St. Pius X Catholic Community

December 18, 2016

FOURTH SUNDAY of Advent

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**Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,
and they shall name him Emmanuel, which means "God is with us."**

Matthew 1:23

1025 E. Madison Street ❖ Lombard, IL 60148 ❖ 630-627-4526 ❖ www.stpiuslombard.org

WELCOME TO

ST. PIUS X CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

1025 E. MADISON STREET ■ LOMBARD, IL 60148
parishoffice@stpiuslombard.org
www.stpiuslombard.org

DIOCESE OF JOLIET
SERVED BY THE CONGREGATION OF THE RESURRECTION

MISSION STATEMENT

We the people of St. Pius X Church, a faith community in the Roman Catholic Diocese of Joliet, Illinois, accept the challenge to restore all things in Christ through the use of our gifts and ministry. Guided by the Father, nourished by the Eucharist, and inspired by the Holy Spirit we embrace all through our commitment to worship, education, service, and stewardship.

LEMA DE NUESTRA MISIÓN

Nosotros las personas de la Iglesia de San Pío X, una comunidad de fe Católica de la Diócesis de Joliet, Illinois, aceptamos los desafíos de restaurar todas las cosas en Cristo, por medio de nuestros talentos y ministerios. Guiados por el Padre, nutridos por la Eucaristía, e inspirados por el Espíritu Santo; unidos y comprometidos todos nosotros por medio de nuestros dones, educación y servicio.

Pastor:
Father George Zieba, CR
Deacons:
John Chan, Armando Herrera, Ron Knecht,
Larry Lissak, Tom Rachubinski

Hispanic Ministry Pastoral Assistant:
Fr. Firmo Mantovani, CS

School Principal: Daniel Flaherty
Assistant Principal: Toni Miller

Faith Formation Team:
Elizabeth Becerra, Laura Mora, Mark Restaino

Youth Ministry - Director: Mark Restaino

Music Ministry - Director: Kirsten Currie

Hispanic Ministry Coordinator: Laura Mora
Hispanic Ministry Faith Formation Director:
Abraham Rodriguez

Business Manager: John Matyasik
Administrative Assistant: Donna Cooper
Parish Secretary: Pam Matyasik
Maintenance Director: Sallie McGinn
Pastoral Council, Chair: Betty Kramer
Finance Council, Chair: Frank Enda
Stewardship Council, Chair: Leanne Newman

Parish Office: 630-627-4526
Fax: 630-495-5926
parishoffice@stpiuslombard.org
Faith Formation: 630-627-1551
faithformation@stpiuslombard.org
School: 630-627-2353
Fax: 630-627-1810
schooloffice@stpiuslombard.org

IMPORTANT TO KNOW

MASSES

Saturday: 5:00 PM Anticipation of Sunday
Misa en Español: Sábado 7 PM
Sunday: 7:30 AM, 9:30 AM, and 11:30 AM
Holy Days: see previous Sunday Bulletin
Weekdays: 8:30 AM Monday through Friday
Saturday: 8:30 AM First Saturday of each month

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday: 3:30 to 4:30 PM or by appointment.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

The Sacrament of Baptism is celebrated on the first Sunday at the 11:30 AM Mass (10:00 am during Summer). No Baptisms are celebrated during Lent. Parent preparation is required. The parent meeting for Baptism is generally on the first Monday of the month at 7:00 PM. Please call the Parish Office for more information (630-627-4526).

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

Please call the Parish Office at least 6 months before your desired wedding date, to check availability.

FUNERALS

Arrangements should be made at the Parish Office before publication in the newspaper.

SICK CALLS

Homebound because of sickness or age, please call the Parish Office (630-627-4526) to arrange a visit with a Minister of Care or a priest.

SACRAMENT OF ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Please call the Parish Office for arrangements.

Because of HIPAA Privacy regulations, hospitals can no longer contact the parish. If you are hospitalized and would like a priest or minister from St. Pius X to visit or have your name added to the Prayers of the Faithful, your family should notify the Parish Office.

