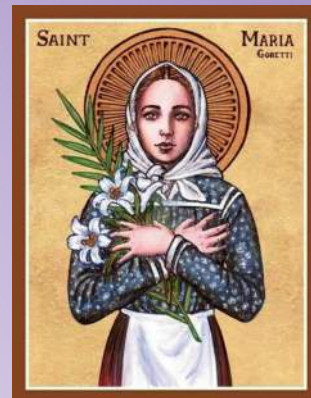




HOLY VIRGIN MARTYRS

St. Beatrice and St. Maria Goretti Parish

DECEMBER 21, 2025
FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT



Rectory:

4157 Atlantic Avenue
Schiller Park, IL 60176
847-678-0138

Email: hvm-parish@outlook.com

Website: www.hvmparish.org

Rev. Robert Schultz, Pastor

Marlene Bacha, Business Manager

Richard Gersten, Music Director

Zerlina Kirchen, Coordinator of Lifelong Faith Formation

Nancy Ryan, Parish Nurse

Weekend Mass: Saturday—4:30pm, Sunday—9:30am, 11:30am

Weekday Mass: Monday—Thursday at 8:30am

Holy Day Masses: 8:30am, 12:00pm, 7:00pm

Confession (Reconciliation): Saturdays from 3:30-4:00pm

Baptisms: Celebrated once a month at 1:00pm

Contact the rectory to register as a new parishioner or to schedule a Baptism, Wedding, Funeral, or Anointing.

This Sunday we celebrate the 4th Sunday of Advent, and the Scripture readings and prayers at Mass turn our attention towards the events leading up to Jesus' birth. Many Christians are familiar with the story of one of those events – the Angel Gabriel's announcement to the Virgin Mary that she was chosen to be the Mother of God. However, that story comes from Luke's Gospel. This Sunday we hear a similar story from Matthew's Gospel. Matthew tells us how an angel (presumably Gabriel) appeared to St. Joseph in a dream to tell him that Mary's child was conceived by the Holy Spirit. The angel said that Joseph should name the child Jesus because He would save His people from their sins.

This and other events show us that God had a plan to save us because He loves us beyond all telling. And one of the events at the heart of this plan was the Incarnation, when Jesus Christ took on human flesh and was born as one of us. I hope that you can join us for the celebration of this great mystery at Christmas. Our Christmas Masses this year will be:

Wednesday, Dec. 24th – 4:00pm, Midnight

Thursday, Dec. 25th – 9:30am, 11:30am

Please note that this year we are bringing back something that we used to do at the first Christmas Eve Mass. At the 4:00pm Mass on Dec. 24, we invite any children who are present to walk in the opening procession, as we carry the statue of the baby Jesus and place it in our Nativity scene. For any children who would like to participate, please meet at the back of church 10 minutes before the Mass begins.

Now, because this will be the same bulletin that we will have available for Christmas Eve & Day, I would like to welcome any family and friends of parishioners, and any other visitors who have joined us for Christmas Mass. I'm so glad that you could make HVM Parish part of your celebration.

As always, I like to remind everyone that the celebration of Christmas is not limited to one day, but it is actually one of the Church's liturgical seasons (the Christmas season concludes with the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord on Jan. 11th). During this upcoming season, we celebrate several significant feast days. One of these is the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, celebrated on Jan. 1st. On that day we honor the Virgin Mary in her role as Mother of the Son of God. This Solemnity is a Holy Day of Obligation. Masses for Mary, Mother of God will be:

Wednesday, Dec. 31st – 4:30pm

Thursday, Jan. 1st – 10:00am

Finally, I want to let everyone know that our 2026 HYPOD raffle tickets are now available. As I announced at Mass, we are raising the price of our HYPOD tickets for the first time in 40 years, ever since this raffle began. HYPOD tickets are now \$15 each. However, we are also adding an additional cash prize to the HYPOD raffle. Normally, we have a drawing every week for one \$100 prize, but on the last week of each month the prize is \$500. Beginning this year, on the last week of each month, there will be a \$100 prize in addition to the \$500 prize (i.e., there will be two prizes at the end of each month, \$100 and \$500).

