

# ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

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From: Fr. Thomas R. Franzman, Director  
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Dear Co-Disciples:

This is the second monthly Evangelization E-Newsletter from the Office of Evangelization. We apologize for missing March. As many of you know, the first newsletter was sent out by our beloved, Fr. Joseph Kruszynski, O.F.M., who passed away on February 16, shortly after the first newsletter went out. It has taken us a little bit of time to re-group, but Linda Weaver (a member of the Archdiocesan Evangelization Committee), who helped Fr. Joe draft the first newsletter, has agreed to assist me with this most important task for now. We are attaching a PDF of this letter in case the spacing of this E-mail version appears scrambled on your computer. Hopefully this will work out for everyone.

The first newsletter went to participants of the Evangelization Institutes, all Pastors, all of our Catholic Schools and many others. During Fr. Barron's Mini-Missions, over 600 people signed up to receive this newsletter. We welcome all of our new readers, and we encourage everyone to start evangelizing by forwarding this to at least one person you think might be interested in receiving it, if only for the recipes at the end!!! (Don't worry though, you will NOT have bad luck if you don't.)

In Christ,  
Fr. Thomas R. Franzman

## **MISSION CHICAGO UPDATE!**

### **Fr. Barron's Palm Sunday Mission: Don't miss it!!**

The last of Fr. Barron's inspiring Lenten Missions, will be this Palm Sunday, 7:30 p.m. at Holy Name Cathedral, 735 N. State, Chicago. The topic is "Your Life Is Not About You." (For those who did not realize it, each of his talks over the last five weeks has been different. So even if you have heard him before, please come Sunday!) A sampling of only ¼ of those who attended the first five sessions showed that well over 3000 people from over 160 parishes across Chicago have come to hear him already.

Begin the most meaningful Holy Week of your life by making a mini-pilgrimage to the Cathedral Sunday evening to hear Fr. Barron's message. Invite your family, friends, co-workers, neighbors, your church group, and your perceived enemies to come with you. They may say "no," but then again, they may say "yes." Either way, Come! You have been called. (For those of you who may want to take public transportation, the Red Line stops right on the corner of the church at the Chicago Ave. stop as does the No. 66 bus Chicago & Wabash or State.) Note that the talk is on **Sunday**, April 9 (not Thursday, April 9 as one publication erroneously stated.)

### **Answers to frequently asked questions at Fr. Bob's talks:**

*Does Fr. Barron have DVDs with these talks on them?* He has two DVDs that have some of the talks, but not all of them. *Untold Blessing: The Three Paths to Holiness*, came out last year. The second DVD, *Conversion: Following the Call of Christ*, came out just a few days ago. In the new DVD, Fr. Barron uses 6 biblical stories to show how in our contemporary lives we are constantly being called by Christ to follow Him. Both DVDs will be available for purchase at his Palm Sunday talk, at the greatly reduced price of \$5 each, through the generosity of Fr. Barron's producer especially for Mission Chicago. If you cannot attend, you can order them at [www.wordonfire.org](http://www.wordonfire.org) for the Mission Chicago price of \$5 plus shipping and handling. (You will save shipping, handling and the hassle of ordering Sunday. If you can't make it Sunday, but know someone who is coming, ask them to pick them up for you.) I bought 20 copies of *Untold Blessings* and have been handing them out to my friends and family! What a true gift!

*Will Fr. Barron's talks be broadcast on Relevant Radio?* Relevant Radio has been broadcasting them at noon on Saturdays. The final talk will be aired at noon, April 16. We hope they will re-broadcast the whole series after Lent for those who missed some (or all) of the talks. You can check the Mission Chicago website for updates on this. [www.missionchicago.org](http://www.missionchicago.org)

*I wish my friend could see a clip of Fr. Barron's talks. Is that possible? Why, yes, it is!* You can find 4 minute video clips from each of his talks at [www.missionchicago.org](http://www.missionchicago.org)

*Can I get an autographed picture of Fr. Bob?* No. Sorry. We're not going there!