INFORMATION ABOUT OUR CATHOLIC FAITH

For questions and instruction in the faith or to become a part of the RCIA process (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults), call the Parish Office.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL ASSISTANCE AND PANTRY HOURS

Mon. & Fri. 9:30 am—Noon - Martha Room
Wed. 12:30-2:30 pm - Martha Room
Information: 630-300-4353

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Friday
9:00 AM—12:30 PM; 1:00 PM—4:00 PM
Friday: 9:00 AM—3:00 PM

NEW PARISHIONERS

Welcome! You are invited to come to or call the Parish Office to register. Forms are also available on the website.

MINISTRIES AND ORGANIZATIONS

If you are interested in one of our many ministries or wish to volunteer time or talent, please contact the Parish Office or see our website for more details.

PRAYER INTENTIONS

If you have a prayer intention that you would like the parish to pray for, write it in the Book of Prayer in Church.

BULLETIN ARTICLES

Due **ten** days prior to bulletin date. Attach Word file and email to bulletin@stpiuslombard.org. Please put a contact name and phone number on each article indicating the date(s) you would like the article to run. Every effort will be made to see that your request is granted.

As a general rule, we encourage using "bulletin space" instead of a separate insert whenever possible——this saves the cost of printing. The following guidelines should be observed if an insert is necessary:A proposed insert must be submitted for approval prior to bulletin insertion weekend. Approved inserts must be delivered by Thursday to the Parish Office.

Pregnant? Confused? Need Help? Please call **Woman's Choice Services** at 630-261-9221.

Vocations to the Priesthood and Religious Life:
www.vocations.com or call 815-221-6171.
Support Serra Vocations at the monthly Vocation Mass and dinner at St. Michael Parish in Wheaton. Please call 630-947-5672 for information.

Reporting Sexual Abuse: Anyone who has reasonable cause to suspect the sexual abuse of a minor by a member of the clergy or other Church personnel is urged to report the matter immediately. To inform the Diocese of Joliet, call Molly Fara, Director of Child and Youth Protection at 815-221-6116 or write the Diocese of Joliet, 16555 Weber Road, Crest Hill, IL 60403. Contact DCFS at 1-800-252-2873 or call the local County States Attorney.

LITURGICAL NEWS

Liturgical Calendar

Monday December 19-Late Advent Weekday
Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a; Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17; Lk 1:5-25
8:30 am †Genevieve Kirch by family

Tuesday December 20-Late Advent Weekday
Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-4ab, 5-6; Lk 1:26-38
8:30 am †Patricia Blaszak by Tom & Chris Blaszak

Wednesday December 21-Saint Peter Canisius
Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a; Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21; Lk 1:39-45
8:30 am †Mary Crowder by Bob & Barb Frazee
(Grade School Mass)

Thursday December 22-Late Advent Weekday
1 Sm 1:24-28; 1 Sm 2:1, 4-8abcd; Lk 1:46-56
8:30 am †Arllowa Essig by Carol Paddock

Friday December 23-Saint John of Kanty
Mal 3:1-4, 23-34; Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-10, 14; Lk 1:57-66
8:30 am †Frances Schweihs by Bill Schweihs

Saturday December 24
2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29; Lk 1:67-79

Vigil—The Nativity of the Lord
Vigil: Is 62:1-5; Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27 29; Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; Mt 1:1-25
Night: Is 9:1-6; Ps 96:1-3, 11-13; Ti 2:11-14; Lk 2:1-14
4:00 pm †Ray Knoll by Family
†Mary Washington by Therese Brossard
7:00 pm Misa en español
10:00 pm †Louise Tirio by Family

Sunday December 25
Dawn: Is 62:11-12; Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12; Ti 3:4-7; Lk 2:15-20
Day: Is 52:7-10; Ps 98:1-6; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18
8:00 am †Michael Vrona (anniv.) by family
10:00 am †Patrick Bennett by family
†Joseph & John Temborius by family

St. Pius X Prayer Chapel

The Prayer Chapel is open Sunday through Friday evenings, 7 pm to 11 pm. Please come and adore Him. Use Door #8 on east side of church building. Would you like to sign up for an hour per week in the Prayer Chapel? Please contact our leaders to pledge your hour.

