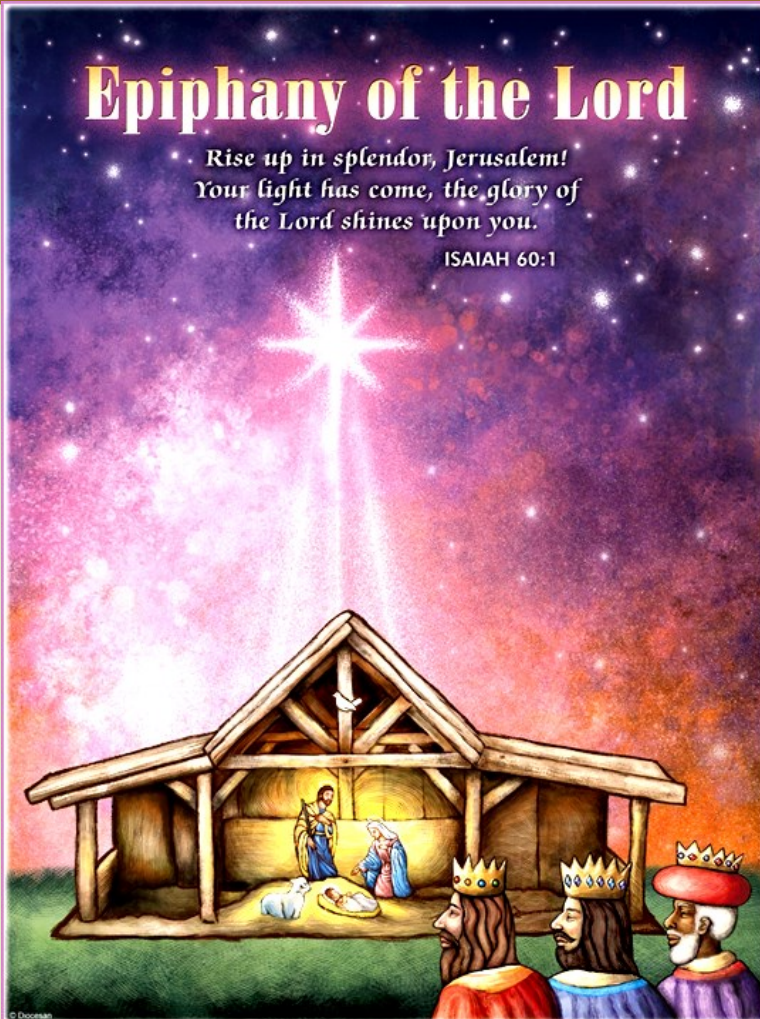


MISSION STATEMENT

We The people of the Whiting/Robertsdale Cluster, are a Catholic Faith Community, ethnically rich, culturally diverse, and one in Faith. Inspired by the unity of the Holy Trinity, we endeavor to share our Faith as disciples of Jesus.



Mass Schedules:

St. Adalbert:

Saturday: 4:30 p.m.

Anticipated Mass

Confessions Saturday:

3:30 — 4:00 p.m.

St. John the Baptist

Sunday: 8:00 & 10:30 a.m.

Monday—Friday: 7:00 a.m.

Confessions: Weekdays:

Following the 7:00 a.m. Mass

Confessions

The Thursday before 1st. Friday of each Month

SJB 4:00 — 4:30 p.m.

Sacraments: Please Call St. John Church Office

**Whiting /Robertsdale
Faith Community**

St. John the Baptist

&

St. Adalbert

January 05, 2020

~ A GLORIOUS REVELATION ~

Jesus was born within a Jewish community, who knew of a promised messiah, but who failed to recognize him when he came. Today's gospel presents some contrasts worth considering. The Gospel begins with reference to two kings: King Herod a tyrannical ruler, obsessed with power and wealth; the infant king, tiny in size with no display of wealth or power. Jesus, the new born king, is not found in a palace but in a humble home in Bethlehem.

Matthew further contrasts the gentile Magi with the Jewish chief priests and scribes. The Magi rely on their study of heavenly signs to discover meaning for the earth, conversely, the Jewish scholars rely on their scriptures. Sadly they do not understand the scripture's meaning for the present, nor do they make a journey to search for the child. They are set in their ways and unlike the Magi are not searching for anything new.

Today's feast is good news for us gentiles to whom the Messiah has been revealed.

- * Where do I find myself in the Gospel story?
- * Will I look with "fresh eyes" and recognize the glory of God in my midst?
- * Will I try to appreciate how the seemingly foolish Wisdom of God brings truth to our vain, selfish and comfort obsessed world?

