



The Epiphany of the Lord January 8, 2017

" *The Shrine* "

St. Odilo Parish

National Shrine of the Poor Souls

St. Odilo Church is the only parish in the United States dedicated to the Souls in Purgatory. It was founded and sanctioned as the Shrine of the Poor Souls by His Eminence, George Cardinal Mundelein, in 1928, with a special indulgence of 200 days granted upon each visit to the shrine.

Rectory: 2244 East Avenue, Berwyn, IL 60402 (708) 484-2161
School: 2301 S. Clarence, Berwyn, IL 60402 (708) 484-0755
Convent: 2319 S. Clarence, Berwyn, IL 60402 (708) 680-0909
CCD Office: 2301 S. Clarence, Berwyn, IL 60402 (708) 484-5321
Web Address: www.saintodilo.org Fax: (708) 788-0565

Pastor:

Rev. Anthony Brankin

Associate Pastor:

Rev. Alejandro Marca Mansilla

Priests:

Rev. Msgr. Richard Saudis

Rev. Robert Coleman

Deacon:

Rev. Mr. Alfonso Salgado

School Principal:

Mr. William Donegan

School Secretary:

Mrs. Laura M. Cervantes

CCD Coordinator:

Mrs. Idalia Gonzalez

Music Director:

Mr. Paul Rau

Business Manager:

Mrs. Beth Ritzenhaler

Secretary:

Mrs. Gail Kunce

Marketing/Advancement:

Mrs. Ruby Martinez

Mass Schedule:

Monday thru Friday: 6:30 and 8AM

Saturday: 8:00AM, 4PM

Sunday: 7AM (Sp.), 8:00 (Eng.), 9:30 (Latin) & 11AM (Eng.) & 12:30PM (Sp.)

Holy Days: 6:30PM (Eng.) the previous evening; 6:30, 8:10AM, 12:00 Noon and 6:30PM (Sp.)

Church is open: Weekdays from 6AM - 6PM

Confessions: Saturday 11:15AM - 12Noon & by appointment.

Rectory Office hours: Monday thru Friday: 9AM -9PM

Saturday 9AM-7PM Sunday 9AM-7PM

All Sacraments and ceremonies are available in Italian, Latin, Spanish & of course English.

Baptisms: Every Saturday at 10:30AM & Sunday at 1:30PM. Parents are required to register for baptism with a priest. Parents should be registered parishioners. Please call to make an appointment.

Marriages: Arrangements should be made at least six months in advance with a parish priest. Please call the rectory to make an appointment.

Visits to the Sick: Please inform the rectory for hospital or homebound visits.

Quinceaneras: Cotillion Masses are available for our girls who have been confirmed-please call.

Ramblings - Fr. Brankin

On behalf of all the priests and the sisters at St. Odilo, I offer all our parishioners a very happy, holy and healthy New Year. May Our Blessed Lord care for all our families—in all of their needs.

On New Year's Day—I always give a report on how many people received the various sacraments the previous year here at Saint Odilo. And why? Because sacraments are the most important activities a parish can have.

Sacraments do nothing less than share out the grace of God—so that we can get to heaven. That is the point of it all isn't it?

First we need to ask: who is considered a member of Saint Odilo Parish? Certainly all those who have registered as parishioners—are parishioners.

However—any Catholic who lives in the boundaries of this parish and does not go to another parish—is a parishioner—automatically. I as pastor am responsible for all those Catholics as well. That is about four thousand families!

Well, then, how many come to Mass each week? Who worships at the three English, two Spanish and one Latin Mass? This year we averaged about two thousand, seven hundred people every Sunday. It is a little smaller than last year—but comparable to the year before and way more than even just six years ago

I would say that that is pretty healthy. We are growing and Saint Odilo is only going to get larger and more active. Now most of the life of a parish centers around the sacraments.

Yes we can do a lot of things—We can teach religion. The parish offers counseling and consolation. We care for the sick and the hungry—but our primary task is to dispense the grace of God through the sacraments which He has given us.

Let me give a measure of comparison. In many big and busy parishes the number of baptisms and confirmations, the number of weddings and funerals and first communions, is often the same. About sixty persons receive each sacrament each year. It is very balanced.

Here at St. Odilo we are not typical.