Sunday	Estelle Soger	630-738-2255
Monday	Linda Chan	630-202-2489
Tuesday	Michelle LoCoco	630-567-0373
Wednesday	John Chan	630-202-2943
Thursday	Ceil D'Acquisto	630-627-9472
Friday	Carol Gawenda	630-833-3211

Rosary/Prayer/Benediction-Wednesday 8 pm Prayer Chapel

Rosary for Vocations
Sunday evenings from 7:30 to 8:00 pm in the Church. Individual Adoration for Vocations from 8 to 9 pm. Please enter through door #8 on the east side of the building. Call Ken for more information: 630-818-6261.

THANK YOU

Dear Parish Family,
I want to express my deepest thanks for all your cards, messages and words of encouragement. Most of all, thank you for your prayers. Knowing that you were praying with and for me gave me strength and hope during a very dark time. You are in my prayers as well.

Peace and love,
Betty Kramer

Pray for

the following parishioners and friends who are ill:

Mark Furjanic
Dolores Pflum
Michael Crosse, Sr.
Toby Goold
Karen Krystyan
Mary Commare
Frank Cvach
Paul Pignatelli

Fourth Sunday of Advent
Emmanuel

On this last Sunday before Christmas, we see that Jesus' birth is the fulfillment of the promise of Emmanuel, "God is with us" (Matthew 1:23). The Gospel refers to the first reading from Isaiah. There we see the king of Judah, Ahaz, under attack by the kings of Aram and Israel. He wants to ask the Assyrians for help instead of relying on God. That's why he says, "I will not tempt the Lord" (Isaiah 7:12). He is afraid to admit his lack of faith. So the weakness of Ahaz gives us the wonderful prophecy of the birth of Jesus. Ahaz, of course, did not understand the full meaning of that prophecy. For him, the prophecy meant the destruction of Judah. In the Gospel, Joseph also does not understand how Mary came to be pregnant. But unlike Ahaz, Joseph did have faith in God and the message of the angel. He took Mary as his wife and helped her through her pregnancy and in raising Jesus afterwards. His faith in God kept Jesus from being murdered by Herod after the magi's visit.

So now we have to choose whom to rely on. Do I act like Ahaz, relying on worldly powers, or like Joseph, who trusted the Lord? I would like to say that I trust in the Lord only. But if I look at my actions and priorities, I might be more like Ahaz than I want to admit. How much time do I spend watching television (especially now that it's in HD) compared to time in prayer? How much time do I spend reading the scriptures compared to the newspaper or magazines? How much do I spend on Christmas decorations or gifts for my family, compared to what I give to the Church? If I really believe that "God is with us," which is what Christmas is all about, how much of God can people see in my actions?

Maybe if we kept in mind that promise that God is with us--in the baptism we received and the sacraments of the Church, and in the love of our spouse or parents--we could see how close God really is, and let others see in our actions that Jesus is Emmanuel.
Tom Schmidt, Copyright (c) J. S. Paluch Co.

Christmas Mass Schedule

Celebration of Christmas

Vigil Masses—Christmas Eve

4:00 pm Christmas Family Mass
7:00 pm Misa en Español
(Carols at 9:30 pm)
10:00 pm Early Christmas Mass

Christmas Day

8:00 am and 10:00 am

Mass Times for
Solemnity of Mary,
the Holy Mother of God

December 31	**5:00 pm**	
	7:00 pm	**Misa en español**
January 1	**7:30 am, 9:30 am, 11:30 am**	

Our Stewardship of Sharing

Online Giving

www.stpiuslombard.org

Stewardship

Weekly Offering Report

Weekly Offering Contributions-December 2016	
First Week Offering	11,147
Electronic Giving (12/1-12/6)	7,133
Second Week Offering	9,802
Electronic Giving (12/7-12/13)	7,370
Budgeted Income for December*	**58,220**
Amount needed for Dec. Offering Budget	**$22,768**

*Budgeted offering income needed to meet monthly budgeted expenses

Year to Date Sunday Offering Budget
July 1, 2016 through November 30, 2016

Revenue	**$315,547**
Budget	**314,670**
Over (under) Budget for year	**877**

Prayerfully consider giving a gift to St. Pius X Parish in your Estate Planning or Planned Giving.

