmaryparish-evanston.org](http://www.stmaryparish-evanston.org)*



## Saint Mary Parish

[www.stmaryparish-evanston.org](http://www.stmaryparish-evanston.org)

1012 Lake Street  
Evanston, Illinois 60201  
847 864-0333  
847 864-0354 fax

### General email

[stmary1012@stmaryparish-evanston.org](mailto:stmary1012@stmaryparish-evanston.org)

### Bulletin email

[bulletin@stmaryparish-evanston.org](mailto:bulletin@stmaryparish-evanston.org)  
Deadline is Friday at noon ten days before publication date.

### Pastoral Staff

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Linda O'Dwyer

#### Pope John XXIII School Principal,

Rosalie Musiala  
1120 Washington Street  
Evanston, Illinois 60202  
847 475-5678

#### Parish Secretary

Anne Teoli

#### St. Vincent de Paul Society

847 869-6134

## A Discussion of *Verbum Domini*

### Sunday, February 6

after the 8 a.m. Mass

in the Parish Center Dining Room

Speakers: Frank Carlton and Bill Murphy

You are invited to join parishioners Frank Carlton and Bill Murphy, Saint Mary's very own scripture scholar, for a discussion about this seminal document in the life of the Church. Light refreshments will be served. Please don't miss this important opportunity for adult faith formation.



## LITURGICAL MINISTERS for Saturday - Sunday, February 5 and 6

	5 p.m.	8 a.m.	9:30 a.m.	11 a.m.	12:30 p.m. <i>Haitian Mass</i>
<b>Presider</b>	Fr. Tony	Fr. Tony	Fr. Ken	Fr. Greg	Fr. Paul
<b>Homilist</b>	Fr. Tony	Fr. Tony	Fr. Tony	Fr. Greg	Fr. Paul
<b>Greeters</b>					
North East	Lynn Heitsch Laurie Lorenzini	Jerre Michelin Bernice Burton	Agnes Szydlowski Arek Szydlowski	<i>We need more greeters!</i>	
<i>We currently need more greeters. Please prayerfully consider joining this easy but important ministry. Interested? Contact Karie Ferrell at 847 864-0333.</i>					
<b>Altar Servers</b>	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA	
<b>Lectors</b>	David Onofrey Jayne Schaefer	Tom Okawara Ed Zulkey	Cheryl Davis Megan Sorey	Gil Bailey Kathy Benn	
<b>Eucharistic Ministers</b>	Caroline Carlton Sue Kamp Carole Mallers Ann Marie Staff Marion Wingo	Mary Hawley Mary DuCharme Jan Wilson Marie Sagaille Fran Delaney	Melanie O'Callahan Dennis O'Callahan Shelley Benson Jon Benson Phoebe Novak	Tanya Noble Kathy Stohrer A.G. Anglum Nancy Bailey Lea Filipek	
<b>Eucharistic Adoration</b>	Exposition: TBA 2 to 6 p.m. TBA 3 to 4 p.m. TBA		4 to 5 p.m. TBA 5 to 6 p.m. TBA Reposition: TBA		

## SACRAMENTS

**MASS SCHEDULE.** Monday - Saturday: 8 a.m. (Thursday is a Communion Service). Holy Days: 8 a.m. and 7 p.m. Sunday: Saturday vigil - 5 p.m.; Sunday - 8 a.m., 9:30 a.m., 11 a.m.

**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION.** Every Sunday from 2 to 6 p.m. or as announced in the Bulletin.

**REGISTRATION.** Saint Mary's welcomes new parishioners. Please call 847 864-0333 for an appointment with the pastor.

**BAPTISM.** Our parish community is pleased to help your family prepare for your child's baptism. Baptisms are scheduled for the third Sunday of every month at 12:15 p.m., except during Lent. Membership in the parish is a prerequisite. Parents are encouraged to prepare themselves for this Sacrament by attending a preparation meeting, which is held in advance of the Baptism. Please call the parish office for more information and to register for the meeting.

**MARRIAGE.** Arrangements should be made with the parish at least four months prior to the wedding date.

**RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA).** Adults or teenagers interested in becoming a Catholic and receiving the sacraments of initiation (Baptism, Eucharist or Confirmation) should call 847 864-0333, ext. 15.

**MINISTERS OF CARE** - Saint Mary's ministers of care are available to bring Holy Communion to those who are home-bound, in the hospital or in a nursing home. To arrange a visit, call the parish office at 847 864-0333.