**May 2020 give each of us improved
2020 vision to see the things
of God as they really are.**



ENCOURAGEMENT from Our Holy Father

If someone in your family has offended you, go out of your way to seek reconciliation. Ask to take him/her out for coffee or a meal. Reestablish common ground and friendship.

As Pope Francis says,

"Dialogue helps people to overcome misunderstandings. There is great need for dialogue in our families, and how much more easily issues would be resolved, if we learned to listen to each other!"

(from Pope Francis: **WISDOM ON LOVE,**
Practical Advice for Families)

Saint John the Baptist Church ~ 1849 Lincoln Ave.**MAIN RECTORY NUMBER.....(219) 659-0023****RECTORY FAX NUMBER.....(219) 473-7551****E-Mail: Churchparishoffice@yahoo.com****Website: www.mysjb.org****Secretary, Becky Flores..... General Information
bflores@stjohnbap.org**

PASTOR.....Rev. Mark Peres, C.P.P.S. Ext. 116
DEACONS.....Leo Barron & Joseph Manchak
HISPANIC MINISTRY/BULLETIN.....Nora Perez Ext. 105
FAITH FORMATION/YOUTH MINISTRY.....Jamie Sandona Ext. 106
ADULT FAITH ENRICHMENT.....Margaret Saliga (219) 659-4138
MARRIAGE PREPARATION.....(219) 659-0023

ST. JOHN SCHOOL ~ Main Number..... (219) 659-3042
Principal.....Jessica Gonzalez Ext. 304
School Secretary , Jeanine JonesGeneral Information
Banquet and Hall Rental.....Cathy Bryan 659-3041
ST. VINCENT DE PAUL.....(219) 659-1073

BULLETIN ARTICLES: nperez@stjohnbap.org**COMMUNITY CALENDAR**

Mon., Jan 6: 3:05 p.m. SJB ~ Bricks 4 Kidz/Cafeteria
Tues., Jan 7: 9-3:00 p.m. SENIOR CENTER
 6:00 p.m. SJB ~ FESTIVAL MEETING/Cafeteria
Wed., Jan. 8: 10:00 a.m. SJB ~ FCSLA/Founders Rm.
 11:00 a.m. LUNCH WITH FRIENDS
Thurs., Jan. 9: 9-3:00 p.m. ~ SENIOR CENTER
 6:30 p.m. SJB ~ PASTORAL COUNCIL/Founders Rm.
 6:30 p.m. SJB ~ Choir Practice
Sat., Jan. 11: 3:30 p.m. ST. AL'S ~ CONFESSIONS
Sun., Jan. 12: 9:00 a.m. SJB ~ FAITH FORMATION CLASSES

**ROSARY SOCIETY NEWS**

"Thank you" Carol and Marian Vargo and Group 4 for hosting a delicious and most enjoyable Dec. 8th Christmas luncheon.

+++++

The bi-annual **Rosary Board Meeting**
is Monday, Jan. 13,
9:30 a.m. , Founders Room.

The Rosary Society **monthly meeting is**
Thurs., Jan. 16., 1:00 p.m.,
Founders Room. Please mark your
calendars and plan to attend.

**INSPIRATION from
St. M. Teresa of Calcutta**

*"Live simply so others may simply live...
 spread love everywhere you go.
 Let us make this year a year of peace;
 we will try to talk with God and then listen;
 from the silence of our hearts, we can
 preach the peace of Christ as he did,
 by going about doing good to others."*

(from **Do something Beautiful for God,**
The Essential Teachings of Mother Teresa)

WORSHIP AND SPIRITUALITY**IN LOVING MEMORY****January 6: Monday ~ St. Andre Bessette, Religious**

7:00 a.m. † Ksiazek & Sinal Living & Deceased Families by Joette Butkus

January 7: Tuesday ~ St. Raymond of Peñafort, Priest

7:00 a.m. † Margaret Abildua by Robert & Kathy Krygier

January 8: Wednesday ~ Christmas Weekday

9:00 a.m. † Genie Wojdyla by Betty Skvarek & Family

January 9: Thursday ~ Christmas Weekday

7:00 a.m. † Irene & George Baran

8:30 a.m. Paul & Ann Kozak by Jim & Debbie Kozak

January 10: Friday ~ Christmas Weekday

7:00 a.m. † Paul P. Hric by Family

January 11: Saturday ~ Christmas Weekday**(SA) 4:30 p.m. † For All Living & Deceased Police Officers****January 12: BAPTISM OF THE LORD**

