

# ST. BRIDE

THE ROMAN CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

WWW.ST-BRIDE.ORG

Founded 1893

7811 SOUTH COLES AVENUE – CHICAGO, IL 60649

Parish Office: 773-731-8822

Church Hall: 773-734-9125

Fax: 773-721-0673

Email: [stbride@archchicago.org](mailto:stbride@archchicago.org)



**The Nativity of the Lord  
December 25, 2016**

## **Our Parish Staff**

Reverend Robert J. Roll, Pastor

Ms. Laura L. Zbella,

Administrative Manager

Mr. Terry Rose, Youth Minister

Mr. Tommy Slay, Facilities Manager

## **Liturgy Schedule**

**Sunday at 10 AM**

**Monday thru Friday as scheduled**

8 AM in the House Chapel

**The Sacrament of Reconciliation**

Before Mass and anytime by appointment!

**The Sacrament of the Sick**

Please make arrangements with the Parish House to have the Sacraments brought to the sick and homebound.

The Anointing of the Sick should take place early in any illness and as often as necessary.

Please note: Hospitals are not allowed, by law, to contact the parish.

Please have someone contact the Parish House for a hospital visit.

**New Parishioners**

Please consider registering after Mass at the Activity Table in the Church or call the Parish House at your convenience!

**Welcome Visitors to St. Bride**

We are honored to have you with us! Please be sure to sign our guest book.



## MASSES THIS WEEK

Daily Mass is celebrated at 8 AM

In the Parish House Chapel as scheduled

**Christmas – The Nativity of the Lord Jesus Christ:**

*For the People of St. Bride*

Monday: St. Stephen

Tuesday: St. John

Wednesday: The Holy Innocents

Thursday: St. Thomas Becket;

Friday: The Holy Family of Jesus,  
Mary, and Joseph

Saturday: St. Sylvester I

**January 1, 2017 – The Solemnity of**

**Mary the Mother of God**

For the Intention of Carolyn Anzalone

For the Intention of Marge Machay

For the Intention of Joe Golab

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Ps 31:3cd-4,  
6, 8ab, 16bc, 17; Mt 10:17-22

Tuesday: 1 Jn 1:1-4; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12;  
Jn 20:1a, 2-8

Wednesday: 1 Jn 1:5 — 2:2; Ps 124:2-5, 7b-8;  
Mt 2:13-18

Thursday: 1 Jn 2:3-11; Ps 96:1-3, 5b-6;  
Lk 2:36-40

Friday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or Col 3:12-21 [12-  
17]; Ps 128:1-5; Mt 2:13-15, 19-23

Saturday: 1 Jn 2:18-21; Ps 96:1-2, 11-13;  
Jn 1:1-18

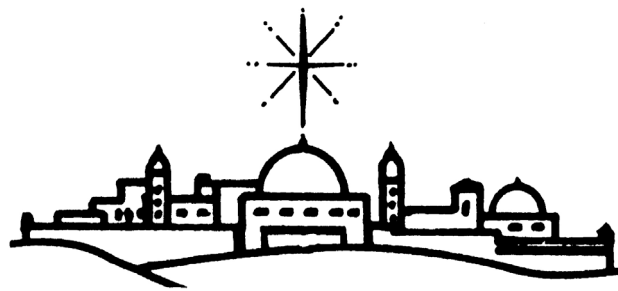
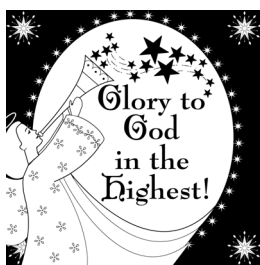
Sunday: Nm 6:22-27; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8;  
Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21

## Mass Intentions Available

If you have a special anniversary or family member or celebration that you want to remember at Mass, now is the time to arrange to reserve that date. Please be sure to include your intention as well as your phone number when submitting the request. The traditional stipend per Mass is ten dollars.

## Come Lord Jesus!

Pray for Peace in the World, our City and  
Our Neighborhood!