This past year we have performed about two hundred and sixty Baptisms. The vast majority of these Baptisms have been celebrated in the Spanish language—But we also do English Baptisms whenever the families request it and once in a great we even Baptize in the Old Latin rite.

How beautiful that all these baptized children now have the hope of surviving this wicked world and then going to heaven at the end of their lives. Please get your child baptized within a month of their birth. Do not wait for the first birthday. Please do not.

Get those babies started on the Catholic way of life—in a Catholic home that teaches Catholic prayers and Catholic values.

There were about **Three hundred twenty four** young people who received their First Communion at St. Odilo this past year. Most of these First Communicants were children but many of them were young adults who went through our adult catechism sessions. Perhaps sixty were teens or college-age.

Holy Communion, of course, is the very Body and Blood of Christ and it is therefore is the Bread of Angels, the Food of Eternal Life. If we do not eat the flesh of the Son of Man—and drink His blood, we will have no life in us.

That's what Jesus said. And we must obey. May their First communion be the first of a million communions.

Do you realize that we celebrate about **eight hundred and thirty** daily and Sunday Masses here at Saint Odilo? That means we have Mass twice every day and 5 times every weekend.

That is a lot of Masses. Well why not—the Mass is the most powerful prayer we can say!

Confirmation? Last Spring we confirmed two hundred and ninety young men and women at four different Masses.

It is a gift from God the Holy Spirit to help our young people go out into the world as spiritual adults—that they might be able to defend themselves and their Catholicism against the assaults of Satan and his modern world.

Make no mistake about it—Satan is the Prince of this world—and the modern world is his finest creation.

We gave the Last Rites to many, many people. We never count them. We just go. We give them confession and the Oils for the Sick. After that—if they have not been healed—they were ready to die—and God gives them all they need to make their final trip.

Please do not hesitate to call us if someone you love is seriously ill. We will go to the home or hospital. Of course, on occasion we will miss a phone call—but call again. We will do our best to help the sick and dying.

For those who died we celebrated over fifty funeral Masses, and we also celebrated many Memorial Masses.

Why the Mass? Because the Mass is the most powerful prayer we can pray. In the Mass we offer ourselves and Jesus to God the Father for our sins and those of the dead person. If the dead person is in Purgatory—our prayer—our plea is that God will bring them into heaven—sooner. And God does bring them to heaven sooner—because of that prayer—the Mass.

Catholic people should have a funeral Mass. No matter how small the family may be—it is the Catholic person's right and privilege and even duty. No one will ever be refused a funeral for the inability to make an offering—ever!

How about Confession? Well every Saturday—between eleven in the morning and noon—we have four priests hearing confessions for more than an hour. That is the equivalent of one priest hearing confessions for four straight hours.

If Jesus said to the Apostles: “Whose sins you shall forgive, they are forgiven”, we must follow His instructions.

In other words—if you want your sins to be forgiven—absolved—cancelled—erased—then go to Confession.

How beautiful in an era in which people ignore and disdain the sacrament of matrimony—we celebrated twenty-nine weddings here at St. Odilo parish this year. That is good, but we can do more. There are many men and women who are living together and are not married by God.

How desperately they need the grace of God in their lives and in their homes. Do they have any idea how Satan in this modern world is waiting to crush them and their families. If they do not have the grace of the sacrament of Matrimony—how can they be faithful and fruitful and avoid divorce and adultery and abortion and birth control? They cannot!

Therefore—if any of you are a man and woman living together and not married by church—come see Father Alex or me for a wedding. Money will not be an issue. Believe me.

We celebrated **fifty three** Quinceaneras this year. I like celebrating Quinces. I hope and pray that these fifteen year old girls begin to learn how to be good Catholic women. That they learn to be Cristeras and Guadalupanos!

I pray that they will continue to love God and their families and Jesus and the Virgin—that they continue to go to Mass and confession, and listen to what their mothers and grandmothers tell them.

And maybe I feel sometimes like their father or their grandfather—but I pray for these little girls that the young man they choose one day to marry will be a good young Catholic man—whose strength will be the strength of ten because his heart is pure.

Did I forget to mention our school and catechism program? We have about two hundred children in Saint Odilo school and three hundred children in catechism.

Well of course—we are missionaries. This is how we spread the Catholic Faith.

But there are thousands and thousands more young Catholic people in this area—who many have been baptized—but received nothing else. You wouldn't believe how many times I will ask the young men at a Quinceanera practice—"who made their First Communion?" and none of them raises their hand! I tell them—"Well you go home tonight and ask your mother and father why they never took you to make your First Communion".