8:00 a.m. † W/R Catholic Community

10:30 a.m. † Anne Marie Gyre by St. John's Adult Choir

**The collection for Sunday, Dec. 29th, &
 Jan. 5th, will be published
 on Sunday, Jan. 12th.**

CATHOLIC SERVICES APPEAL CAMPAIGN FOR 2019

	GOAL	PLEDGES	PAID	Balance Due
SA	\$ 8,183.00	\$ 3,245.00	\$3,245.00	\$4,938.00
SJB	\$ 60,573.00	\$53,411.00	\$51,261.00	\$7,162.00



Shop at Strack & Van Til
Send your store receipts to SJB!

By submitting your Strack's receipts, you can help our students to earn valuable educational materials& equipment. It's easy. Submit your receipts at the rectory drop box or in the weekly collection soon. (ends March 2020).

MAY THE GLORY OF THE LORD FILL YOUR HOME AND HEART
 WITH ETERNAL PEACE AND JOY!

HAVE A BLESSED **Epiphany!**



W/R CATHOLIC COMMUNITY**HOUSE BLESSING 2020**

This year the **feast of the Epiphany** is celebrated on **Sunday, January 5th**. Blessing kits (which include the blessing prayer, holy water, and chalk) are **available at the baptismal font at St. John and St. Adalbert churches**. They may be used when blessing your home. We hope that our Catholic Community will carry on this custom of house blessing in the New Year. In doing so we continue the ancient custom inspired by the visit of the Magi (the Three Kings) **May our homes be places of welcome for all who enter them, and may the peace of Christ be shared by all, who dwell therein.**

RESPECT LIFE ~ Save the Date
March for Life Chicago
Saturday, January 11, 2020

The March for Life Chicago will take place on **Saturday, January 11, 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. at Daley Plaza, 50 W. Washington Street**. Rally starts at 1:00 p.m. March to follow. The Chicago March for Life began so that those who could not travel to the national March in Washington, D.C. could participate locally. For more information, go to <http://www.marchforlife-chicago.org/>

RESPECT FOR LIFE

**ANNUAL RESPECT LIFE PRAYER SERVICE**

The Whiting/Robertsdale Faith Enrichment Committee invites you and your family and friends to participate in the **2020 Respect Life Prayer Service** on **Sunday, January 19, 2:00 p.m. at St. Adalbert Church, 121st St & Indianapolis Blvd**. Together we will reflect upon God's tremendous gift of LIFE, shared by the unborn, the aged, our youth, our families, those who struggle with various addictions, and those who are incarcerated.

While challenging circumstances often cause people to stumble on life's journey, our merciful God understands and reaches out to us in a variety of ways, helping us to survive and thrive. It is hoped that our shared prayer time will benefit the many whose lives are hurting. The 60 minute service is comprised of Sacred Scripture passages, prayerful music and time for reflection. It is hoped that you will note the date and make plans to attend.

BLESSING OF THE WATER

TODAY Sunday, January 5 at 3 p.m., the Byzantine Catholic presence of Chicagoland will gather with the Whiting/Robertsdale community to **bless Lake Michigan at the Hammond Port Authority**. The Hammond Port Authority has granted permission for the blessing. The exact address to gather for the blessing is: 701 Casino Center Drive, Hammond, Indiana 46320. Refreshments will follow.

All are welcome!



2020 WINTER FESTIVAL ~
Western Winter Fest
February 21-23

Each week, a specialty booth of the annual Winter Festival will be highlighted. These articles are to inform the parish community of what goes into putting the booth

together, the supplies needed, and the specific donations needed to make each booth a success.

The Winter Festival started in 1976, and has grown into making St. John a community that comes together to enjoy each other's company. The festival is a time for parents to meet other parents, for students to have fun with their classmates, and for the parish to come together and visit. We hope you will all plan to put your boots on, and mosey on over to the chuck wagon for food, fun & friends! Reach out with questions to the Festival Chairpersons – Kirsten Lund, keh1478@hotmail.com, 773-206-2412, or Candi Gard candi.gard@gmail.com, 219-201-6287.

Early Bird Raffle Ticket Drawings**Turn your tickets in early for a chance to win!**

By now the parish & school families should have received their "Blue & Gold" Festival raffle ticket. If you did not receive your tickets, please reach out to the festival chairpersons. The first of two early bird raffle drawings will occurred on Friday, December 20th.

