Saint John Cantius Church

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Web: Cantius.org  Webstore: BirettaBooks.com


MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday
7:30 a.m.  Low Mass: 1962 Missal  (Latin)  *1st Sundays 2002 Missal
9:00 a.m.  Sung Mass  (English)
11:00 a.m.  Sung Mass  (Latin)
12:30 p.m.  High Mass: 1962 Missal  (Latin)  *1st Sundays 2002 Missal
5:00 p.m.  Sung Mass  (English)

Monday – Friday
7:00 a.m.  Sung Mass  (English)
8:00 a.m.  Low Mass: 1962 Missal  (Latin)

Saturday
8:30 a.m.  Low Mass: 1962 Missal  (Latin)
5:00 p.m.  Anticipated Mass  (English)

Wednesdays and First Fridays
7:30 p.m.  Low Mass: 1962 Missal  (Latin)

DIVINE OFFICE

Sunday
6:30 a.m.  Matins and Lauds
2:00 p.m.  Rosary, Vespers
6:00 p.m.  Compline

Monday – Friday
6:30 a.m.  Matins and Lauds
11:45 a.m.  Midday Prayer
4:30 p.m.  Rosary, Vespers
7:00 p.m.  Compline (8:15 p.m. Wednesday)

Saturday
7:55 a.m.  Matins and Lauds
4:00 p.m.  Rosary, Vespers
   Compline after Mass

BAPTISMS

Arrangements must be made in advance.
Contact Fr. Joseph Brom, SJC.

MARRIAGES

Please view the guidelines on our website before making any arrangements. Contact Fr. Joseph Brom, SJC.

CONFESSIONS

Available when requested, at 4:30 p.m. on Saturday, and before all Masses on Sunday.

Parish Office Hours: Weekdays 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.  Closed Saturdays, Sundays, Holy Days & legal holidays.
On Christmas Eve and certainly on the coming feasts, the devout Catholic will recite the Divine Office with the Church, at least some of the more important Hours. Matins today is our final Advent prayer, its invitatory formulating clearly the vigil’s key message: “This day you shall know that the Lord is coming, and tomorrow you shall see His glory.” Our hearts are assured; certainly, He will come on the morrow in glory and power. The psalms are ferial; the lessons, a simple homily by St. Jerome on the Gospel. The holy doctor explains why Jesus was conceived by a virgin after rather than before betrothal.

The responsories repeat the vigil’s primary message, a repetition that becomes deeply impressive:

Sanctify yourselves today and be prepared, for tomorrow you shall see the majesty of God amongst you. This day you shall know that the Lord is coming, and tomorrow you shall see His glory.

Remain firm in your confidence, you will see the Lord’s help coming upon you! O Judea and Jerusalem, do not be afraid: tomorrow you will go forth, and the Lord will be with you, alleluia. Sanctify yourselves, O Children of Israel, and be ready.

Sanctify yourselves, O Children of Israel, says the Lord, for tomorrow the Lord will come down and remove all sickness from you. Tomorrow the iniquity of the earth will be blotted out; and the Savior of the world will rule over us.

- In the year 5199 since the creation of the world, when God made Heaven and earth;
- in the year 2957 since the flood;
- in the year 2015 since Abraham’s birth;
- in the year 1510 since the exodus of the people of Israel from Egypt under the guidance of Moses;
- in the year 1032 since David was anointed king;
- in the 65th week of years according to Daniel’s prophecy;
- in the 194th Olympiad, in the year 732 after the building of Rome;
- in the 42nd year of the reign of Octavian Augustus, when there was peace in the whole world;
- in the 6th era of the world’s history;
- Jesus Christ, eternal God and Son of the eternal Father, desired to sanctify the world by His gracious coming.
- He was conceived by the Holy Spirit, and now after nine months {all kneel}
- He is born at Bethlehem in the tribe of Judah as Man from the Virgin Mary.
ST. JOHN CANTIUS CHURCH

VERY REVEREND JOSHUA CASWELL, SJC, PASTOR AND SUPERIOR GENERAL

(312) 243-7373 | 825 N. CARPENTER STREET, CHICAGO, IL 60642 | cantius.org

Christmas 2022

Dear Friends,

“Long lay the world in sin and error pining, ‘till He appeared and the soul felt its worth.”

