**Mass Intentions**

***January 29, 2012– Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time***

 **8:00A.M. +** Victor DiFazio & Mickey Rose Nardi by the DiFazio Family

 **9:30A.M.** + Dr. James Ho by Gertrude Chan

 + Leung Yiu Wan & Mon Wah Fan by Amy Tse & Family

 + Yuen Sau Park by Paul and Cindy Lau & Family

 + Peter C. Lau by Gemma Wong

***MON. Jan. 30th Weekday***

 **8:00A.M.** + Joseph Briglio by Briglio Family

 + Dr. James Ho by Paul and Cindy Lau & Family

***TUE. Jan. 31st Saint John Bosco, Priest***

 **8:00A.M.** + Dr. James Ho by Paul and Cindy Lau & Family

 + Ming Kai Tsang by Rose Lee

***WED. Feb. 1st Weekday***

 **8:00 A.M. +** Fred Roti—Birthday Remembrance by Marion

 + Moy Got by Paul and Cindy Lau & Family

***THU. Feb. 2nd The Presentation of the Lord***

 **8:00 A.M.**  + Peter C. Lau by Paul and Cindy Lau & Family

***FRI. Feb. 3rd Saint Blaise, Bishop and Martyr; Saint Ansgar, Bishop***

**8:00A.M.** In Honor of the Sacred Heart of Jesus by Dominic Barbaro

 **+** Catherine Gurgone by daughter

 + Wai Sun Lau by Paul and Cindy Lau & Family

***SAT. Feb. 4th Weekday***

 **8:00A.M.** In Honor of the Immaculate Heart of Mary by Dominic Barbaro

 + Wei Fei Lew by Paul and Cindy Lau & Family

 **5:00 P.M.** Special Intentions by Lucille

+ Peter F. Caruso by Family

**From the Desk of Fr. Francis**

 **Greetings of Christ’s Peace and Joy! Hope you all had a blessed week.**

**Thank You**

Thanks to all who helped to plan and implement our ***Chinese New Year*** celebration, especially to John Lin, chairperson of the Chinese New Year Committee, hospitality ministers, decorators, and liturgical ministers. **This is one of the most solemn and unique celebrations of our faith community.** It takes a lot of planning and preparations every year to make the celebration so beautiful and meaningful. Making the lion dance, liturgical dance, and the veneration of the ancestor part of the Mass truly reminds us of the importance of our faith and culture. In the recent years, the Catholic Church speaks a lot of the need for enculturation. I think that our New Year Liturgical celebration is a concrete example of adopting our cultural customs in order to make our faith more relevant to people of the culture.



***Wisdom and Advice for the Year of the Dragon***

***The Dragon is a powerful animal for the Chinese. It symbolizes royalty, power, wisdom, and prosperity. As we celebrate the Chinese New Year this Sunday, I would like to share with you the following “10 insights”, sent to me by a friend.***

1] Prayer is not a "spare wheel" that you pull out when in trouble, but it is a "steering wheel" that directs the right path throughout.

禱告不是一個“備胎”，讓你在遇到麻煩時拉出來用，禱告實在是一個“方向盤”，指示正確的道路。
**2]** Why is a car's WINDSHIELD so large & the rear view mirror is so small? Because our PAST is not as important as our FUTURE. So, Look ahead and move on.

為什麼汽車的擋風玻璃是這麽大，而後視鏡卻是如此之小？因為我們的過去沒有像我們的未來這般重要。所以，集中精神向前看，向著未來前進。

**3]** Friendship is like a BOOK. It takes few seconds to burn, but it takes years to write. 友誼就像一本書。燒一本書只需要幾秒鐘，但寫一本書需要很多年。

**4]** All things in life are temporary. If going well, enjoy it, they will not last forever. If going wrong, don't worry, they can't last long either. 生活中所有的東西都是短暫的。如果生活順利，享受它，它們不會永遠不變。如果生活遇到艱難，不用擔心，艱難也不會永遠不變。