Golden Touch Donations 7/1/16-12/13/16	$9,082
Lot Lights Donations thru 12/13/2016	$24,069

Thank you for your continued support of our ministries to the people of God.

How Does Online Giving Benefit Me and My Parish?

Parishioner Benefits

- Convenient anytime, anywhere access through the internet.
- Secure and Confidential. Adheres to banking security standards.
- Flexible. Schedule and make changes to your contributions at anytime.
- Simple. No need to contact your bank or the parish office.
- Contribute using direct withdrawal (ACH) or credit cards.
- Functional. You receive reminders and notifications about transactions.

Online Giving

Parish Benefits

- Increase contributions. Regularly scheduled gifts occur automatically.
- Secure and Confidential. No need to store parishioner account information.
- Simple. Add or change contributions at any time.
- Convenient. Makes it easy for everyone to contribute to the parish.

Visit our parish website and give it a try. Stpiuslombard.org Online Giving is a safe and convenient way to donate to the church. **To sign-up, go to stpiuslombard.org and click on the Online Giving logo and create an account.** If you have questions, call Donna at the parish office at 630-627-4526.

REMINDER FOR PARISHIONERS ALREADY SIGNED UP FOR ONLINE GIVING
Sometimes special dates do not get set up to recur each year. Please be sure to check your online giving account regarding your Christmas donation.

This Week's Calendar of Events

Wednesday-December 21
Rosary/Prayer/Benediction 8:00 pm Prayer Chapel
Saturday-December 24
Christmas Eve Masses: 4 pm, 7 pm en espanol, 10 pm
Sunday-December 25
Christmas Day Masses: 8 am and 10 am

The Parish Office will be closed Friday, December 23 until 9 am on Tuesday, December 27

Early Bulletin Deadline
Articles for the January 1, 2017 Bulletin are due by December 20, 2016.
Email: bulletin@stpiuslombard.org

Environmental Awareness Committee

Unused - Expired - Unwanted?

In an effort to continue the work of saving God's greatest gift, our earth, the Environmental Awareness Committee is working with the parish to continue doing the meds collections. We will be collecting expired/unused medicines and unwanted medical items the weekends of January 15 and 22 before and after all Masses.

Items must be handed to a committee member. No medication will be accepted at the Parish Office, and we would appreciate it if none is left unattended in the gathering space.

Medication must be in the original container/package with origination and expiration dates intact. Name and address can be scratched out, but please leave the label for identification purposes.

NO SHARPS - NEEDLES - WILL BE ACCEPTED. They can be returned to the doctor who originated the prescription, the pharmacy where they were purchased or placed in a "Sharps" container or something similar and placed in your regular garbage for disposal. SHARPS containers are available for purchase at your local pharmacy.

Expired, unused items are also accepted at most Police Stations. Please call them to confirm.

We could use some assistance in sorting if we are going to continue this program so if you would like to help or have any questions, please notify Donna at the Parish office.

CCW Right to Life Baby Shower

Once again the Council of Catholic Women will sponsor the Right to Life Baby Shower in January. While shopping during the holiday season, consider purchasing items for the Baby Shower that benefits many different organizations. We will list the groups later. If you have any questions, please call Carol at 630-833-3211 or email: ricksmag530@gmail.com.

Oplatki Wafers

Oplatki Wafers are a holiday tradition in many families. They are available in the Mary Room. Suggested donation is only $2 each.

