



Fourth Sunday of Advent December 23, 2018

"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

Priests:

Rev. Msgr. Richard Saudis
 Rev. Robert Coleman

Deacon:

Rev. Mr. Alfonso Salgado

School Principal:

Mr. William Donegan

School Secretary:

Mrs. Monica Delgadillo

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 11AM - 12Noon & by appointment.

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

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

Adoration: Thursday until 6AM - 6PM

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

Advent - Third Sunday

One of the reasons that the 3rd Sunday of Advent is so particularly beautiful—at least for me—is because it is not what we expect and it calls attention to a very important distinction about our lives, the world, and about salvation.

First of all—the four candles of Lent symbolize the period of time that the human race waited until the birth of the Messiah. What was that?

Well first of all Adam and Eve committed the Original Sin—they disobeyed God—and—of course, merited punishment. But the punishment was big.

On their shoulders rested the future of the human race—because they were the parents of the whole human race—and I never tire of saying this is history. Adam and Eve is not a fairy tale as the modernists would have had us believe—they have been embarrassed in the last few years because science itself—from the study of genetics have discovered—what we knew all along—that human beings are actually descended from one pair of parents. We all have in us the same mitochondrial DNA. That means we are literally cousins—whether we are African or European or Asian or Latin American or any combination thereof. We are family—and our first parents Adam and Eve—forfeited for us—Paradise.

In them—because of them—we got kicked out of the Garden of Eden—with them. The punishment for the Original Sin was dire. We would no longer inherit eternal life and happiness here and in heaven—but we would merit a life of pain and suffering here and hell in the next life.

In Adam and Eve—we rejected God. But God would not reject us—and so He promised that He would send one to save us.

And this one would be born of a mother who would crush the head of a snake.

(I don't know if you are aware of this but the Name Guadalupe—is the Spanish corruption of an Aztec name “CUAT-A-LO-PEH” ‘She who kills the snake.’) And next time you look at our statue of the Immaculada—or many statues of that devotion—the one where she stands on a globe—there he is, the snake, Satan, under her crushing foot. Yes, Mary is CUATALOPEH!

Well all of this is to say that the punishment of Adam and Eve was passed on to each of us. The world was now off kilter—nothing would work quite right anymore—including our minds and our souls and our cells. And people would hurt each other and commit sins because of the stain of Adam and Eve. They would now be too cold and too hot—they would be hungry and thirsty and have to search for food and drink or they would die.

They would have to work by the sweat of their brow and suffer injuries and bruises and sickness and all manner of suffering. And then at the end—die.

God decreed that that would be our fate—but he held out to us the hope of being at least saved from the fires of hell—and that would be by the most merciful coming of his Son Jesus—born of the Virgin. That means that at least after a very difficult life—if we are good and do what God asks—at least then we could hope for heaven and happiness.

If you open up the Bible and count the ages of all the major characters—and ages and time spans—you end up with about 4000 years from the time of Adam and Eve—to the birth of Jesus on Christmas Day.

Maybe it was 40,000 years. Makes no difference—each candle over there stands for a 1000 years—before Jesus—and certainly stands for all the time the human race—struggled and waited—waited and struggled for the Savior.

And of course that's the point of the color purple—it was a struggle—a long struggle—full of sorrow—and pain and tears and finally death for everyone. And the color purple reminds us of this struggle and the fact that it is also a moral struggle—a struggle to be virtuous and sorry for sins—that put us in this mess.

But you do notice that one rose-colored candle—as well as the rose-colored vestments? You might notice that the first word of the Entrance Song today is “Rejoice!”

What is that all about? Well the Church is providing us with a brief and beautiful meditation that tells us “Don't worry Christmas is near. You can hang on. He's coming—so take hope. Rejoice!”

But that rose-colored candle is—in its way—like the purple ones—a symbol of our lives

You see four purple candles would be too much; because if those candles reflect our lives, I don't think we could endure four purple ones. We could not survive such a dark life—unyielding and relentless in its seriousness and somberness.

There has to be some hint of joy and happiness—even if it is off in the future. We have to have some hope for better days to come or it all becomes too hopeless.