Too often it may seem as if there is no hope for our world, nor for us. Sin infects everything—our country, our cities, our families, and yes, even the Church comprised of fallen natures. But Christmas calls us to what Springfield’s own Abraham Lincoln called “the better angels of our nature.” Because sin does not win in our story. “This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance: that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners” (1 Timothy 1:5).

Our story here this past year was one of tumult and triumph. We embraced faith over fear in the face of challenges, and it showed in big ways. We were pleased this year to welcome our biggest class of new Christians, our biggest CCD enrollment, and our biggest benefit with even bigger hearts emboldened for the bright future ahead.

Every year at this holy time hundreds of red and white poinsettias adorn the High Altar of St. John Cantius Church for Christmas Masses. These unmistakable colors represent the Blood and Water by which Our Lord ransomed many from sin, and brought redemption. Its impact is not limited to one historical event more than 2,000 years ago, because the Mystery takes place in our lives and on our altar each time the priest in persona Christi offers the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass.

That same Holy Sacrifice has been offered on our altars beginning in 1893 when, before the church’s construction could be completed, our forefathers couldn’t wait but to offer our very first Mass—the Midnight Mass of Christmas—in our church basement. Today, the brothers and priests of the Canons Regular founded at our parish maintain this sense of urgency to bring the light of our Lord into this darkened world—this sense of Saint Augustine’s “restlessness”—and continue to offer that same Sacrifice all the while dedicated to bringing about “God and sinners reconciled.”

We invite you to join us for our Christmas Masses and Devotions whether in person or through livestream. Thank you for your generosity which helps us continue to serve our city and beyond to proclaim that Christ is the light that overcomes darkness.

May Our Infant Lord bless you and your loved ones this Christmas.

Sincerely in Him,

[Signature]

Fr. Joshua Caswell, SJC
CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE
*denotes livestream

CHRISTMAS EVE –
Saturday, December 24th, 2022
Church doors open at 10 pm - Confessions are heard
*11:00pm - Christmas Carols and Musical Prelude
*12:00am - Pontifical Midnight Mass with Bishop Joseph Perry (Latin - 2002 Missal)

CHRISTMAS DAY –
Sunday, December 25, 2022
7:30am - Recited Mass (2002 Missal - Latin)
*9:00am - Sung Mass in English
11:00am - Sung Mass in Latin
*12:30pm - Sung Mass in Latin (2002 Missal)
*2:00pm - Solemn Christmas Vespers

OCTAVE OF CHRISTMAS
Monday - Friday, December 26 - 30, 2022
8:00am - Sung Mass (2002 Missal)
9:00am - Low Mass (1962 Missal)
4:30pm - Solemn Vespers of Christmas
Wednesday at 7:30pm - High Mass (1962 Missal)

NEW YEAR’S EVE -
Saturday, December 31, 2022
8:30am - Low Mass (1962 Missal)
5:00pm - Anticipated Mass (English)
11:00pm - Deo Gratias Service and Holy Hour
12:00am - Midnight Mass (2002 Missal)

NEW YEAR’S DAY -
Sunday, January 1st, 2023
Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God
7:30am - Recited Mass (2002 Missal - Latin)
*9:00am - Sung Mass in English
11:00am - Sung Mass in Latin
*12:30pm - Sung Mass in Latin (2002 Missal)
2:00pm - Solemn Vespers

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CANONS REGULAR OF ST. JOHN CANTIUS

DECEMBER 23, 2022 4 P.M.

Rite of Acceptance into the Novitiate

Please join the Brothers and Priests of the Canons Regular of St. John Cantius on the Feast of St. John Cantius for Rosary and Solemn Vespers as we welcome four new brothers, who will be invested with the first part of the habit of the Canons Regular; the simple Cassock and sash.