The second early bird drawing will take place on Tuesday, January 21, 2020, and the grand prize drawing on Sunday, February 23, 2020! Tickets can be purchased by calling the school office, 659-3042.

SILENT AUCTION

A HIGHLIGHT of the Festival. The silent auction brought in \$17,000 during the 2019 festival. This year, we'd like to exceed this amount. A large effort is needed to generate interest from attendees, find sponsors, and coordinate the bidding.

St. John's traditional items include classroom themed art projects, Day with the Principal, Pierogi Festival Parking, Front pew for Easter Mass, along with numerous sporting event tickets, hotel stays, and art work.

As always, the silent auction is looking for those experiences to auction off. Do you have a condo in Florida that you'd like to donate a week vacation rental? Do you have season Bear's tickets that you'd like to donate a game for?

If you are interested in helping or would like additional information on how to donate, please reach out to Amy Bucher & Amanda De Leon, Chairpersons of the Silent Auction sjbsilentauction@yahoo.com

St. ADALBERT NEWS

ST. ADALBERT HOLY NAME SOCIETY is now **collecting dues for 2019 & 2020**. Dues are \$5.00/ year and can be given to either Gil Cusson or Norb Dudzik or can be dropped in the collection basket. The St. Adalbert HNS is open to all men & women of our cluster parishes. **Any one wanting to join can contact Gil Cusson Pres. at 219-902-9463, or Norb Dudzik VP at 219-384-7147.**

PEACE AND SOCIAL JUSTICE

OUR MISSION IN THE NEW YEAR: WITNESS TO GOD'S MERCY

Pope Francis reminds us that the Church, which means each of us, its members, is called to witness to the power of God's mercy to transform us and our world.

"The Church is a community of missionary disciples who take the first step, who are involved and supportive, who bear fruit and rejoice. An evangelizing community knows that the Lord has taken the initiative, he has loved us first (1 John 4:19). Therefore we can move forward, boldly taking the initiative, going out to others, seeking those who have fallen away, standing at the crossroads and welcoming the outcast. Such a community has an endless desire to show mercy, the fruit of its own experience of the power of God's infinite mercy. Let us try a little harder to take the first step and to become involved by word and deed in people's daily lives, to bridge distances, to embrace human life and to touch the suffering flesh of Christ in others."

(From: *Seasons of Mercy: Reflections by Pope Francis*
– edited by Steve Mueller)

ONE CAN – MAKE A DIFFERENCE

We will once again be doing monthly food collections for the Whiting Food Pantry. **The first one in the new year will be next weekend, January 11th & 12th.** Your donations of canned and boxed food products, paper products, and personal hygiene products can be placed on the pews in the center of Church.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT.



A PRAYER FOR OUR NEW BISHOP

O Lord, who for the feeding of your flock have chosen your servant Monsignor Robert McClory as a successor to the Apostles, grant him, we pray, that as he is ordained to the Order Of Bishops he may manifest a spirit of counsel and fortitude, a spirit of knowledge and piety, so that, by faithfully governing the people entrusted to him, he may build up in the world the sacrament of the Church. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

All are invited to participate at the evening Prayer on February 10, 2020 and the Ordination Mass on February 11, 2020.



FOREVER BLUE and GOLD

PLEASE consider helping us... Forever Blue and Gold will be collecting Coke Products Rebates. The rebates are found in twist off caps of Coke Products and on the inside of 12 and 24 count cases. The rebates in the cartons are found near the opening perforation. There is a rectangle with a keyed number on it. That rectangle is what we need. As we approach the holidays and beyond, please consider looking out for those rebates. Money redeemed goes directly to St. John School for various student projects. Drop them off in the back of church in the BOX TOP containers or send them to school. FB & G thanks you for your help with this simple project.

HOMEBOUND NOTICE

If you can no longer attend church on Sundays, you are welcome to receive Holy Communion from a Eucharistic Minister to the Homebound each Sunday morning. Call the St. John rectory during business hours M-F 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. to give your request along with your name, phone #, and address. We look forward to accommodating your request.

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

Happy New Year! Hard to believe another year has passed and 2020 is here! The new year calls for new year resolutions and improvements. Christmas break is a great time to recharge and rest so everyone will be ready to tackle the 2nd half of the school year. Everyday our students are growing, changing, and learning and we are constantly trying to give them every opportunity possible. Last quarter our students were able to experience many different field trips including, a visit to the pumpkin patch, a Christmas play at the Munster Center for Visual and Performing Arts, the Museum of Science and Industry, and the 8th grade was able to experience "A Christmas Carol" at the Goodman Theatre thanks to the generosity of the Marian Theatre Guild. Experiences outside of the school building give the students a chance to learn and build memories with their peers. We are looking forward to the new year and new opportunities for our students.

