

**ST. FRANCIS BORGIA DEAF CENTER, 8025 W. ADDISON**

JANUARY 4, 2009

EPIPHANY of the LORD

BE CAREFUL! Because of the economy, many people will do ANYTHING for money!

- 1) SCAMS: worse than ever! People tell me that they are getting messages everyday on their emails, in the regular mail, on VP-all of them promising "fast money", "big profits", "lottery prizes you did not know you won," etc. These are ALL false! Do NOT pay any attention to them.
- 2) OFFICIAL or "GOVERNMENT" mailings asking you for personal information, such as your Social Security number, bank account numbers, computer passwords, etc. These are 95% false! However, if you have a question, see Fr. Joe Mulcrone and show him the letter.
- 3) BORROWING MONEY/LENDING MONEY: sadly, many people think it is okay to borrow money from someone, and NOT PAY THE MONEY BACK. No! The Catholic Church teaches us that if we borrow money, we MUST pay back that loan as soon as possible. If someone "lends" us money, that means it is a "loan". We owe that person the money they lent us.

CHURCH ENVELOPES: the envelope boxes are in our deaf center. Please pick up your envelope box and use these envelopes each week. If you do not have a box with your name on it, see CAROL MCGINNIS or DEACON RALPH HINCH immediately.

PLEASE PRAY FOR...DEANNE SEYMOUR, young daughter of deaf parents. Deanne has cancer; CLIFFORD AMES RINKEN, deaf, 67 years old, who died 12/19; WANDA KINDERKNECHT, THOMAS HOUSTON, and others who are sick.

WONDERFUL PROGRAMS for deaf/hard of hearing youth. Contact JUNE PRUSAK at Chicago Hearing Society at JPrusak@anixter.org.

IF you are going into the hospital for surgery or any treatment, ask one of the priests to give you the SACRAMENT of ANOINTING of the SICK. This is a special blessing from the Church for anyone who is ill or will have surgery.

Saturday, Jan. 10, 1 to 3 pm, VERY IMPORTANT TOWN HALL MEETING re: CHS (Chicago Hearing Society). Free. Voice/sign. 2032 N. Clybourn, Polk meeting room; plenty of free parking.

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS:**

- 1/11, Sun: Mass, 10:30am. Coffee & rolls.  
Mass, 4pm, St. Julie Billiart (Fr. Mike). Coffee & desserts.
- 1/12, Mon: Liturgy Planning Committee. Meal: 5:30pm; meeting, 6:30pm.
- 1/18, Sun: Mass, 10:30am. Coffee & rolls.  
Mass, 4pm, St. Julie Billiart. Refreshments.
- 1/22, Thurs: 10am-3pm: Senior Citizen Social.
- 1/25, Sun: Mass, 10:30am. PANCAKE BREAKFAST ALL MORNING. 12:30pm: workshop with Fr. Mike Depcik. Mass, 4pm, St. Mary of Vernon, INDIAN CREEK.

NEW LAW in the State of Illinois. If the police arrest you and you are found guilty of a DUI, the punishment is even more strict than before. Do not drink and drive. Also..... the police are setting up traffic stops on main streets to check if you are wearing your seat belt. If not, you get an automatic fine!

FEB.1, 2009, DEACON PATRICK GRAYBILL will move to the Chicago area. He will help out at St. Francis Borgia Deaf Center and also at St. Julie Parish for Masses.

THANKS TO...PATRICIA SLISZ, BRIAN SWATEK, T.K.HILL, TONY CITTA, CAROL MCGINNIS, JOHN & VALENTINA FOLERZYNSKI for all their work decorating the chapel. Many of the hearing parishioners of St. Francis Borgia, Fr. Andrew and Fr. Piotr, all commented on how beautiful the chapel was this year.

**READ YOUR BIBLE EVERYDAY:**

- |                                      |                                   |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1/5: 1 John 3:22-4:6/Matthew 4:12-25 | 1/8: 1 John 4:19-5:4/Luke 4:14-22 |
| 1/6: 1 John 4:7-10/Mark 6:34-44      | 1/9: 1 John 5:5-13/Luke 5:12-16   |
| 1/7: 1 John 4:11-18/Mark 6:45-52     | 1/10: 1 John 5:14-21/John 3:22-30 |

SORRY; the calendars have not arrived yet because Fr. Joe had to wait till he got the new address and new phone numbers for the Catholic Office of the Deaf. Hopefully the calendars will arrive soon!