We know they are all Catholic—even when they say they are Christian. But sadly, these poor young people don't even know their prayers—or who Jesus is—or what all this stuff about heaven is. They are lost. We pray that Our Lord will find them and bring them to Saint Odilo.

Well—this is life in a big Berwyn Parish. We are trying to do our best. Sometimes we make a mistake—sometimes we do things right—But please let us pray for each other that St. Odilo will continue to grow and help God's people get to heaven—because that is the point of it all—this year—every

Happy New Year.

National Migration Week 2017
January 8 – 14

National Migration Week is celebrated annually during the first full week of January. It is a time designated by the U.S. Catholic Bishops to remember the journey of the Holy Family as they had to live in the shadows and cross the border into Egypt to escape death at the hands of King Herod. The Church calls parishes, Catholic schools and religious communities to a heightened awareness of the difficult journey of today's immigrants and to work as a community so migrants can "step out of the darkness". For more information and resources, please visit www.catholicsandimmigrants.org/resources/nmw2017.

MY MOM NEEDS YOUR HELP AND I NEED MY MOM

My name is Colleen, I am 23 years old and I was born with Cerebral Palsy. I am blessed to have my mom and dad because they do everything for me. They are my legs, my feet, my arms, my hands and my voice. I wish I could talk so you could hear me ask for your help.

Recently, my mom received the diagnosis that she is in stage five kidney disease (renal failure). My mom can live a long healthy life if we can find someone who is willing to be a donor.

I know this is a BIG ASK, but would you consider being our donor? I am asking on behalf of my mom-my caregiver, my best friend.

The entire procedure, beginning with an extensive evaluation and concluding with follow up consults and tests, is free to you. The transplant center's first priority is to protect and preserve your health and well-being. Information about the program is on my website helpbarb.com.

Please help me help my mom. Share this appeal with your family and friends, post it on social media and be my voice .
I thank you with all my heart for your help and prayers.

Please help me, help my Mom...

Call my Dad, Bob at (708) 253-7191 or my Aunt Cindy at (312) 402-8525 if you have any questions.



Join us!

MARCH FOR LIFE
CHICAGO

Save the Date!

LOVIN' LIFE IN CHICAGO

ANNUAL MARCH FOR LIFE CHICAGO

JANUARY 15, 2017, 2-4pm

Pre-March Students for Life Conference 1.14.17
Pre-March Rose Dinner 1.14.17
Pre-March Mass & Brunch at Union League Club - Pre-March Youth Rally at St. Ignatius
Pilgrim Masses locations: TBD

Location: Federal Plaza - 50 W. Adams - Chicago

Marching in peace through the streets of Chicago, we are an annual public event composed of people from diverse ethnic, social and religious backgrounds dedicated to defending and protecting all human life. Our goal is to serve as a visual and vocal reminder that the people of Chicago and the Midwest stand for LIFE. We come together to change perceptions in a society that thinks abortion is the answer. We call upon religious, civic and community leaders to renew every effort to build a nation and culture dedicated to protecting life at every stage and eliminating the violence of abortion. Our women, men, children and families deserve better than abortion!

“The fight for the right to life is not the cause of a special few, but the cause of every man, woman and child who cares not only about his or her own family, but the whole family of man.”

—Dr. Mildred Jefferson, Pro-life Activist and Heroine

World Wide Marriage Encounter

“Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.” Offer your spouse the treasures of each other by participating in a World Wide Marriage Encounter weekend on February 17-19, 2017, April 7-9, 2017 or June 9-11, 2017, all at Elk Grove Village, IL. Early registration is highly recommended. For reservations/information, call Jim & Kris at 630-577-0778 or contact us through <http://wwwme-chicagoland.org>.

"Entonces abrieron sus tesoros y le ofrecieron dones de oro, incienso y mirra." Ofrézcanse entre ustedes, los mismos tesoros participando en un fin de semana de Encuentro Matrimonial Mundial. Para más información de los Fines de Semana en español, si vive en los suburbios o pertenece a la Diócesis de Joliet, comuníquese con Javier y Gaby Vargas (630) 621-8984 gabyjaviervgs@gmail.com, en el área de Chicago llamar a Oscar y Luz Delgado (847) 826-9525, odelro@aol.com, para los que vivan en el área del sur de Chicago y el Noroeste de Indiana llamar a Juan y Elia Zambrano (708) 825-4099 eliaz4726@sbcglobal.net. Se recomienda registrarse con anticipación ya que el cupo es limitado.