Guide Book and Directory

Advertising Opportunity
We are in the process of updating our annual Guide Book and Directory for the church. This book will contain the Who, What, When, Where, Why, and How of our parish. This book is being provided and direct-mailed to each family at no cost to our church, and it is again being subsidized by local businesses that advertise. If you own or manage a business and would like to find out about advertising in our book, please call the Parish Office at 630-627-4526. Recent survey results by Guide book Publishing show that 92.1% of families would rather patronize a Guide Book and Directory advertiser over a non-advertiser. It "does pay" to advertise in our new Guide Book & Directory.

Update Membership Information
Does the parish database have YOUR family membership record correct? Here is your chance to update YOUR record for our annual Guide Book & Directory, if you haven't done so already.

It is time for us to update our database with any changes, additions, or deletions that may have occurred in YOUR family over the past year.

Have you changed your phone number, or have you cancelled your landline and use only a cell phone? Have you moved? Are you preparing to move soon? Are all of your children still at home, and are they all included in your membership record? Do you want your record published?

If you have not already informed the Parish Office about changes to your record, please let us know now so that the information in the Guide Book and Directory is correct. The Parish Office number is 630-627-4526.

Thank you for your help!

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2017 St. Pius X Alumni Basketball Classic

In honor of the 60th Anniversary of St. Pius X School, the Athletic Association is proud to announce the 2017 St. Pius X Alumni Basketball Classic. This event will be a 3-on-3 basketball tournament for all of our Alumni who are Freshmen in High School and Older. **REGISTRATION FORM:** https://goo.gl/sK2OBK

REGISTRATION:

- Teams will consist of five individuals. *At least three of those individuals must be Alumni of St. Pius X Parish School.*
- Rosters and Fees must be turned in no later than Thursday, December 22, 2016.
- Registration fee is $75 per team ($15 per individual)
- Please turn registration into the St. Pius X School Office.

TOURNAMENT INFORMATION:

- Guaranteed 3 games-each game is first team to 15 points (or whoever has the lead after 15 minutes).
- Pool play with round robin qualifier(s) proceeding to the playoffs.
- Pool Play Estimated Time: 2 Hours
- Playoffs Estimated Time: 1 Hour
- Rules and Regulations will be emailed to the Team Contact Person by the Thursday before the tournament.

AWARDS:

- Each participant will receive a t-shirt
- Awards will be given to 1st and 2nd place team members.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 7, 2017

Session #1: SPX Class of 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016 12:00-3:00 PM
Session #1: Social Gathering (Pizza and Soda Served) 3:00-5:00 PM

Session #2: SPX Class of 2012 and Older (must be at least 18 years old to participate in this session) 5:00-8:00 PM
Session #2: Social Gathering (Pizza, Beer, and Soda Served) *Photo ID's will be required for those who are 21 and over to be served beer. No one under 21 will be served alcohol. 8:00-11:00 PM

QUESTIONS: Please contact Ed Sullivan (St. Pius X Athletic Director) 630-624-0002(cell) or esullivan@stpiuslombard.org

MINISTERIO HISPANO

Misa en Español	Sábado 7:00 pm
Sacerdote	Firmo Mantovani, CS
Coordinadora de Ministerio Hispano	Laura Mora
Director de Educación Religiosa	Abraham Rodríguez

Bautizos
1er. Y 3er. Sábado del mes

Matrimonios, Visita a los enfermos, Quinceañeras e Intenciones de misa
Favor de hablar a la Rectoría para mas información

Horario de Oficina
Miércoles 9:00 am.—1:00 pm. Jueves 9:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.

Teléfono	630-627-4526 X203
Email	spxhispano@aol.com

REFLEXION

1. La Encarnación del Hijo de Dios

1.1 A las puertas ya de la celebración de la Navidad este cuarto domingo de Adviento nos permite asomarnos al misterio de la Encarnación. Y como en el ciclo dominical propio de este año litúrgico leemos especialmente el Evangelio según san Mateo, el texto central de hoy nos habla de la Encarnación como lo hace este evangelista, es decir, más desde la perspectiva de José que de la de María. El relato más conocido, el de la Anunciación, se halla, como sabemos, en el texto de san Lucas. Nuestra oportunidad esta vez es mirar a Mateo, o mejor dicho, mirar cómo Mateo introduce el misterio de la Encarnación desde la óptica de José.