CITIZEN OF THE YEAR, EDUCATOR AND PUBLIC SERVANT

The Whiting Robertsedale community will again acknowledge the service and commitment provided by local teachers and municipal employees by presenting awards to those who distinguish themselves in those fields. **The awards will be presented at the Whiting Robertsedale Chamber of Commerce's annual installation dinner on February 1st.**

The Public Servant of the Year will be awarded to an employee who works for either the City of Whiting or the City of Hammond. The Educator of the Year will be awarded to a faculty member chosen from nominees from Nathan Hale Elementary, Whiting Middle and Whiting High Schools, Clark Middle and High School, Franklin Elementary, St. John the Baptist Catholic School, Bishop Noll Institute and St. Casimir Elementary School.

In addition to the Public Servant and Educator Awards, each year, a local citizen is chosen as the recipient of the Carl A. Binhammer Award, recognizing that individual for tireless community service and volunteerism, and making Whiting-Robertsedale a better place in which to live. The award is presented to the winner at the annual Whiting-Robertsedale Chamber of Commerce Dinner (February 1st). The winner also serves as the Grand Marshal of Whiting's 4th of July Parade. The recipient is chosen by a committee of previous Binhammer Award winners.

If you have a person that you wish to nominate for any of these awards, please send that nomination to the Chamber of Commerce, Attn: **Tom Dabertin, 1417 119th Street, by no later than January 17, 2020.** Nominations should include the following information: The name of the nominee; the award that the person is being nominated for, and a letter explaining why the nominee deserves the award. It is requested, although not required that the person making the nomination sign the nomination letter.

GRATEFUL SENIORS

The Senior Center at Pulaski Park resumes its regular activities on **Tues., Jan 7, 2020.** The 10:00 a.m. chair aerobics every Tues. & Thurs. help to sustain limber bodies. Puzzles, Pinochle, Bunco, Uno & casual conversation stimulate the mind, promoting mental well-being. "Simply Stitching" and "Simply Planning" reinforce the saying "many hands make light work!" The needy benefit from participants generous help.

January Birthdays will be celebrated at **11:00 a.m. on Thurs., Jan. 16.** On Tuesday, Jan. 21st **Mr. Ron Novak, City of Hammond Environmental guest speaker,** will address our community concerns. You are encouraged to mark your calendars and plan to join the Grateful Seniors for an invigorating 2020!

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK

B: Eleanor Biel, Steve B., Al & Dot Baker, Joseph Bibat, Betty Bonchik, Noel Bubala

C: Ben C., Jim Campbell, Abigail Coates, Rebecca Coates, Dorothy Chovan, Nancy Coleman, Olivia Crinion, Lavonne Curington, Jeannine Cusson, Sharon Cusson

D: Gloria Demeter

F: Jeanine Faulkner, Thomas Federenko, Judy Fernald, Audrey Filipek, George Fitzak, Malia Fortunak, Joseph Fortunak

G: Andrea Gaynor

H: H. Haas, Debra Henderson, Kingston M. Hensley, Dennis and Peggy Hyde

J:

K: Gloria A. Kaminsky, Leonard Kaminski, Gerry Kasarda, Ryan Keelan, Anne M. Kovach, Barbara J. Korba, Corky Kuipers

L: Lenore Lazur, Anita Le Claire, Les Le Claire, Donna Lewandowski, Helen Marie Lucasek

M: Adeline Matalik, Edward Matalik, Kristi Matalik, Mary Madejewski, Frank Matlon, Ginny McHale, Jerilyn Miller, Mary Anne Milkowski, Toni Milkowski, Mary Murzyn, Mimi Murzyn

N: Ann Novotney

O: Bob Oliver

P: Willie Parlor, Joan Peters, Virginia Piljak, Mary Puplava

Q: Leonardo Quiroz

R: Kathleen Radloff, Joel Rivera, Ed. Roszkowski, Linda Rokosz, Joyce Rybicki

S: Collette Santay, Aaron Smith, Deanna Stolarz, K. Smith, R. Smith, Jack Strisko

T: Nancy Teles, Sean Tennant, James Toth, Geraldine Tumidalsky

V:

W: Terry W., Phil Wetnight, Marjorie Wohrle

DEAR CHURCH FAMILY OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST & ST. ADALBERT IT'S TIME FOR A NEW DIRECTORY!