# MERRY CHRISTMAS

## Upcoming Dates and Events

2016 - 2017

**December 25<sup>th</sup> - Christmas Morning Mass  
At 10 AM**

## 2017

February 26<sup>th</sup> - Mardi Gras Party

February 28<sup>th</sup> - Annual Revival Night

March 1<sup>st</sup> - Ash Wednesday

March 19<sup>th</sup> - St. Joseph and St. Patrick Dinner

April 9<sup>th</sup> - Palm Sunday - *The start of Holy Week*

April 16<sup>th</sup> - Easter Sunday

May 21<sup>st</sup> - Annual Spring Luncheon

## Electronic Giving for Weekly Offerings

Since we have started *Give Central*, more than \$10,000.00 has been contributed through this electronic means of giving! It is an excellent way of scheduling your offerings to St. Bride, as well as a way of marking special events. Click on the "Donate Now" button on our web site at [www.st-bride.org](http://www.st-bride.org).

## Support Our Food Pantry

The St. Bride Food Pantry is open. We will welcome your donations of *NON-PERISHABLE* food items to stock our shelves and prepare bags for those who utilize our outreach program when you bring them to Church each week, September to June! Food can be brought on Sundays to the Church! Gift cards for groceries are also welcome!

**LOVE** - Let those who never loved before,  
love now: Let those who always loved,  
love the more. —Anonymous

## LEARNED AT HOME

The mind of Christ is to be learned in the family.  
Strength of character may be acquired at work, but  
beauty of character is learned at home.

—Henry Drummond

## THE GIFT OF GOD'S WORD

On this day of gifts and gift-giving, it seems appropriate that we take a moment to reflect on the great gift of God's Word. Because it is creative, God's Word always points to its author, always calls us to respond. Because it is powerful, God's Word can link the sublime with the ridiculous, the transcendent with the immanent, the divine with the human. Because it is graceful, God's Word establishes a relationship of deep intimacy between us and God.

At the heart of God's Word lies a tantalizing tension between the mysterious and the mundane. In our liturgical celebration, this unresolved tension both reveals the meaning of life for us and calls us to respond, to act upon that meaning.

Once accepted and opened, the gift of God's Word is a gift that keeps on giving and keeps on calling us to give in return. It dares us to be like the gift-giver and to become gifts for others, not only at Christmas, but at every moment of life.

## TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

An old joke asks, "What time is Midnight Mass?" The answer is not really obvious, since Christmas is unique in having several distinct celebrations. The readings and prayers vary greatly from hour to hour. The Vigil Mass hinges on the family heritage of Jesus and his origins. The concept of "midnight" predates clock time, and really has to do with a celebration in the hours of darkness. Years ago, it was not possible to receive Communion without fasting for a full day, so the late hour of this Mass made it possible for the people to receive. The first Mass after sunrise, the Mass at Dawn, was once known as "The Shepherds' Mass," and later Masses set aside stories of Jesus' birth to focus on the key to the day's celebration: John the Evangelist's majestic theology of Christ's identity as the Word made flesh, dwelling among us. One feast, four separate Masses. Only monasteries manage the whole round. Parishioners typically take just one entry point into the mystery. Yet there is much to savor and celebrate in the coming of Christ into the world. Christmas is not a day, but a season. You still have two weeks to send those Christmas cards before you're officially late!

### Christmas Meal Prayers

*These meal prayers, should be used throughout the Christmas season. When the family gathers for meals on Christmas Day and throughout Christmastide, it is a natural time to reecho the great fact: "This day Christ is born!" Many families find that special meal prayers which repeat the beautiful texts from the Christmas Masses and Office are a great help in keeping the Christmas theme in mind and in meditating on its meaning.*

#### Prayer: Before Breakfast

Leader: The Word was made flesh, alleluia, alleluia!

All: And dwelt among us, alleluia, alleluia!

Leader: Let the heavens rejoice and the earth be glad,

All: Before the face of the Lord, for He comes.

Leader: Bless us, O Lord, and these Thy gifts, which we are about to receive from Thy bounty.

Through Christ our Lord. All: Amen.

#### Before Dinner

Leader: All the ends of the earth have seen, alleluia!

All: The Salvation of our God, alleluia!

Leader: Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.

All: The Lord is God and He has shone upon us.

Leader: Lord, have mercy on us.

All: Christ, have mercy on us. Lord, have mercy on us.

Leader: Our Father....as it is in heaven.

All: Give us this day....Amen.

Leader: Bless us, O Lord, and these Thy gifts, which we are about to receive from Thy bounty. Through Christ our Lord. All: Amen.