DECEMBER 17-23, 2022

Join us for
the O Antiphons at Vespers
beginning Saturday December 17th

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

Dec. 23 - 26; Dec. 30 - Jan. 2nd, 2023
pilgrimage to Poland
May 31 – June 10, 2023
Visit Poland this coming June with chaplain and guide, Fr. Dennis Koliński, SJC. Long known as the bastion of Catholicism in Europe, Poland is, perhaps, the last unabashedly Catholic country in Europe. In the Royal City of Kraków, known as the “Rome of the North,” you will visit beautiful churches and the shrines of many saints, including St. John Cantius, St. John Paul II, and St. Faustina. The pilgrimage will take you to Auschwitz where St. Maximilian Kolbe and St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross (Edith Stein) were martyred, as well as, to Wadowice, the hometown of St. John Paul II. And after a visit to the great Marian shrine in Częstochowa, the pilgrimage will conclude with Corpus Christi Mass at the cathedral in Kraków and Eucharistic procession through the streets of the Old City. Look for more details to come!

For further information contact:
Fr. Koliński at dkolinski@cantius.org

Opłatek—Christmas Wafers
Available at the back of church
Suggested donation
—$5.00 per packet

Lighting of the Advent Wreath Candles
The sequence in which we light the candles on our Advent Wreath has a special symbolism. It begins with the violet candle placed on the south side of the wreath, followed by the violet candle to the north, which symbolizes Christ the Light of the World going from Bethlehem, the place of His birth, to Jerusalem where He was crucified for our Redemption. On the Third Sunday of Advent the rose candle on the east side is lit, followed lastly by the violet candle on the west side of the wreath symbolizing the spread of the Gospel from the Magi in the east to the regions of darkness in the west, even to the very ends of the earth.

P: From Bethlehem in Judah, too small to be honored among the clans of Israel, came the new Ruler and Savior, son of David and fulfillment of the promise made to David’s house.

P: The Lord our coming King, has-ten to a-dore Him.
A: The Lord our coming King, has-ten to a-dore Him.

P: Lord Jesus, in the mystery of your incarnation, you revealed your glory to the world,
A: Give us new life by your coming.
P: You have taken our weakness upon yourself,
A: Grant us your mercy.
P: You redeemed the world from sin by your first coming in humility,
A: Free us from all guilt when you come again in glory.
P: You sit at the right hand of the Father,
A: Gladden the souls of the dead with your light.
P: Let us pray. Grant us, O Lord, that the approaching feast of your birth may fill us with peace and life and may unite us with You and our fellowman in the bond of charity. We ask this through Christ our Lord.
**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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**Breaking of the OpŁatek**

*At the Family Meal Christmas Eve*

(or on Christmas Day)

L. In this solemn moment let us recall the time during which Jesus Christ was born of the Virgin Mary.

*(All pause for a moment of silence and reflection. All say the following prayer together.)*

Heavenly Father, we thank you for this bread, in which we remember the mystery of your Incarnation. *(All make the sign of the cross)* Bless us and this Christmas wafer. May we always remember your goodness to us in giving us the gift of your Divine Son, Jesus Christ, who is the Living Bread come down from Heaven and lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

*(At this time all share in the breaking of the Christmas wafer, extending good wishes and asking for forgiveness for wrongs done during the past year. Finally, all return to their place and the head of the household leads the concluding prayers.)*

L. Impart to our families the gift of love, of unity and peace, we pray to the Lord.

All:  *Lord have mercy*

L. Impart to our neighbors, our friends and our relatives the peace which only You can give, we pray to the Lord.

All:  *Lord have mercy*

L. For all the homeless, the lonely, the sick, the poor and the hungry over this entire world, comfort and strengthen each by the Good News of the Holy Night, we pray to the Lord.

All:  *Lord have mercy*

L. For all our deceased, our relatives and friends, reward them with the gift of Your Light and Glory, we pray to the Lord.

All:  *Lord have mercy.*

In silence we add our personal prayers.

(Special mention may be made for our men and women in the armed forces)

After a moment of silent reflection all recite the Our Father.

All: Heavenly Father, it was You who saw to it that Christmas night glistened with the True Light, Your Only Begotten Son; may our family be enlightened by this Light, reflect the life of your Son in what we say and do each day of our life. We ask this through Our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns forever and ever. Amen.

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**OpŁatek**

(o-pwá-tek)

*The Christmas Wafer*

The Christmas Eve Dinner brings the entire family together in anticipation of Christmas Day. In Poland this tradition is filled with symbolism.

