



Dear Parishioners,

Lately there have been several parishioners who have had surgeries and who are dealing with serious illnesses, so please each week please note in our bulletin our parishioners who are sick and include them in your daily prayers. As I have noted previously in my column, if ever a family member becomes seriously ill, is going to have surgery, or is hospitalized, please let me know. I know that hospitals are no longer allowed to contact parishes to let them know who has been admitted unless a patient explicitly requests such. I am happy to try my best to make hospital visitations. If someone has had surgery, I usually wait until the second day after surgery to make a hospital visit in order to give some time to recover from surgery. Of course there might be instances when I am not able to make it for a hospital visit before someone is released as it seems persons are out of the hospital oftentimes very quickly. I want to be sure that anyone who is seriously ill has the opportunity to receive the sacraments, especially the Sacrament of the Sick, and, if needed, the Sacrament of Reconciliation. If you know that you are going in for surgery, please request of me to administer these sacraments to you, if you so desire. Know too that I am happy to make a home visitation any time before someone goes in or after someone is released from the hospital, especially willing to bring Holy Communion on Sundays (or have Deacon Dave or an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion do so) until a person is able to get back to Mass.

On another note, it looks like that the 4:00 P.M. Christmas Eve Mass is the popular one versus the 5:30 P. M. Mass, so I ask that, if you do not have family (such as young

children and grandchildren) coming to the 4:00 P.M. Mass, please consider attending the 5:30 Mass if you choose to go on Christmas Eve for Christmas Mass. I am hoping that we can keep the 4:00 Mass from becoming overly packed in the social hall. Please note, too, that with the Christmas Masses being very full, go ahead and use all of the exits even through the construction area, especially if there would be a need for emergency egress. Have a blessed and grace-filled week. God bless,
Fr. Gutowski



MASS INTENTIONS

DEC. 12 THRU DEC. 18

Monday	Priest's Intention
Tuesday	Priest's Intention
Wednesday	Joe Fibich
Thursday	Elsie Grubaugh
Friday	William Roth
Saturday	Jim Werner
Sunday	People of St. Joseph



RE HAPPENINGS

Las Posadas (The Inns) is December 14 at 6 p.m. in the social hall for all first session students and their families. Parents please come and join your children this night so that you can also walk along with Mary and Joseph on their journey to find an inn. Refreshments to follow.

There is NO RE December 21 or 28. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

**DEVELOPMENT OF AN UNBORN
BABY**

Week 37 (the ninth month) – I’m still growing bigger and adding fat to keep me warm after I’m born. I’m getting heavy for Mom to carry me. I’m pretty much full grown now, that is, full grown for an unborn baby! I’ll grow a lot more after I’m born!

Week 38 - I’ve turned upside down in my Mom’s womb and I am standing on my head! My knees are pressed up against my chest and there’s not much room to stretch anymore!

**MASS & RECONCILIATION
SCHEDULE**

Please note the insert with the Reconciliation and Mass schedule for the upcoming Christmas season. We ask that you keep this schedule and refer to it as needed.

ATTENTION: MEN'S CHOIR

The Men's Choir will be singing for Christmas morning 9:00 Mass. To practice for new Mass parts, we will have two practices on Thursdays, Dec. 15 and 22nd at church from 7-8. Please try to attend.

WEEKLY ENVELOPES

You should have received your 1st quarter envelopes this past week. If you did not receive them, please call Sharon VanTassell as soon as possible. She will get a set out to you quickly. If you move, please give Sharon a call with your new address so we can forward it on to the envelope printers. Also if you move out of the parish, please let us know so we can remove your name and not pay for envelopes that you will not need.

ADMISSION TESTS

The eight area Catholic high schools will offer their Scholarship and Placement Tests to current 8th graders on Saturday, January 14th. The tests are used in the admissions process and to determine scholarship winners.

Creighton Prep	Mr. Michael
8:00 a.m.	9:00 a.m.
7400 Western Ave.	22520 Mt Michael Rd
Josh Luedtke:	Elkhorn
402-548-3872	Eric Crawford:
	402-253-0946

Dushesne Academy	Roncalli Catholic
8:30 a.m.	8:00 a.m.
3601 Burt	6401 Sorensen Pkwy.
Meg Jones:	Paulette Theisen:
402-558-3800	402-571-7670

Gross Catholic	Skutt Catholic
8:00 a.m.	8:00 a.m.
7700 S. 43rd St.	3131 S. 156th St.
Tim Johnk:	Tim Bloomingdale:
402-734-2000	402-333-0818

Marian High	Mercy High School
8:00 a.m.	8:00 a.m.
7400 Military Ave.	1510 S. 48th St.
Molly Woodman:	Anne Zadina:
402-571-2618	402-553-9424