This means that, if you buy your HYPOD tickets before the first 2026 drawing on Jan. 5, you will have 64 chances to win a cash prize (previously, it had been 52 chances). Remember that even if your ticket wins, it still goes back into the pot for the next drawing. Once you buy a ticket, it is valid for every drawing of the year. So, if you buy before Jan. 5th, you will get the full 64 chances. However, please keep in mind that you can always buy HYPOD tickets at any time throughout the year. You can purchase the tickets at the rectory, and they are also available in the pamphlet rack at the back of church (the purple tickets). You can drop them off at the rectory or drop them in the Sunday collection at any time with your payment.

And whatever you might be doing for the holidays, I pray that you and your loved ones have a Blessed Christmas and New Year!

Holy Virgin Martyrs, pray for us. May God bless you.

Fr. Rob

Mass Intentions

Sunday—December 21st

9:30—Matthew O'Brien
Thomas Griffin
Francine & Kraft Family
Roger Louis—Charles
Joseph Louis—Charles
Carmelita Rubio
Raymond & Lena Gennetti
Blanca Selsky
Cecilia Arboleta
11:30—Ada Mae Anderson
Debbie McGrath
Marlene O'Brien
Stanley Powrozek, Jr.

Monday—December 22nd

8:30—Bob Sirtak
Mary Ann Pearch

Tuesday—December 23rd

8:30—Joe Cunningham
James Cunningham
Rich Bacha

Christmas Eve

Wednesday—December 24th

4:00—Joseph C. Stendebach
Linda Rawski
Leroy & Edith Schultz
Angelo & Janet Luciano
Jackie Viecele
Vicki Hansen
Joseph Davoli
Anthony & Patricia Davoli
Robert & Jean Golinski
Alfonso Izzi

Christmas Eve Continued

Wednesday—December 24th

4:00—Zachary Perry
Pauline Wisniewski
Daniel McGoven
James Redmond
Honey Redmond
Midnight—William & Elaine Cyplick
Kevin Cyplick
Eugene & Elizabeth Gersten
Salvatore Segreti
Segreti Family
Lopes Family
Lento Family
Fratto Family
Casey & Anthony
Powyszynski

Christmas Day

Thursday—December 25th

9:30—James Florio Family
Wilbert & Betty Saathoff
Frank & Nellie Arnone
Vito & Catherine Solare
Ray & Evelyn Solare
Frank & Madeline Pavone
Albert & Ann Gualtier
James & Lorraine Lowry
Arlene Slifka
Lewis Arnone
Maurice J. Iorio
Joseph C. Stendebach
Chuck Kohut
Joseph Pavone

Christmas Day Continued

Thursday—December 25th

Regina Kasper
Kevin Kasper
Donald Kasper, Jr.
Blanca Selsky
11:30—Carol Heidorn
Ray & Evelyn Majca

Saturday—December 27th

4:30—Ronald Piltaver
Alan Piltaver
Vernon Piltaver
Vernon Gottschalk
Chris Benesch
Marion Chrusciel
Joseph & Mary Traxler
Linda Rawski
Julia Parkinson
Isabella Yorty
Casey & Tony Powyszynski
Jean Konieczny

Sunday—December 28th

9:30—Matthew O'Brien
Thomas Griffin
Victor Schimanski
Paul Pgnatelli
Francine Cipriano & Colleen
Maloney
Alexander Buziuk
Blanca Selsky
Cecelia Arboleta
11:30—Marlene O'Brien

December 27th & 28th	4:30pm	9:30am	11:30am
Lector	Karen Weichbrodt	Kitch Gorzynski	Bobby Lima
Communion Ministers	P. Cychosz C. McLean M. Michalowski	G. Zech R. Klug N. Figueroa	A. Caccavari N. May J. Traxler
Altar Servers	P. Cychosz S. Cychosz	S. Cervantes M. Morgan	L. Lima L. Louis—Charles

Christmas Eve & Day December 24th & 25th	4:00pm	Midnight	9:30am	11:30am
Lector	Ellen Melnitzke	Sandra Cervantes	Don Kasper	Liz Lynch
Communion Ministers	K. Weichbrodt C. Widuch M. Widuch	R. Klug Z. Kirchen Sr. Victoria	I. Benesch N. Kent R. Kraft	J. Traxler L. Alipio K. Lima
Altar Servers	L. Trischan E. Trischan	J. Hilton N. Gonzales	S. Cychosz T. Cychosz P. Cychosz	O. Kucharczyk P. Kitlas G. Kitlas

Children's Christmas Procession

All children are invited to be part of the procession to place the baby Jesus in the crib at the 4:00pm Christmas Eve Mass.