1.2 También aquí, como en el caso de Lucas, interviene un ángel, aunque no se da su nombre. El mensaje del ángel es importante en cada una de las palabras. Pido que atendamos muy bien a ellas, porque mi impresión es que no solemos captar unas resonancias fundamentales de la revelación que recibe José, y estas resonancias nos ayudan grandemente en la comprensión del misterio del Niño que ha de nacer y en la comprensión también de la misión absolutamente singular de José.

2. "María, tu Esposa, Dará a Luz un Hijo"

2.1 El mensaje central está en esta frase: "María, tu esposa… dará a luz un hijo." La clave está en dos cosas: primera, la reafirmación de que María es verdadera esposa de José; segunda, las condiciones en que ese Niño viene al mundo: "ella ha concebido por obra del Espíritu Santo." Estos dos puntos contienen lo esencial.

2.2 Los dos elementos del mensaje del ángel no se contradicen. No aparece ahí que ella es menos esposa porque el hijo venga del Espíritu Santo ni tampoco aparece duda de que el niño tenga tal origen único porque ellos vayan a convivir. Muy al contrario, las dos cosas se reafirman: "no dudes en recibir a María tu esposa, porque ella ha concebido por obra del Espíritu Santo." Ese PORQUE está en el texto griego original y muestra que no hay oposición sino reafirmación.

2.3 Lo primero que concluimos entonces es que el Espíritu Santo NO reemplazó a José. Es bastante impropia en ese sentido la expresión piadosa que llama a María "Esposa del Espíritu Santo," a pesar de que tal expresión tiene su modo de entenderse rectamente. Si leemos a Mateo, decididamente algo así no cabe. María no tiene dos esposos. El ángel viene a decirle precisamente que la acción del Espíritu Santo lo confirma a él en su condición de esposo único, y en cierto modo, perpetuo, de la Santísima Virgen María.

3. Esposo y Padre Virginal

3.1 El ángel confirma a José, de parte de Dios, en su misión y vocación de verdadero esposo de María, y por consiguiente de verdadero padre de Jesús. Así como María no es menos madre por engendrar virginalmente, José no es menos padre por recibir sobre el amor que tiene a María una bendición de gracia como Dios no le ha dado a nadie más.

3.2 Y pronto José deberá actuar como verdadero padre. No hemos de llamarlo "padre putativo," expresión que significa "el que se pensaba que era padre," ni tampoco "padre adoptivo," como indicando "el que educa hijos ajenos." José es padre virginal porque Dios hace papás a algunos de una manera y a otros de otra. Obrando como auténtico papá debe darle un nombre a su hijo, el hijo que ha recibido desde su condición de amor virginal con María.

3.3 El modo como José llegó a ser papá fue a través de la unción del Espíritu Santo actuando en el amor de él y su esposa, pues la concepción de Cristo no sucedió en una persona soltera sino en una mujer desposada, y el desposado con ella se llama José. El Espíritu obró, pues, no solamente en el cuerpo de ella sino, incluso antes, en la relación entre ellos. Por eso José es modelo eximio de esposo y de padre y por eso Jesús le obedece como a imagen en esta tierra del Padre de los cielos.

Por Fr. Nelson Medina, OP

CELEBRACIÓN DE NUESTRA SEÑORA DE GUADALUPE

La parroquia de San Pio X, agradece infinitamente todo el apoyo y cooperación que dieron las familias para hacer que la Fiesta de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe 2016 haya sido posible. Que Dios y la Virgencita los siga llenando de abundantes bendiciones.

Servidores	
Saturday 7:00 pm 12/24	**Ministros de Eucaristía:** D. Lagunas, F. Diaz, R. Herrera, L. Serna **Lectores:** R. Acuna, S. Castillo **Acólitos:** J. Tiscareno, V. Garcia, M. Tiscareno **Ministros de Hospitalidad:** R. Serna, J. Gamboa **Oración de los Fieles:** L. Estrada

DEANERY AND DIOCESAN NEWS

Navajo Mission

Diocesan Missions to the Navajo Nation
Are you being called?

