

CHRISTMAS GIFT FOR THE ALTAR

Dear Friends,

In years past, Canon Hoogerwerf (who sends his greetings to you all!) established the praiseworthy annual custom of offering a liturgical gift to the altar. Past gifts include new reliquaries, purchase vestments, a silver monstrance, and last year an ornate altar cross and crucifix.

This year, with celebrating our first Christmas here at the Shrine in Merrillville, we need to continue to furnish our sacristy with the necessary items for the celebration of a worthy liturgy and so we have ordered a beautiful set of solemn Marian vestments to be used on feasts of Our Lady. The fabric used for the vestments is made in imitation of the gown of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Empress of the Americas.

In these difficult times, let us not forget about our Divine Savior and all that He has given for us. Remember the words of the Infant Jesus: "The more you honor me, the more I will bless you." Please make your offering using the envelopes available at the back of the Church.

May Our Lord bless you for your generosity,
Canon Luke Zignego



SAINT JOSEPH ORATORY

INSTITUTE OF CHRIST THE KING SOVEREIGN PRIEST

Mailing Address: 6415 South Woodlawn Avenue Chicago, IL 60637

773-363-7821

Rev. Canon Luke V. Zignego, Chaplain
canon.zignego@institute-christ-king.org

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Due to the Salvatorian Fathers Mass schedule, there will not be a midnight Mass. Thank you for your understanding.

**Faithful must attend Masses BOTH
Sunday, Dec 24th and Monday, Dec 25th**

Sunday, December 24th: Christmas Eve. 8am Mass

Monday, December 25th: Christmas Day. 8am Mass

2024 CALENDARS

2024 Liturgical Calendars available for a free will donation.

All proceeds support St. Joseph Oratory.

Sunday, December 17th, 2023

Third Sunday of Advent - *Gaudete*

Introit

Rejoice in the Lord always: again I say, rejoice. Let your moderation be known to all men: for the Lord is near. Have no anxiety, but in everything, by prayer let your petitions be made known to God. Thou hast favored, O Lord, Thy land; Thou hast restored the well-being of Jacob.

Glory be to the Father . . .

Rejoice in the Lord always . . .

Collect

Lend Thy ear to our prayers, O Lord, we beseech Thee; and brighten the darkness of our minds by the grace of Thy coming.

Through our Lord . . .

Epistle

Philippians 4:4-7

Brethren: Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice. Let your moderation be known to all men. The Lord is near. Have no anxiety, but in every prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your petitions be made known to God. And may the peace of God which surpasses all understanding guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus, our Lord.

Gradual & Alleluia

From Thy throne, O Lord, upon the Cherubim, rouse Thy power, and come. O Shepherd of Israel, hearken, O Guide of the flock of Joseph! Alleluia, alleluia. Rouse, O Lord, Thy power, and come to save us. Alleluia.

Gospel

John 1:19-28

At that time, the Jews sent to John from Jerusalem priests and Levites to ask him, Who are you? And he acknowledged and did not deny; and he acknowledged, I am not the Christ. And they asked him, What then? Are you Elias? And he said, I am not. Are you the Prophet? And he answered, No. They therefore said to him, Who are you? that we may give an answer to those who sent us. What have you to say of yourself? He said, I am the voice of one crying in the desert, 'Make straight the way of the Lord,' as said Isaias the prophet. And they who had been sent were from among the Pharisees. And they asked him, and said to him, Why, then, do you baptize, if you are not the Christ, nor Elias, nor the Prophet? John said to them in answer, I baptize with water; but in the midst of you there has stood One Whom you do not know. He it is Who is to come after me, Who has been set above me, the strap of Whose sandal I am not worthy to loose. These things took place at Bethany, beyond the Jordan, where John was baptizing.

Offertory

Thou hast favored, O Lord, Thy land; Thou hast restored the well-being of Jacob. Thou hast forgiven the guilt of Thy people.

Secret

We beseech Thee, O Lord, that the gift we dedicate to Thee, may be sacrificed continually, so that the sacramental rite Thou hast ordained may be fully observed, and the work of Thy salvation may be wonderfully effective within us. Through our Lord . . .

Communion

Say to those who are frightened: Be strong, fear not! Here is our God, He comes to save us.

Postcommunion

We entreat Thee, merciful Lord, that these divine helps may cleanse us from our sins and prepare us for the coming festal season. Through our Lord . . .

BURSAR'S BOX

Sunday, December 3rd: \$ 4, 667.00

Friday, December 8th: \$ 1, 492.00

Sunday, December 10th: \$ 4, 144.00

Total for the Month: \$ 10, 303.00

Please make checks payable to "Institute of Christ the King" with *Oratory on the memo line*. All checks made out to "Our Lady of Częstochowa" are given to the Salvatorian Fathers. By order of the bishop, \$1000/week is given in rent to the Salvatorian Fathers.

Thank you for your generosity!



WISDOM FROM ST. FRANCIS DE SALES

"If done lovingly, there is no danger in complaining, nor in begging cure of your illness; only do this with love."

JOIN OUR FLOCKNOTE

Dear Faithful of St. Joseph Oratory,

In order to better our communication with you concerning the life of St. Joseph Oratory, we are launching our local Flocknote. What is Flocknote? Flocknote is a church communication management tool that helps us manage our church member database and communicate with all of you by means of email and text message. We will continue to provide info in the bulletin, but Flocknote allows us to send reminders and more detailed descriptions of upcoming Masses and events. We will keep our communication to only what is necessary, so don't be afraid of being spammed! I encourage you all to sign up for this so that you will never miss an update about our Oratory life! Flocknote is voluntary and you will not be added automatically.

If you'd like to sign up, text SJOM to 84576 from your cell phone and follow the instructions. If you don't have text messaging, you can sign up from your computer by visiting this website:

<https://stjosephoratorymerrill.flocknote.com/StJosephOratoryP>

Please contact Mrs. Neupauer at rneupauer@institute-christ-king.org or 773-363-7821 x 2 should you have any questions or need further assistance.

To ensure receipt of messages please add flocknote to your contact list, preventing messages from spam and trash files.