Epiphany House Blessing

Materials: a piece of chalk and a small container of holy water. Gather with family members, friends, or neighbors at the front door.

Leader: In the (+) name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Custom gives these names to the magi: Caspar, Melchior, and Balthazar.

With chalk, their initials sign this doorway, along with four crosses, and the numerals of the new year:

[20 + C + M + B + 17]

Leader (or other Reader):

A reading from the Second Letter of Peter.

We look forward to the new heavens and the new earth God has promised, a dwelling place of righteousness.

The Word of the Lord

ALL: Thanks be to God!

Each room is sprinkled with holy water.

Living room:

Where two or three are gathered, you are there.

Bless this room, O Lord. ALL: Amen!

Kitchen:

You give us our daily bread.

Bless this room, O Lord. ALL: Amen!

Dining room:

Prepare us for the feast of heaven.

Bless this room, O Lord. ALL: Amen!

Bedrooms:

Stay with us Lord, when night is here.

Bless this room, O Lord. ALL: Amen!

Bathroom:

Keep us pure in your sight.

Bless this room, O Lord. ALL: Amen!

All return to the front door to pray together.

Leader: Let us pray as Jesus taught us:

Our Father ...

The leader sprinkles all present

with holy water and con-

cludes: Bless this household

through all days to come,

Father, Son, and Holy

Spirit, forever and ever.

ALL: Amen!

The Feast of the Epiphany is today Sunday, January 8.



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Catholic Charities Free Newspaper for Seniors

Did you know Catholic Charities has a free newspaper just for senior citizens? Keenager News is published 10 times a year and is delivered to your door. This publication contains news, opinion, human interest, how-to, and travel articles, along with humor, puzzles, and recipes. Our "Readers' Corner" provides a forum for readers' own reminiscences, and poems. To sign up to receive Keenager News, call (312) 655-7425 or email keenager@catholiccharities.net

Creating a Will Workshop

Wednesday, January 18

A properly prepared will is a gift because it makes the distribution of your estate very clear and eliminates difficult decision making. Join the Archdiocese of Chicago and St. Stephen, Deacon & Martyr Parish for Creating a Will Workshop: Wednesday, January 18, 2017, at 7 p.m., at St. Stephen, Deacon & Martyr Parish, 17500 South 84th Avenue in Tinley Park, in the large meeting room.

Hear from estate planning experts on how to establish your legacy. Whether you think you have enough money or assets to need a will or not, you actually do—regardless of your age or stage in life. Creating a will allows you to pass on your values, save yourself and your beneficiaries time and money and have peace of mind.

This is a free event, but registration is required.

Please RSVP to Deacon Joe Stalcup at 708.

342.2400 or e-mail dcnjoe@ststephentinley.com by January 15, 2017

Group Contact Information
Armory of Christ-708-681-6879
Guadalupanos-708-484-2161
Legion of Mary -708-623-9280
Knights of Columbus-708-204-3761
Blue Army of Our Lady of Fatima -708-484-1204
Little Flowers-469-487-9506
or limpauline6@gmail.com
ESL-708-287-7347 Spred-708-287-7347
Ushers-708-788-8136

SICK RELATIVES & FRIENDS

Please remember the sick - Regina Szatkowski, Josephine Sprovieri, Ernest Karamas, Charlie Turek, George Kasper, Alice Kowalski, Henry Kereluk, Sr. Johanna Trisolieri, Ramon Marentes, Richard Wenc, William Stepanek, Karen Lewis, Joseph Kirchoff, our Veterans, Barbara Defina, Ralph Cannataro, Mike Kadrowicz, Eddie Shishkoff, Baby Carmody, Frances Rapacz, Maurice Ford, Milly Kosinar, Shirley Klein, Anita Sanchez, Karen Halter, L. R. Hammond, Patricia Niwa, Barbara Mance, Deborah Ferguson, Francisco Solis, Jeanette Sprovieri, Hubert Ruiz, Mike Reato, Joseph Cannella Jr., Robert Bujnowski, Patricia Dewk, Danny Gale, Joan Brunner, Pat Fitzgerald, Patricia Stalzer, Norma Kmet, Frank Niwa, Tuley Ruzicka, Jim Wisniewski, Narda Zendlock, Donna Oborski, Paul Burke, Elizabeth Andrejek, Ashley Hess, Jean Bonin, Isabelle Rodriguez, Richard Geary, Charlotte Moore, Ted Priban, Adam Mance, Mary Zindrick, George Fuoco, Angie Nutile, Rahman Ayi, Roger Kowalski, Vincent Wallis, Pat Grady, Irene Smith, Lewis Johnson, Lu Pitrak, Peg Kocar, Jerry Novak, Terry Raso, Theresa Cimaglia, Georgina Alejos, Belen Salgado, Enrique Gonzalez, Joanne Carlson.