If your child would like to participate, please make sure they are in the back of church by 3:45pm so we can line them up and give them instructions.



Caroling

Please join us for our annual Christmas Eve carol sing-along at 11:30pm on December 24th.



Christmas Schedule

Christmas Eve
Wednesday, December 24th
4:00pm and Midnight

Christmas Day:
Thursday, December 25th
9:30am and 11:30am



Music Notes

He Came Upon the Midnight Clear

If you would ever like to bring up the gifts during Mass, please let the ushers know before Mass. Anyone is welcome to be a gift bearer.



CHRISTMAS WAFERS
Christmas Wafers are available in the Bridal/Reconciliation Room in the back of church. Christmas Wafers are \$2.00 per package.

Hypod Winner

December 15, 2025

\$100 Winner—Helene Bonacci

Tickets are still available in the pamphlet rack in the back of church or from the Rectory during the week!



Week 14

\$20 Winner

Maria Rodriguez—Ticket #261

Second Collections:

The second collection on December 28th is for Religious Retirement & Maintenance
Please be as generous as you can.

How Can You Help Your Parish?

1. Use electronic giving for your Sunday donation, so you don't have to worry about using checks or envelopes. Go to www.hvmparish.org and click on "Donate" to sign up!
2. Remember Holy Virgin Martyrs Parish in your will!

Receive The Blessed Sacrament of Holy Communion

HVM Ministers of Care can bring Holy Communion to our parishioners who are Homebound or Sick.

If you or someone you know would like to receive Holy Communion, or would like to know more about this rewarding ministry, then please contact Nancy Ryan (parish nurse) either by leaving a message at the rectory or by email aryan2@primehealthcare.com.

Pray for those Who Are Sick

Luz Alarcon
Fr. Ambrosio Arambula
Betty Bajzek
Dan Bailey
Char Banyai
Laura Biangini
Sonia Bonacci
Frank Bosco
Pat Brandolino
Gus Campeotto
Phyllis DiBenedetto
Beatrice Giannone
Rose & Pat Glasso
Judy Golab
Karla Gosinski
Ruth Gosinski
Howard Heidorn

Jose Herrera
Mary Hinterlong
Laura Gardeck & Jeff Hinz
Renee Iman
Vivian Jennings
Arlene Jurinek
Brian Kelly
Patti King
Joyce Knauss
Leonard Kuffer
Marguerite Kraemer
Dan Latoria, Jr.
Mark Latoria
Joan Lester
Diahne Lopez
Thomas Luka
Vicky Majewski (nee Julitz)

Geneveve Mastalerz
Carole McCreery
Bryan McIntyre
Bill McMurray
Barbara Miller
Christian Mireles
Pat Morgan
Robert Olender
Christopher Ordo
Michael Pesola
Nancy Piatek
Deacon Ron Pilarski
Melissa Pitts
Mike Ponticelli
Joseph Powyszynski
Betty Quartello
Glenn Rawski

Jacqueline Reiss
Barbara Rodgers
John Saathoff
Kathy Sassolino
Cathy & Steve Schreiner
Jacqueline Spejcher
Pat Sullivan
Michelle Swigost
Sarah Tripoli
Jim Waterloo
Joan Weichbrodt
Jean Wesolowski
Nancy Wright
Isabella Yorty

Pray for Those in the Military

Sergeant Michael Bavone
Private Christopher Bavone
US Army PFC Matthew Gonzales
US Army Michael Gutierrez
First Lieutenant Justin Hunt,
USAF Sergeant Michael Keaty

Gunnery Sergeant Osvaldo Rodriguez
USMC Kyle Ruth
USAF Staff Sergeant John J. Schreiner
HN Nathan Wrobbel US Navy
Omar Vee, Jr.