*How can I keep informed about upcoming Mission Chicago events?* Many exciting events are being planned as part of Mission Chicago and the Year of Evangelization recently declared by His Eminence, Francis Cardinal George. We will let you know about them in this newsletter. Since this only comes out once a month, we will also try to keep abreast of new developments on the Calendar page of the Archdiocesan Evangelization website: [www.goingforth.org](http://www.goingforth.org)

*Where can I find other opportunities for Spiritual Growth?* You can learn about many other opportunities to deepen your faith in the "Around the Archdiocese" column in the Catholic New World.

## **Other Evangelization News**

### **Spanish Institute Set**

The first Spanish Evangelization Institute will take place at Immaculate Conception Parish on 44<sup>th</sup> & California St. on Aug. 4, 5, 6, 2006. Mark your calendars and watch for more details. For information, contact the Office of Evangelization at [cdelatorre@archchicago.org](mailto:cdelatorre@archchicago.org) or (312) 751-5353. Carina speaks Spanish.

## **Evangelization Institute: July 21-23**

The third Evangelization Institute of Chicago will be held at Old St. Mary's Parish, 1500 S. Michigan Ave., Friday – Sunday, July 21, 22 & 23. As a result of Fr. DeSiano's presentation to the Deacons at their recent conference, we already have a high number of Deacons registered for this Institute. Space is limited, so if you are interested in attending, sign up as soon as possible. Registration forms and other information can be found at [www.goingforth.org](http://www.goingforth.org) You and your evangelization team will be empowered and excited after your three days of intensive training.

### **APOLOGETICS**

St. Thomas of Canterbury Catholic Church, 4827 N. Kenmore is sponsoring a free lecture series open to all, featuring best selling author, publisher, and host of four EWTN shows, Patrick Madrid. Here is the schedule:

- Friday, April 14, 2006, 8:00 p.m. (Good Friday) The Case for Christ: Examining the Proof for the Existence, Divinity and Resurrection of Jesus Christ
- Saturday, April 15,
  - 9:00 a.m. Why Be Catholic (When You Could Be Anything Else?)
  - 11:00 a.m. Search and Rescue: How to Bring Your Family and Friends Into (or Back Into) the Catholic Church.
  - 1:00 p.m. Stump the Apologist: An Open Forum Q&A Workshop

For additional information, contact Deacon John Green, at (773) 551-1480 or [john@greenchoby.com](mailto:john@greenchoby.com) For the full flier, go to the Calendar on [www.goingforth.org](http://www.goingforth.org) I think I'll go see how he answers all those tough questions my atheist friends pose to me!! (Hmmm. Maybe I'll just take them with me....)

### **Get Ready. Here They Come!**

With a little foresight, evangelization doesn't have to cost a lot or take up a lot of time. Ash Wednesday/Palm Sunday/Easter offers a jackpot for evangelizers. We spend a lot of time and energy planning and executing door to door campaigns. Next Sunday and on Easter, they will be coming to you! Are you ready for them? Will you make them feel welcomed? Will you cheerfully scoot over in the pew to make room? Will they hear a message of welcome from the pulpit—two weeks in a row? Wouldn't it be nice for the whole church to say a prayer that more strangers join you? One little table, with one person armed with a smile, willing to sit for 10 minutes before and after mass with info on your parish, might be all it takes to encourage the person who comes once a year, to come more often. Sometimes, "being available" is all it takes.

Cost of sitting at a table: \$0 Cost of one soul: Priceless.

### **Fr. Frank DeSiano is Leaving Chicago**

Fr. Frank DeSiano, Pastor of Old St. Mary's and one of the nation's foremost authorities on evangelization, has been called back to New York by the Paulists. This is a huge loss for evangelization in Chicago, but he assures us that his duties out East will give him free time to return to Chicago for seminars and workshops. If your group had planned to have Fr. DeSiano come to your parish, he may still have time before he leaves for New York in a month or two. For now, he can be reached at (312) 922-3444.