**RECONCILIATION** - Saturday from 4 to 4:30 p.m. or by appointment.



## IN THIS TIME

Karie Ferrell, Director  
of Evangelization & Catechesis

*“... a people humble and lowly.”*

*“... those who count for nothing, to reduce to nothing those who are something ...”*

*“... blessed are the poor in spirit, the meek, the persecuted ...”*

Today’s readings can be difficult to hear for those of us who live in a country and community blessed with affluence. It should cause us to pause and consider what these words mean to us — many of us have worked, are working hard, are encouraging our children, to be something and then we hear St. Paul saying that God will choose “those who count for nothing to reduce to nothing those who are something”.

In our culture it is the assumption that it is necessary to “pull ourselves up by our own bootstraps” to work hard, to graduate from college, strive for advanced degrees, work hard to be a “success,” but then Jesus says it is the meek who will inherit the land. All of these readings call us to face life from a new perspective—to orient ourselves to new ways of thinking and of being.

For me these Beatitudes are a huge struggle. Raised in a household where intellect was the most important thing to cultivate and where being in control of one’s emotions and striving for recognition were the watchwords of our family, the idea that we are blessed when we mourn, when we are persecuted and insulted is a tough one to assimilate.

To be a disciple of Jesus Christ is to move against the current of our culture. We need all the help we can get and the Church gives us that — in the rituals we celebrate that help us to see meaning within and beyond the material stuff of the world; in the devotions and practices that provide structure to the rhythms of our lives; through the people to whom we are bound as members of the Body of Christ.

***Consider coming to church this Monday, (January 31 at 7 p.m. in the Gathering Space), for the Information Night for the Lenten Reflection Groups.***

These groups can make a big difference in your life and in the lives of those who gather and in the life of the parish as well.

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## MASS INTENTIONS

### Saturday, January 29

5:00 † Gonzalo Gonzales

### Sunday, January 30

8:00 † Agnes Rubel

9:30 † Brian SanFilippo

11:00 † Charles Staff

### Monday, January 31

8:00 For the intention of Lulu de los Reyes

### Tuesday, February 1

8:00 For the intention of James O’Gara

### Wednesday, February 2

8:00 † Dennis E. O’Dwyer

### Thursday, February 3 (Communion Service)

8:00 † Angie Baim

### Friday, February 4

8:00 † Marguerite Beauvais

### Saturday, February 5

8:00 † Angie Baim

5:00 † Bill King

### Sunday, February 6

8:00 † Josephine Martin

9:30 † Albert and Doris Bova

11:00 † Rita Hogan

*Mass intentions may be reserved at the parish office for a donation of \$10. Dates are available through December 2011.*

## Saints and Special Observances

Sunday Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time;  
Catholic Schools Week

Monday St. John Bosco

Wednesday The Presentation of the Lord;  
Groundhog Day

Thursday St. Blase; St. Ansgar; Blessing of  
Throats; Chinese New Year 4709

Friday First Friday

Saturday St. Agatha; First Saturday

## Readings for the Week

Monday Heb 11:32-40; Mk 5:1-20

Tuesday Heb 12:1-4; Mk 5:21-43

Wednesday Mal 3:1-4; Heb 2:14-18; Lk 2:22-40  
[22-32]

Thursday Heb 12:18-19, 21-24; Mk 6:7-13

Friday Heb 13:1-8; Mk 6:14-29

Saturday Heb 13:15-17, 20-21; Mk 6:30-34

Sunday Is 58:7-10; Ps 112; 1 Cor 2:1-5;  
Mt 5:13-16

## RESPECT LIFE

### Call to Us, We Hurt (Part 1 of 2)

Of all people, post abortive moms and dads know that abortion harms, not helps women or anyone else. They know the lie of “choice”.

Now they need to know that their choice, like all bad choices, is forgivable and that the Good Shepherd, the Prodigal’s Father, the Divine Healer, the Giver of Mercies relentlessly waits for them and will never stop waiting, hoping only to be asked for forgiveness so that with boundless gentleness and generosity he may give it. They need help to hear and believe the call to forgiveness.

They need to know they are not alone in their feelings of isolation, sadness, regret, anger and self-recrimination.

They need to know, in the words of John Paul the Great, that nothing in what they have done has been “definitively lost” and that they can “be able to ask forgiveness from [their] child, who is now living in the Lord”.