Before the dinner begins, the father brings a sheaf of grain from the barn and places it in a corner of the room in which the family will share the Christmas Eve meal—*Wigilia*. This represents the home's Guardian Angel.

In remembrance of the manger in Bethlehem the family places hay on the table before covering it with a fine linen tablecloth. An empty place is set at the table for an unexpected guest—who is Christ. The empty table setting also represents the ancient belief that on this most holy of nights, the deceased ancestors of the family come to share the sacred meal with their relatives once again.

As soon as the sun sets, the children look expectantly through the window looking for the first star to appear in the sky. When it does, members of the family and guests gather around the table and the Christmas Eve dinner begins with the breaking and sharing of the *opłatek*, the Christmas wafer.

This very old custom unites past with present, heaven with earth, church and home. The practice of sharing the Christmas wafer really comes from the very core of our Catholic belief, the Blessed Eucharist. It was Our Lord Jesus Himself, who on the night before He died following the age old practice of His time, taking bread into His venerable hands, blessing it, breaking it and giving it to His Apostles.

In the sharing of the Christmas Wafer, the head of the house first asks for forgiveness from his family and then wishes each member a Blessed Christmas. He, and each family member in turn, shares the wafer with everyone present. As they do so, each person breaks a small piece off of each other’s wafer and wishes blessings to each other and asking for mutual forgiveness.

It is only after the sharing of the Christmas wafer that dinner takes begins.

*(To conclude the service any Christmas hymn may be sung or the following may be used.)*

O come all ye faithful, Joyful and triumphant, Come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem. Come and behold Him, born the King of angels.

*Refrain* O come let us adore Him, O come let us adore Him, O come let us adore Him, Christ, the Lord.
ANNOUNCEMENTS

DEO GRATIAS SERVICE

Saturday, December 31, 2022, 11:00 p.m.

Plan to usher in the New Year by attending our yearly Deo Gratias Service, a Holy Hour of Thanksgiving, Adoration, Petition and Reparation.

We invite all our parishioners and friends, but especially parents whose children were baptized this past year at St. John’s; those who professed their marriage vows before our altar during this past year and finally, families of those who were buried from our church. Attending our Holy Hour is a splendid way to end the year as well as prepare for the New Year.

10:30 pm - Confessions begin
11:00 pm - Holy Hour with sung “Te Deum”
12:00 am - Midnight Latin High Mass

Stop by Biretta Books after Mass to get your last minute Christmas gifts!

Biretta Books is located in the lower church lobby
Open every Sunday, 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Profits benefit the Canons Regular of St. John Cantius.

Canons Regular of St. John Cantius 2023 Calendars
Available as our gift to you after all Masses on Sunday
One per family, please!
Additional calendars can be purchased for $10.00 each at Biretta Books.

THE GRAND CANTIAN BALL

JANUARY 21, 2023
DOORS OPEN 6PM | DANCE LESSON 6:30 PM
MICHIGAN SHORES CLUB
White Tie Requested

Details & Tickets eventcreate.com/e/grandcantanball

Join us @ 2:45 OR ≤ bring a potluck dish to share after the 12:30 Mass!

FULL OF GRACE
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Dreaming of going to the Ball?
Learn to Dance for FREE!
4 lessons plus an hour of social dancing!
RECESSIONAL — 9:00 A.M., 11:00 A.M., 12:30 P.M.

1. O come, O come, Em-man-u-el, And ransom captive
   Is-ra-el, That mourns in lon-ely ex-ile here,
   Un-til the Son of God ap-pear.
   Shall come to thee, O Is-ra-el.

2. O come, Thou Wis-dom from on high, Who ord-rest all things
   might-i-ly; To us the path of know-ledge show
   And teach us in her ways to go. Re-joice! Re-joice! Em-
   man-u-el Shall come to thee, O Is-ra-el.

3. O come, O come, Thou Lord of might, Who to Thy tribes on
   Si-nai’s height In an-cient times didst give the law
   In cloud and maj-es-ty and awe. Re-joice! Re-joice! Em-
   man-u-el Shall come to thee, O Is-ra-el.

4. O come, Thou Rod of Je-sus’ stem; From ev-‘ry foe de-
   liv-er them That trust Thy might-y pow’r to save,
   And give them vic-t’ry o’er the grave.
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