The Joliet Diocese – Partnership in Missions announces the formation of a construction team to serve in Chinle, Arizona. The mission will leave on June 10 and return on June 23, 2017.

We invite men and women who would like to assist local people in building projects for the poor. No special construction skills are necessary, just willing hands and a warm heart.

Two information meetings will be held: January 10, 2017 from 7-9 pm and January 18, 2017 from 7-9 pm, at the Blanchette Catholic Center, 16555 Weber Road, Crest Hill, IL 60403. You are welcome to come to either information meeting.

Applications are available at http://bit.ly/missionappl, or call the Office for Human Dignity – Missions at 815-221-6258. Applications must be received by February 27, 2017.

The Partnership in Mission is celebrating 23 years of medical, construction, and university missions.

Partnership In Mission
Catholic Diocese of Joliet

For further information visit us online at www.dioceseofjoliet.org/missions or call 815-221-6258 or email: missions@dioceseofjoliet.org.

40th Jubilee

Please join Bishop Conlon to celebrate his 40th Priesthood Anniversary

Jubilee Mass

Cathedral of St. Raymond Nonnatus
604 N. Raynor Avenue in Joliet
Sunday—January 15, 2017
11:00am
Reception to follow in the Commons

Diocesan Vocations Office News

EXPLORING PRIESTHOOD WEEKEND
January 20-22, 2017

Exploring Priesthood Weekend is a retreat designed to help men discern God's call to the diocesan priesthood. To be called by God to serve him as a priest means to have one's soul stirred deep within. Throughout a weekend of prayer, discussion, presentations of diocesan priesthood and group interaction, men begin to better understand God's movement in their life. Exploring Priesthood Weekends are held at Mundelein Seminary, 1000 East Maple Avenue, Mundelein, Illinois, 60060. The Seminary is located about 40 miles north of downtown Chicago and easily accessible by car or train. Transportation is available to and from O'Hare Airport by request.

What Happens on These Weekends? There are presentations on: Practical steps for discerning a vocation, Values of priesthood, Seminary life (academics, spiritual formation and pastoral ministry), Seminarians share their vocation stories. There are several worship opportunities including the celebration Mass. Men are encouraged to ask questions, interact with seminarians and priests, pray in chapels, walk the grounds, or use the recreational facilities (pool, gymnasium, weight room). By fully engaging in the opportunities provided on the retreat, men are more able to understand where God is leading them.

How do I Register?

- Register with the Joliet Vocation Office online
- Register with Mundelein Seminary by contacting Fr. Francis Bitterman at 312-534-8298 (fbitterman@archchicago.org) or Marianne Hadden at 847-970-4851 (mhadden@usml.edu).
- For more information contact: **Fr. Burke Masters,** Joliet Diocese Vocation Director, 815.221.6171, vocations@dioceseofjoliet.org

COMMUNITY NEWS

VOTE NO ON HB 4013

HB 4013 is still hanging over our heads. It is the law that would force taxpayers to pay for Medicaid abortions and for abortions for state employees for any reason. It is estimated that it would produce 15,000 more abortions annually. You may wonder why a state that is so strapped for money would want to start a new entitlement. It would be all state funds. The Hyde Amendment protects your federal taxes from being spent on abortion.

Please call or contact your State Representative before January 2 when the Lame Duck session begins. The vote could be called any time between January 2 and the morning of January 11, 2017, when the new legislators are sworn in. Ask him/her to vote NO on HB 4013. The Springfield switchboard number is **217-782-2000.** Thank you.

Joyful Again!
For Widowed Men & Women

Being widowed is a special loss, and this program is designed especially to help the widowed find hope & joy again.
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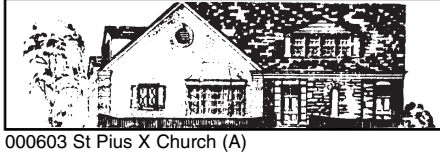

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