Religious Education News

Coordinator of Lifelong Faith Formation: Ms. Zerlina Kirchen

Phone: 847-671-6429 Email: religiouseducationcoordinator@outlook.com

Follow us on Facebook!

Upcoming Events

Sunday, January 4th

Family Mass—11:30am

Student Volunteers will be reading and bringing up the gifts

Tuesday, January 6th

Religious Education Class

6:00-8:00pm

Saturday, January 10th

Religious Education Class

9:00-11:30am

Saturday, January 17th

Confirmation Retreat

9:30am-5:30pm

What We're Learning

6th Grade Tuesdays

We learned about how Adam and Eve brought into the world. But despite of human disobedience God is always faithful and loves us unconditionally. We discussed how God called Abraham and promised great blessings for his obedience. We should model the faith and trust in God that Abraham showed.



O Come Let Us Adore Him!



*For a child is born to us,
a son is given us,
Upon his shoulder dominion rests.
They name him Wonder-Counselor,
God – Hero, Father – Forever,
Prince of Peace.
-Isaiah 9:6*

*Merry
Christmas*



**Scripture Readings
For the Week of December 21, 2025**

Sunday
Fourth Sunday of Advent
Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-2, 3-4, 5-6;
Rm 1:1-7; Mt 1:18-24

Monday
1 Sm 1:24-28; 1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7,
8abcd; Lk 1:46-56

Tuesday
Mal 3:1-4, 23-24; Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10
and 14; Lk 1:57-66

Wednesday
2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89:2-3,
4-5, 27 and 29; Lk 1:67-79

Thursday
The Nativity of the Lord
Vigil Mass:
Is 62:1-5; Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29;
Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; Mt 1:1-25 or Mt
1:18-25
Mass during the Night:
Is 9:1-6; Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13; Ti
2:11-14; Lk 2:1-14
Mass at Dawn:
Is 62:11-12; Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12; Ti 3:4-
7; Lk 2:15-20
Mass during the Day:
Is 52:7-10; Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6; Heb
1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18 or Jn 1:1-5, 9-14

Friday
Feast of Saint Stephen, First Martyr
Acts 6:8-10, 7:54-59; Ps 31:3cd-4, 6
and 8ab, 16bc and 17; Mt 10:17-22

Saturday
**Feast of Saint John,
Apostle and Evangelist**
1 Jn 1:14; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12; Jn
20:1a and 2-8

Sunday
**Feast of the Holy Family
of Jesus, Mary and Joseph**
Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14; Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5;
Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17; Mt 2:13-15,
19-23

Christmas 2025

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Our Christmas celebrations coincide with the beginning of winter. There is less light at this time of year and more cold than we might want. The contrast is striking for people of faith. We remember God's only begotten Son born of the Virgin Mary. He comes into a dark and cold world as its light and its warmth.

In chapter four of Matthew's gospel at the beginning of the public ministry of Jesus, the evangelist cites words of the prophet Isaiah:

*...the people who sat in darkness
have seen a great light,
and for those who sat in the region
and shadow of death
light has dawned. (Mt 4:16)*

Events of this past year could suggest that all we have is indeed a cold and dark world. That seems to be the message of the wars fought around the world, of the tragic school shootings and political assassinations in our nation, and of our frayed connections with each other.

Again, for us as people of faith, the contrast is stark. We are realistic, and we know well the challenges of our world in this tense moment of the world's history. We also know, however, a larger narrative of God's love incarnate in Jesus Christ, the light that breaks the power of sin and death. Saint John wrote of him: "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it." (John 1:5) This light enlightens us and warms us. Whatever struggles we face, we are assured because he walks with us.

As you gather with family and friends and fellow parishioners, I urge you to reassure each other with our convictions of faith. Take responsibility in the world to be a sign of hope and a source of encouragement for others. In this way, you will bring Christ the light to those who need him.

Join me and pray for our world, our nation, and our local communities that we can all walk in the light.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Blase Cardinal Cupic
Archbishop of Chicago



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