 **5]** Old Friends are Gold! New Friends are Diamond! If you get a Diamond, don't forget the Gold! Because to hold a Diamond, you always need a Base of Gold! 老朋友是金！新朋友是鑽石！如果你得到一顆鑽石，不要忘了黃金！因為要托住一顆鑽石，你總是需要黃金做托架！

 **6]** Often when we lose hope and think this is the end, GOD smiles from above and says, "Relax, sweetheart, it's just a bend, not the end! 通常當我們失去了希望，很多時悲觀地想到這是末路，天主從上面微笑著說：“放輕鬆些， 親愛的 ，它只是一個彎，不是末路！

**7]** When GOD solves your problems, you have faith in HIS abilities; when GOD doesn't solve your problems HE has faith in your abilities. 當天主解決你的問題，你相信天主的能力; 當天主不解決你的問題，那是天主相信你自己能解決的能力。

**8]** A blind person asked St. Anthony: "Can there be anything worse than losing eye sight?" He replied: "Yes, losing your vision!" 一個盲人問聖安東尼：“有什麼東西比失去視力更差？” 他回答說：“是的，失去你的視野！”

**9]** When you pray for others, God listens to you and blesses them, and sometimes, when you are safe and happy, remember that someone has prayed for you. 當你為別人禱告，天主聽你的，祝福他們，有時，當你平安和快樂時，記得那是有人已為你向天主祈求。

**10]** WORRYING does not take away tomorrow’s TROUBLES. It takes away today’s PEACE. 擔憂帶不走明天的煩惱，只會帶走今天的和平。

***Wishing YOU and YOUR LOVED ONES have a healthy and blessed year of Dragon!***

祝你及你愛的人, 龍年大吉大利, 主恩滿溢! 龙腾虎跃天德顺，人寿年丰谢主恩！

***Wishing you a healthy and blessed year of Dragon!***

***Peace, Fr. Francis***

***News and Events***

**Cantonese Mass The 9:30 am Mass next Sunday, Feb. 5th will be in Cantonese.**

**Annual Catholic Appeal The announcement weekend will be Feb. 4th & 5th. The commitment weekend will be Feb. 11th & 12th.**

**Finance Council Meeting Monday, Feb. 6th, at 7pm, the Finance Council will meet.**

**Blessing of the Throat Traditionally the *blessing of the throat* is on the Feast of Saint Blaise, which is Friday, Feb. 3rd. This year the blessing of the throat will take place after the 8:00 am Mass on Feb. 3rd; the 5:00 pm Mass on Feb. 4th; and the 8:00 am & 9:30 am Masses on Feb. 5th.**

**Tax Exempt Letter If you are a registered parishioner and would like to receive a year end tax exempt letter, please contact our parish office at 312-842-6777.**

**Catholic Schools Week (Jan. 29-Feb. 3rd) At the 8:00 am Mass on Jan. 30th, we will kick off the week with the school children. On Wednesday, Feb. 1st, there will be a school Curriculum Fair from 9:30 –11:30 am at the school. Parents, Grandparents & friends of St. Therese are invited to view the students projects!**

**LEADERSHIP DAY** The Annual Leadership Day will be held Saturday, February 18th. This is a day of formation for parish members involved in ministries of leadership. This year the workshop will be held at Loyola Academy in Wilmette. The day goes from 8:30 A.M. to 3:45. At 4:00 P.M., Mass will be celebrated and Cardinal George will preach as well as be a presenter of a workshop.

Some interesting workshops include titles such as: *Revitalizing Your Parish Pastoral Council, A Teen-Friendly Parish, It’s Not Too Late to Connect Young Adults to Your Parish…, Establishing Youth Ministry, Forgiveness, Taking Justice in Your Own Hands, Viewing the Liturgy through the Cultural Lens of Music, The Church Needs You…What Would Jesus Facebook?*

**We encourage everyone who can, to participate in this wonderful day of formation. Please sign up at the entrance of the church!** For further information talk with Father Li or Sister Caritas. See also the Leadership Website on the Archdiocese of Chicago Website.