We need to be reminded that there will come better days. Even if we have to go to heaven for it.

I think of being sick—as a little kid—and I don't know why but children get pretty sick. And I do remember looking out the window in the middle of the night—feeling worse because it was night—and hoping just hoping the dawn would come and the deep purple sky would start to light—I rejoiced to see that horizon lightening up. Oh thank God—it will soon be day!

And that is the meaning of all these Advent candles. They are subtle reflections of our lives. Two purple ones tell the story of our past, the sins, the suffering, the doubt, the blindness, the tears of each of us sick little children.

But then— thank God—there is that rose-colored candle, which— even if only for a moment – breaks the spell. It breaks the grip of the purple and gives us hope that life will not always be like this: all gloom and doom, suffering and sorrow.

That rose-colored candle tells us that there is— somewhere out there— a rosy fingered Dawn being teased out for us in our lives by God Himself.

That rose-colored candle shows us a new kind of light that now shines in our lives: in our hospitals, in our nursing homes—in our hospice centers. That light shines ever so gently over our morgues, cemeteries and even columbaria.

The little light of dawn shines even in our confessional boxes.

We are assured now that even though there will still be suffering and sadness—and sin—there is the sure hope that our tears and pain will not last forever.

Yes, there is one more purple candle to be lit next week; and that purple candle will be lit in our lives as well. We have no idea what that purple will bring. But the purple—thank God is not so dark any longer—not so deep and powerful and overwhelming. And why? Because of the rose-color that makes everything just a little lighter. And actually that's the Promise of Jesus—ever Advent.

OPLATKI

Oplatki is available at the rectory for a \$2.00 donation.

TAX CREDIT SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Last year, the State of Illinois enacted a Tax Credit Scholarship wherein donations to the scholarship program result in a 75% State of Illinois tax credit to the donor and raised over \$40,000,000 statewide to benefit school children to attend private school. This school year, 22 of our St. Odilo School students benefited from this program and received over \$90,000 in funds to attend our school. Our school population had many more students eligible for these scholarships, but demand far exceeded donations. In addition, most donations were made specify a specific school. It is our hope, we will be able to receive more designated scholarship funds for St. Odilo in order to benefit our students and school.

Matching Gift Program

A group of generous donors have agreed to pool their resources and offer a 2-for-1 matching gift program to schools run by the Archdiocese of Chicago. For every dollar designated to a qualifying school through Empower Illinois between December 1, 2018 and February 28, 2019, the school will receive two dollars in matching funds. The donations are capped at \$100,000 per school.

After April 1, 2019, any matching gift program funds that are not awarded at a designated school will be reallocated to low-income students at schools with unmet demand.

Donors who would like to receive the tax credit for their 2018 taxes should begin the process prior to December 14, 2018 to ensure that they have enough time to make their gift by December 31, 2018. For more information please visit www.archchicago.org/tcs or call 312.534.2617.

General Program

There is still time to apply for a 2018 Illinois tax credit and donate to a Scholarship Granting Organization. Visit www.archchicago.org/tcs to learn more, or contact tcs@archchicago.org and 312.534.2617.

You can receive a 75 percent Illinois state income tax credit for donating to needs-based scholarships through the Illinois tax credit scholarship program. Visit www.archchicago.org/tcs to learn more, or contact tcs@archchicago.org and 312.534.2617.

Support low-income students at Archdiocesan schools while receiving a 75 percent state tax credit through the Illinois tax credit scholarship program. Visit www.archchicago.org/tcs to learn more, or contact tcs@archchicago.org and 312.534.2617.

You can provide a Catholic school education to children from low-income families while also receiving a state tax credit yourself. The Invest in Kids Act is different from regular charitable giving St. Odilo or another organization. Visit archchicago.org/tcs to learn why and to access a step-by-step guide to the program.