OUR WEEKLY OFFERING

January 1, 2017 \$ 8,305.48
Last Year \$11,201.76

Thank you!
Fr. Brankin



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SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

MONDAY...

4PM-CCD (SCH)
6:30-CCD (SCH)
6:30-Legion of Mary (PrR)

TUESDAY...

3PM-Jr. High Choir (SCH)
5PM-Folkloric Dance (PH)
7PM-Spanish Lectors (PR)

WEDNESDAY...

3PM-Handbells (CH)
6PM-ESL Beginner (PH)
6:30-Arts & Crafts (SR)
7PM-Spanish Choir (PR)
7:30-ESL Intermediate (PH)
7PM-Adoration Committee (PrR)

THURSDAY...

3PM-Children's Choir (SCH)
6:45-Armory of Christ (CB)
7PM-Knights of Columbus (PH)

FRIDAY...

6PM-Pequeño Rebaño (CB)
7PM-Faith Formation (PR)

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

MONDAY, JANUARY 9-THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

6:30AM-Dorothy Dedowicz (Son)
8:10AM-Matthew Trotta (Al Trotta)

TUESDAY, JANUARY 10-WEEKDAY

6:30AM-Judy Lombardo (Ron & Roberta Lorenz)
8:10AM-Anthony Shatas (Daughter)
-Health of Sr. Johanna (Fiala Family)
-Kathleen Vanecek (Maria Grover Ruch)
-Health of Esperanza Duran (Maria Nelson)

3PM-Divine Mercy

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 11-WEEKDAY

6:30AM-Joseph Jirku (Laurelle Jirku)
8:10AM-Salvatore & Annunziato Miglio (Mario Gaudio)

THURSDAY, JANUARY 12-WEEKDAY

6:30AM-Ursula White (Friend)
8:10AM-John Sullivan (Esther Sullivan)
-Beatriz Rodriguez (Esther Sullivan)
-Frances Tyk (Gilda Cappelletta)

FRIDAY, JANUARY 13-SAINT HILARY, BISHOP AND DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH

6:30AM-Carol Cody Newcomb (St. Sabina 1st Friday Club)
8:10AM-Bultas & Tufo Families (Family)

SATURDAY, JANUARY 14-WEEKDAY

8AM-Linda D'Agostino (Family)
4PM-Marge Shatas (Mike & Carol Klucina)

SUNDAY, JANUARY 15-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

7AM-Margarita Luna (Elodia Medina)
8AM-Keith Stockhausen (Marin Lafin)
9:30AM-Intentions of La Banca Family
(Paul & Cathy Chapello)
11AM-Silvestre & Maxima Pallada (Pallada Family)
12:30PM-Ricardo Covarrubias (Coronado Family)

The Epiphany of the Lord January 8, 2017
They opened their treasures
and offered him gifts
of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.
-- Matthew 2:11b

SCHEDULE FOR NEXT WEEK

January 14 & 15	Eucharistic Minister	Lector	Altar Servers
4PM			A. Espinoza, A. Canaveral Gemma Gleeson, L. Pliego
7AM (Esp.)	M. Marin, R. Marin B. Salgado	C. Diaz	H. Garcia, S. Garcia
8AM			A. Rodriguez A. Rodriguez
9:30AM			W. Estrella, L. Estrella A. Cisneros, P. Cisneros
11AM			V. Hernandez C. Hernandez
12:30PM (Esp.)	E. Coronado, V. Chavez M. Garcia, A. Salgado	B. Herrera E. Garcia	J. Diaz J. Diaz