***Additional* Christmas Donations received after January 22, 2012:**

Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Groh $200

Sammy Moy & Debbe Oi $100

Rocco Caponigri $100

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 $400

**TOTAL AS OF JANUARY 27, 2012: $24,989 Thank YOU!**

***Hospitality Schedule for February 5, 2012***

**GREETERS: George Lee, John Moy, Gemma Wong**

**RECEPTION VOLUNTEERS: Elaine, Raymond**

**————————————————————————————♪♫ Choir Corner ♫♪ will be back next week!**

 **January 29, 2012 *Lunar New Year Mass* (Chinese Service Music)**

**Catholic Social Teaching**

***Issue:***

When we look around us, what do we see?  Perhaps it’s someone being treated unkindly, a homeless person asking for money, or maybe it’s the images that flood our mind when we read about an act of violence that occurred in the City?  Now let’s think on a national and global scale.  Are we aware of the injustice, environmental degradation, and strife that go on hundreds and thousands of miles away?  Do we even pay much attention to what transpires outside of our own communities?  As Catholics – and members of society – we often ask ourselves: *what can I do*?  *Can one person really make a difference*?  In *What Do Catholics Believe*, Leonie Caldecott reminds us that “The Catholic Church has always had a doctrine about society … teachings that in one way or another apply to politics, economics, crime and punishment, family, war and living in community” (82). With this in mind, let us explore some of these teachings and find ways to help, even if it’s a localized or individualized effort.

***Response:***

In what follows, we’ll look at three key points of Catholic social teaching: Dignity of the Human Person, Charity, Common Good, and Community, and Justice: Rights and Responsibilities.  Pertaining to the first, we come to realize that the dignity of every human being is fundamental, and this sets the foundation for the other principles (Caldecott 84).  Caldecott reaffirms that “Made in the image of God, man is not just a material body but a person, with an inviolable conscience, existing in relationship to others, mutually dependent; the only proper response to the dignity of each human person is love” (84).  With regard to the second, Caldecott reiterates that “*We* form one human family … [and as such, we must] work together to ensure the common good in political and economic life” (84-5).  Lastly, with the third point, Caldecott informs us that “The first of rights is a right to life, whose flip side is the duty of others to protect, nourish, and support human life from its beginning to its natural end” (85).  So what do all of these guidelines have in common?  Do they not share a common theme? – treating others the way we want to be treated, looking out for each other, being kind, compassionate, loving, and merciful.  Although the effects of our actions won’t necessarily span the globe, these are simple practices that can be implemented right now and for the rest of our lives.  In addition, we can always find opportunities to help the poor or needy through food pantries, parish events, even at shelters.  To ensure the protection of life, especially for unborn babies, consider advocating against abortion and praying to our Blessed Mother.  And as always, let us turn to prayer: prayer is incredibly powerful; prayer reaches the breadth of the universe.

***“As you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me." -Matthew 25:40***

**-Christian Shiu**

 **Weekly Offering:**

Collection for January 22, 2012

Sunday Envelopes $1,434

Sunday Loose $ 192 July 1-To-Present (Actual): $57,998

Total Collection $1,626 July1-To -Present (Budget): $58,500

Weekly Budget: $1,950 % of Budget Attained: 99%

Please consider giving one hour of your weekly salary as your contribution.

***May God bless your generosity! Thank You!***

***Mandarin Mass of January 22, 2012: $192.00 Thank You!***

# *Do You Hear Jesus? “Can you hear Jesus now?”*

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# Anyone who has served as a substitute teacher or babysitter or interim manager or even guest preacher knows the challenge of stepping into a role of authority over people who aren’t familiar with you. It’s possible they will hear your message or lesson plan with anticipatory ears, awakened from their usual routine. More likely, though, will be complaints: “Our teacher doesn’t do it *that* way,” or “*That’s* not how Mom makes our grilled-cheese sandwiches,” or “Our pastor doesn’t preach *that* long!”