PROGRAMA DE BECAS DE CRÉDITO TRIBUTARIO

El año pasado, el Estado de Illinois promulgo una Beca de Crédito Tributario en el cual las donaciones al programa de becas dan como resultado un 75% de crédito tributario de Illinois al donante y recaudo más de \$40,000,000 a nivel estatal en beneficio de los niños para asistir a escuelas privadas. Este año escolar, 22 de nuestros alumnos de la escuela San Odilo se beneficiaron de este programa y recibieron más \$90,000 en fondos para asistir a nuestra escuela. Nuestra población escolar tenía muchos más alumnos elegibles para estas becas, pero la demanda supero con creces las donaciones. Además, la mayoría de las donaciones se hicieron para una escuela específica. Es nuestra esperanza, poder recibir más fondos de becas designados para San Odilo con el fin de beneficiar a nuestros alumnos y escuela.



St. Odilo Parish

Christmas Schedule 2018 / Programación de Navidad 2018

Christmas Eve - December 24 / Nochebuena

4pm-Vigil Mass -Christmas Carols begin at 3:30pm with
the St. Odilo Children's Choir.

7pm-Misa de Gallo (Español)

10pm-Latin Mass-(Sermon in English) Christmas Carols begin
at 9:30pm with the St. Odilo Schola Cantorum.

Christmas Day - December 25 / Navidad

7am-Misa (Español)

8am-Mass (English)

9:30am-Mass (Latin & English)

with the St. Odilo Schola Cantorum

11am-Mass (English)

12:30pm-Misa (Español)

New Year's Eve-December 31 / Vispera de Año Nuevo

6:30pm-Mass (English)

New Year's Day - January 1 / Día de Año Nuevo

8am-Mass (English)

9:30am-Mass (Latin)

11am-Misa (Español)



**The Priests and Staff
of
St. Odilo Parish
wish you and your family a
Blessed
and
Happy Christmas!**



Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

The birth of Jesus is framed by two important journeys.

Joseph went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem...with Mary... (Luke 2:4-5)

Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt... (Matthew 2:14)

There is the journey to Bethlehem and the birth of Jesus and the journey of the Holy Family to Egypt as refugees from the violence of King Herod.

These journeys mirror our world and our own lives. Especially in this season, we journey to contemplate the Word made flesh, Emmanuel, God with us at his birth. We are also aware of the perilous journeys of so many who flee violence or who must live surrounded by it. May this season of renewal help us to set our sights on the Lord's promise to bring us safely home as we make our way to him. May that promise renew our joy and our hope.

God bless you and all your loved ones in this holy season.

Estimados Hermanas y Hermanos en Cristo,

El nacimiento de Jesús está enmarcado por dos importantes travesías.

Y también José subió de Galilea, de la ciudad de Nazaret, a Judea, a la ciudad de David que se llama Belén ... con María... (Lucas 2:4-5)

Y él, levantándose, tomó de noche al Niño y a su madre, y se trasladó a Egipto... (Mateo 2:14)

Está la travesía a Belén y el nacimiento de Jesús y la travesía de la Sagrada Familia a Egipto como refugiados de la violencia del Rey Herodes.

Estas travesías reflejan nuestro mundo y nuestras propias vidas. Especialmente en esta temporada, viajamos para contemplar la Palabra hecha carne, Emmanuel, Dios con nosotros en su nacimiento. También estamos conscientes de las peligrosas travesías de tantas personas que huyen de la violencia o que debenvivir rodeadas de ella. Que esta temporada de renovación nos ayude a fijar nuestra vista en la promesa del Señor de llevarnos sanos y salvos a casa mientras nos encaminamos hacia él. Que esa promesa renueve nuestra alegría y nuestra esperanza.

Que Dios los bendiga a ustedes y a todos sus seres queridos en esta temporada santa.

ARCHBISHOP OF CHICAGO

SICK RELATIVES & FRIENDS

Please remember the sick - Regina Szatkowski, Josephine Sprovieri, Ernest Karamas, Charlie Turek, Alice Kowalski, Henry Kereluk, Sr. Johanna Trisolieri, Ramon Marentes, William Stepanek, Karen Lewis, Joseph Kirchoff, our Veterans, Rahman Ayi, George Fuoco, Peter Rybak, Timmy O'Connell, Paula Tammen, Carlos Zorrilla, Jeanette Sprovieri, Linda Lancaster, Theresa Risco, Antoinette Deltorra, Al Trotta, Diana Ferrel, Geraldine Stack, Julie Kopacz, Kathy O'Toole, Maria Pena, Aurora S. De Asis, Bobby Harol, Don Looney, Dolly Kaminski, Patricia Stalzer, Sam Martyn, Leticia Held, Bozenka Karkowski, Max Moreno, Lorraine Pietryga, Donna Kadrowicz, Rudy Rau, Edward Mottier, Barbara Thill, Roger Kowalski, Richard Burns, Richard Kosenesky, Esperanza Rodriguez, Kathy Martinotti, Virginia Shields, Dr. Frank Krumlovsky, Susan Wisniewski, Marion Maldonado.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