## **SOME NOTES FROM FR. JOE:**

1) **HARD TIMES!** I noticed that the NAD (National Association of the Deaf) is cutting back its spending. NAD has reduced the pay to its employees by 20%; cut 5% of its contributions to the workers' pension fund; even cut the benefits to the CEO and other top managers. Why? Because the economy is so bad. This is ONLY the beginning of what will be very difficult times, especially for "not-for-profit", social service organizations. Recently, I have been writing and discussing my (Fr. Joe) concerns about services for our community: mental health, advocacy, etc. Please let me know if you or others in our community are having difficult times getting services from government, hospitals, agencies, etc. We need to know this.

Reminder: if you get sick and do not have a doctor or health insurance, go to the nearest **EMERGENCY ROOM** for help. Even if you do not have insurance, the **EMERGENCY ROOM** staff must help you. If the hospital says that they cannot put you in a room because you do not have insurance, refuse to leave! Tell the hospital you need help and there is nowhere else to go.

The meeting about CHS (Chicago Hearing Society) this week (see other side of the paper) is a good example of what I mean. Anixter Center is the larger agency to which CHS belongs. Anixter cut positions because of the money situation, especially grants from the State of Illinois, etc. Many people in the deaf community are concerned about the future of CHS. Please, make the effort to attend this meeting.

2) **CHRISTMAS PARTY-DIXON,IL. 12/20/2008.** On Sat, 12/20, RICHARD KUSH left Darien, IL with his van loaded with gifts for the two group homes for the 85 plus mile trip to Dixon, IL. From St. Francis Borgia, ROBERT DEPCIK, LOUIS VILLAPIANO, DON & MARY ANN WHARTON, and DEACON CASEY made the Dixon trip with another 15 gifts.

Arriving around 10:30am, we met with the group from Rockford Diocese led by MSGR. NELSON and six helpers. 11am, we went to two group homes with the gifts. The people in these homes have serious physical and mental disabilities that prevent them from joining the large gathering.

At Noon, we sat down for a pizza break to share our stories. At 1pm, the people arrived from the other group homes with their care-givers into a large room to await "Santa". As always, MSGR NELSON led his group and ours with Christmas carols. Santa arrived to greet everyone at his special seat, and distribute presents. Many of the clients were very excited and impatient to get their gifts. Everyone had something to take to their group home, happy to be remembered and receive a personal gift.

All this was made possible by the generosity and giving of our deaf communities. We can be thankful that all of us are able to share in the gift first made by Our Lord who gave Himself to us by coming to earth to be among us. -Deacon Casimir Fronczek.

3) **THANKS FOR YOUR PATIENCE.** I realize that we are still adjusting to having the two Polish Masses in the chapel at 7:30 and 9am. Some days the parking has been difficult. However, both of these Masses are full each week, so we can see why Fr. Andrew made his decision. He wants our deaf ministry to stay at St. Francis Borgia. At the same time, he is also trying to respond to the needs of all the Polish families. Let's all try to be patient with one another as we begin this New Year.

4) **LEARN ABOUT ST. PAUL:** Thurs, 1/8, 7pm: Interpreted in sign-language, "St. Paul and Building a Community." Free talk, St. John of the Cross Parish, 5005 S. Wolf Rd., WESTERN SPRINGS. Everyone is welcome to attend.

5) **THE ART INSTITUTE OF CHICAGO**, 111 S. Michigan Ave., Chgo is one of the best art museums in the world. It also has many excellent, FREE programs for families. Go to: [www.artic.edu/aic/kids](http://www.artic.edu/aic/kids), 312-857-7161. General info at: [www.artic.edu/aic](http://www.artic.edu/aic)

6) **EVERYTIME** we enter and leave Church, we put our finger in the holy water, cross ourselves, and say to ourselves, "In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit." Why? To receive God's help in our lives. Also, we remember our Baptism that we belong in a special way to God!