Our Church directory will not be complete **WITHOUT YOU**. Join us to celebrate faith and family with our new Church family album.

Schedule your professional photography session when **you stop by the sign-up table at church or simply go online and follow the instructions below.**

If we don't see your name on our list of appointments, you will receive a phone call inviting you to participate.

Everyone who is photographed **by Universal will receive a FREE COMPLIMENTARY 8 X 10 PORTRAIT AND A DIRECTORY!**

Universal provides a complete professional portrait studio right here at our Church!

You'll enjoy a variety of poses, backgrounds, portrait sizes, finish and framing options AND have the opportunity to purchase portraits to give to family and friends.

Online Scheduling Available!

To schedule your photography appointment online, simply go to WWW.ucdir.com, click on schedule your photograph session on the right side, enter **IN1630** in the Church Code field and enter **photos** in the Church Password field. Follow the prompts to schedule your family's appointment time. **If you have 6 or more in your family please use 2 consecutive time slots.** The online scheduling option is available Monday through Friday. Appointments fill up quickly, so schedule as soon as possible to secure your preferred date and time.

SIGN-UP TABLES are at the entrance of St. Adalbert Church after 4:30 p.m. Mass on Saturdays and at Centennial Room at St. John's Church on Sundays after at 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Masses. We invite you to take a minute, stop with your family, and make an appointment for your photos.

You can also SIGN-UP VIA PHONE CALL. Simply call St. John's rectory at 219- 659-0023 and ask for Nora. She will assist you with your scheduling appointment or more information.

SCHEDULE DATES FOR PHOTOS - 2020

FRIDAY, JANUARY 17TH FROM 2:00 TO 8:30 P.M.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 18TH FROM 10:30 A.M. TO 4:00 P.M.

MONDAY, JANUARY 20TH FROM 2:00 P.M. TO 8:30 P.M.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 21ST FROM 2:00 P.M. TO 8:30 P.M.

SICK LIST Update

The bulletin "sick list" will be **refreshed at the end of January, 2020**. Retired names will be placed in the parish petition book, where individuals will continue to be prayed for when we process the book at the beginning of the weekend Masses. If a name is to remain on the list or a new name added, a request must be made to the rectory **by January 31st**. Your request may be written (placed in an envelope and dropped into the collection basket or rectory drop box), or emailed to nperez@stjohnbap.org. Please include the **correctly spelled name of the person in need of prayers along with your phone#** (in the event that we need to contact you).

Deacon Timothy Woods (Lincoln Chamber Productions) is looking for good amateur singers to sing one of the greatest choral works of the 20th century: Rachmaninoff's "All Night Vigil." It will be done in the context of an actual prayer service (about 2.5 hours). We will sing it in English. Rehearsals begin January 13th. The service is Saturday April 25th 7pm. Everything takes place in the Greater Chicago area. Call 219-402-2437 or email him at deacontimwoods@gmail.com

May God bless you deeply for your time!

For he shall rescue the poor when he cries out,
and the afflicted when he has no one to help him.
He shall have pity for the lowly and the poor;
The lives of the poor he shall save.
(Psalm 72:12-13)



B: Matt Barbeta, Sean Bowman, **C:** Christina Campra, Sean Coleman, **E:** Victoria Franco, **G:** Larry Gazafy, Matthew Geffert, John Gervais, Gerardo Gonzalez, James Grunhard Jr., **H:** Alex Gonzalo Hernandez, Elliot Hlavaty, Matthew Hlavaty, **J:** Justin

Jansky, **K:** Thomas M. Kaminsky, Keith Kennedy, Jeff Klobucar, Jason Koscielski, Jeffery Koval, Mark Koval, **M:** Walter Malenki, Randall McAllister, Mike McCay, Hugh A. McNinch, Philip Mlynarski, Derek Monks, **N:** David Novotney, **O:** Zack O'Drobina, Nicholas Okamura, Justus Oliver, Mark Opachan, **P:** Kenneth Petkunas, Thomas Puplava Jr., **R:** Robert Rodriguez, **S:** Antonio Salas, Eric Schaufele, Elliott Schultz, Natalie Serna, John Starzyk Jr, Alex Supergan, Jason Sutton, Szewczyk, **T:** Stephen Taylor, Jeffrey Thormeyer, Christopher Trojnar, **V:** Samuel Valdyke, **W:** Ray Walsh.

REST IN PEACE

Helen M. Markovich
Joseph A. Macak
Robert S. James



Rest In Peace