WEDNESDAY...

6PM-ESL(PH)
6:30-Legion of Mary (PR)

FRIDAY...

4PM-Folkloric Dancing (CB)

SATURDAY...

4PM-Folkloric Dancing (CB)

REST IN PEACE

Please remember all those God has called to Himself from our parish family: Michael Farkas

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

MONDAY, DECEMBER 24-LATE ADVENT WEEKDAY

6:30AM & 8AM-The People of St. Odilo
4PM, 7PM & 10PM-The People of St. Odilo

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 25-THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

7AM-8AM-9:30AM-11AM-12:30PM
-The People of St. Odilo

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 26-SAINT STEPHEN, THE FIRST MARTYR

6:30AM-Edmund Gorman (Margaret Gorman)
8:10AM-Stephen Kutz (Mary Helen)

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 27-SAINT JOHN, APOSTLE AND EVANGELIST

6:30AM-Cesario Amora (Family)
8:10AM-Irenea Sorio Santos (Santos Family)
-Adolph & Antoinette Mondeika (Family)
-Rose Ouska (Bernadette Ouska)
-Intentions of Sr. Maria Paulina
-Frank, Josephine & Joseph Gaudio (Family)
-Jose B. Santos (Santos Family)

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 28-THE HOLY INNOCENTS, MARTYRS

6:30AM-Marcos Campos Perez (Mom)
8:10AM-Anton & Helen Priban (Ted Priban)

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 29-FIFTH DAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

8AM-Casmire Gurzynski (Family)
12PM-Quinceanera-Julissa Soto
2PM-25th Anniversary-Roberto & Guadalupe Rodriguez
4PM-Virginia Stuck (Margarete Evanoff)

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 30-THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

7AM-Anita Govea & Nicolasa Lopez (Family)
8AM-Adolph & Antoinette Moindeika (Family)
9:30AM-Salvador Abad
11AM-James Brown Family (Nancy Pudil)
12:30PM-Eduardo Sandoval (Araceli Sandoval)

Group Contact Information

Armory of Christ-708-680-6879
Guadalupanos-708-484-2161
Legion of Mary -708-623-9280
Knights of Columbus-708-204-3761
Blue Army of Our Lady of Fatima -708-705-1608
Guitar & Mandolin - Cuerdas Clasicas - 773-387-6744
ESL-708-287-7347 Spred-708-287-7347
Ushers-708-788-8136 Baile Folklorico 708-674-7148

Fourth Sunday

OF ADVENT DECEMBER 23, 2018

*Mary set out and traveled to the hill country
in haste to a town of Judah,
where she entered the house of
Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth.*

Luke 1:39-40

SCHEDULE FOR NEXT WEEK

December 29 & 30	Eucharistic Minister	Lector	Altar Servers
4PM	B. Banda E. Hron	R. Faron	M. Herrera, S. Herrera N. Blitts
7AM (Esp.)	A. Cruz, R. Marrin E. Mendoza	A. Sambolin	A. Brown, A. Raygoza N. Moran
8AM	D. Kaminski	D. Kosenesky	G. Rodriguez, R. Flores, C. Flores, A. Arredondo
9:30AM			D. Soto, R. Mondragon T. Suter
11AM	R. Lorenz, A. Perez T. Zielinski	C. Ocampo	V. Hernandez, C. Hernandez
12:30PM (Esp.)	E. Coronado, M. Salgado, A. Hernandez, M. Reyes	A. Lopez A. Ramirez	A. Salgado, L. Salgado A. Rodriguez, A. Rodriguez