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# Jesus had a similar experience in the synagogue in Capernaum. It was customary for men in the community to take a turn teaching in the synagogue. However, Jesus’ teaching was like none the people had heard before– he spoke as one with authority. You can imagine the murmurings that traveled among the hearers, “Our scribes don’t teach that way.” “That’s not what we’re used to hearing!” One unclean spirit even confronted Jesus.

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# Certainly this wouldn’t be the last time Jesus’ teachings led him into controversy. His continual challenge of the status quo eventually provoked those in power to send him to the cross. But the Gospel reports that the people in Capernaum were “amazed” at his new teaching. Most responded with awe and respect for his profound words.

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# We who have been Christians for a while may think we know this Jesus and his teachings. We may have decided what his message is, and we may have constructed for ourselves a simple Christianity that just requires us to be “nice” to others.

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# But are we willing to hear Jesus with new ears? His teachings are challenging, and they ought to shake us to the core. Will we, too, be amazed?

#  ~Janel Esker

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# *What is Candlemas?*

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# *My mother always went to church on Candlemas because she thought the candlelit procession was so beautiful. I haven’t heard the name Candlemas in years. Do we still celebrate it?* ~Velma

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# Dear Velma,

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# Candlemas falls on February 2, forty days after Christmas. It’s a popular name for the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord, which recalls the day Mary and Joseph presented their child to God in the temple at Jerusalem in accordance with the law of Moses. We remember how the elderly believers, Simeon and Anna, recognized Jesus as their longed-for-Messiah and how, addressing God in a canticle (song), Simeon proclaimed Christ to be “a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and glory for your people Israel” (Luke 2:29-32).

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# On the Feast of the Presentation, Mass starts with a blessing and the lighting of candles, which the priest and people carry either in procession or in a solemn entrance into the church. They rejoice over the Good News of Christ– the light of the nations– entering the world. The name *Candlemas* springs from this ritual blessing of candles.

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# In 1997, Pope John Paul II added an extra layer of meaning to Candlemas by proclaiming the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord to also be th annual World Day for Consecrated Life. Now many religious brothers, sisters, and priests mark the day as a moment for renewing their vows of religious consecration and celebrating their special vocation within the Church.

#  ~Matthew Allman, CSsR

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**Please remember in your prayers those who are**

**ill, hospitalized, and homebound...**

Sarah Phillips Marie Balestri Carmella Scanlon

Natasha Chang Lucille Iasillo Carmen (Rails) Balestri

Baby Dominic Vittori Dominic Barbaro Winnie So

Barbara McElroy Barb Davis Rose Perez

Ramona Zavala Ken Barber Nicholas Tobar

Michael Howley Lauren Mandel Ruth Barone

Bernie Presto YoYo Damico Dolly Roti

Lina Andriacchi Baby Jessa Piotrowski Sister Noel Devine

Su Zhen Liao Fr. Walter Johnson, MM Fr. Anthony Chen

Sister Elizabeth Lee John Galvin Michele Young

Manuel Gore Debbie Thome Wu Wai Hing

If you wish to add a name or remove your name from this list, please call the parish office.

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**Welcome Home!**

Today we celebrate the home coming of our “families” for the New Year. Through our Baptism we are all brothers and sisters, as God is our Father. As we celebrate the *“Year of the Dragon”* we welcome our family members. As we enter the Church, a welcome is extended by our greeters.

Greeters have a special ministry of making everyone feel welcome. Their ministry of warm hospitality brings people together, recognizing that at St. Therese there are no strangers. The welcoming of those coming to celebrate prepares us for prayer and worship. The atmosphere of “oneness” is encouraged by our greeting of each other at the start of Mass. After this brief greeting we are reminded of “THE PRESENCE” of God among us.

Again placing ourselves in this presence calls us to be aware of two things. First it tells us that we are all one and are called to be one, together, in the worship of God. Secondly, it makes us again aware that God is among us, with us, present in Church in a special sacramental way and present in the Body of Christ, the members of the community. We begin our Mass celebration as one “people of God”.  **~ Sister Carita**