They need to know they may even be called to be “among the most eloquent defenders of everyone’s right to life”, *Evangelium Vitae*, ¶99, that is, a modern Peter, who tempted and denied Christ before leading his flock, or another Paul, who persecuted the Church before serving as its Apostle to the Gentiles, or a new Woman at the Well, the adulteress who, after encountering the truth of Christ, became his voice to an entire city (Sychar), or the next Mary Magdalene, the public sinner who, once healed, was chosen to be the first witness to Christ’s Resurrection.

*Hurting from abortion? Project Rachel is there to help. Call the Archdiocese of Chicago’s confidential and compassionate post-abortion reconciliation and healing program anytime at 312 337-1962.*

### Pray for the sick

Please remember in your prayers those who are ill, including: **DeOlive Fisher, Charlotte Humlick, Joaquin Padilla** and **Carrie Swearingen**.

### In sympathy

Please remember in your prayers those who have recently died, including **Mary Wechsler**, daughter of Helen Heyrman and **Deacon Richard Jay** of Saint Athanasius Parish.

## Once last chance for IRA charitable gifts for 2010 tax year

Congress has recently re-authorized legislation that allows you to make charitable gifts from your IRA accounts during 2010 and 2011 without incurring income tax on the withdrawal. The IRA 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. **Because Congress acted so late in 2010 to pass this legislation, you can make a gift from your IRA until January 31, 2011 and still elect for it to count as a gift and as your minimum required distribution for 2010.** Rich Goode of the Archdiocese of Chicago 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. **REMEMBER, 2010 Charitable IRA distributions can be made only until January 31, 2011.**

## 2011 Archdiocesan annual Catholic Appeal begins

Many of you have received a mailing from Cardinal George asking that you make a pledge to the 2011 *Annual Catholic Appeal*. Please respond generously. This year, the theme of the Appeal is "...seek first the kingdom of God..." (Matthew 6:33). Jesus taught that we are not to worry about the things of this world. Rather, we are to seek the kingdom of God and the Father will reward us. God provides all that we have and all that we are. Stewardship, in part, is the recognition of God's gifts and the obligation to return a significant portion of our gifts to assist in his work. Our gifts to our parish, to our Archdiocese and the Church throughout the world are given in gratitude for what God has given us. In 2010, Saint Mary's reached the goal the Archdiocese set for us. Thank you! And once again in 2011, when our parish reaches its goal of \$29,694.36 in paid pledges, 100 percent of the additional funds received will be returned to us for use in right here at Saint Mary's. Please prayerfully consider making a significant pledge to the 2011 Annual Catholic Appeal.

## Saint Mary choirs offer Open Rehearsal Month

Have you thought about joining one of our choirs? What's holding you back? **Commitment?** *Everyone has to miss rehearsals and/or Sundays from time-to-time, and you can join for just a special event (Lent/Easter Season is coming up!).* **Don't know anybody in the choir?** *Both groups are extremely welcoming and fun!* **Can't read music?** *Join the rest of the club in each of the choirs who can't!* **Haven't sung since high school?** *It's like riding a bike - it comes back quickly.* **You're IN high school?** *ALL ages are welcome, from High School to senior center.*

Still not sure? Then please join us for one of our rehearsals during the Open Rehearsal Month in February! Four opportunities to test-drive the Traditional Choir, Thursday, 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. in the Church, and two opportunities for the Contemporary Choir, Wednesdays, February 2 and February 16, 7 to 9 p.m. in the Church. For more specific information, see our website or contact Dianne Fox, Director of Music & Liturgy.

Just curious about what we do, but not interested in joining, come on by! We'd love to show you how we do it!



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be without sponges?"



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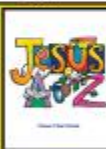
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under an ADVERTISED blanket  
on an ADVERTISED mattress  
and pulls off ADVERTISED pajamas  
bathes in an ADVERTISED shower  
shaves with an ADVERTISED razor  
brushes his teeth  
with ADVERTISED toothpaste  
washes with ADVERTISED soap  
puts on ADVERTISED clothes  
drinks a cup  
of ADVERTISED coffee  
drives to work  
in an ADVERTISED car  
and then  
refuses to ADVERTISE  
believing it doesn't pay.  
Later if business is poor  
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**WHY IS IT?**

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