## The Recipes

Why do we include recipes in this newsletter? Oddly enough, food is one of our strongest evangelization tools. Jesus taught us this! I have often used cookies in my evangelization efforts. For example, last summer, I volunteered to sit at a table with information about the work we do in the Office of Evangelization at the priests' conference. I realized a couple of days before, that very few of the 600+ priests were probably going to come over and look at my materials. So, the night before, I baked 35 dozen cookies and then set them out on the tables BEHIND all of my evangelization materials, so our priests had to reach over them to get the desserts. It worked! They easily recognized the trap I had set, but they were very good natured about it and I got them to the table!

Sometimes evangelization takes creative thinking. If you have a favorite recipe and a creative way you used it to evangelize, send it to me. I can always use a good idea!

[MissFire2003@aol.com](mailto:MissFire2003@aol.com) Here is the Frosted Triple Peanut Butter Cookie Recipe I promised (and a reprint of the Cherry Bar recipe I promised those who signed up at Fr. Barron's talks. Okay, I used food as bait again... Evangelization can be so much fun!) Next month, I have a killer Lemon Bar recipe for you. Don't forget to forward this along to your friends who like to bake or eat.

Faithfully yours,  
Linda Weaver  
Evangelization Committee

### **Frosted Triple Peanut Butter Cookies**

This cookie combines a peanut butter dough, peanut butter chips and peanut butter frosting. If you are really feeling like a nut, you can add chopped peanuts on top of the frosting! This is a great cookie to make if you have no butter on hand.

¾ c. creamy peanut butter  
½ c. Butter Flavor Crisco shortening  
1 ¼ c. firmly packed light brown sugar  
3 Tbsp. milk  
1 Tbsp. vanilla (yes, TABLESPOON)  
1 large egg  
1 ¾ c. flour  
¾ tsp. salt  
¾ tsp. baking soda  
One package peanut butter flavored chips

Heat oven to 375 degrees F. Combine first 5 ingredients in large bowl and beat at medium speed with electric mixer until well blended. Add egg. Beat just until blended.

Combine flour, salt and baking soda. Add to creamed mixture at low speed until just blended. Mix in peanut butter chips. Roll a heaping Tablespoon into a ball with your hands, place on cookie sheet and flatten a little with fork tines. (Dip fork tines in flour first to prevent sticking.)

Bake for 7-8 minutes or until set and just beginning to brown. Cool on cookie sheets. Then frost with a dollop of frosting on top. (They are easier to frost before you remove them from the sheet.)

Frosting:

1/3 c. creamy peanut butter

1 tsp. vanilla

3 c. conf. sugar

3 T. milk or cream (add more milk if necessary to make a nice thick frosting)

The cookie recipe was modified from a recipe found on the inside of the wrapper for the sticks of Butter Flavored Crisco. The Frosting was modified from one of my Aunt Jane's frosting recipes.

### **Cherry Bars:**

These are sooooo easy to make, and you can always have the ingredients on hand for last minute baking emergencies.

Crumb Mixture:

2 c. flour

2 c. quick cooking oatmeal

1 ½ c. sugar

1 ¼ c. soft butter

Filling: 1 can of Cherry Pie filling (either the 21 oz or the next size larger will work.)

Glaze:

1 Tbsp. soft butter

1/2 tsp. vanilla

1 c. conf. sugar

2 Tbsp. milk or cream

Heat oven to 350 degrees. In large mixing bowl combine all crumb mixture ingredients. Beat at low speed with electric mixer until crumbly. Save about 1 ½ c. crumb mixture for topping. Press remaining crumb mixture on the bottom of an ungreased 9 x 13 inch baking pan. Bake for 15 to 20 minutes until the edges are very lightly browned.

Remove from oven and spread cherry pie filling over the partially baked crust. Sprinkle with the remaining crumb mixture and continue baking for 27 to 32 minutes or until topping is slightly browned. Let cool and drizzle glaze over the top.

The above recipe was modified from a recipe originally taken from "Favorite Holiday Cookies", Land O Lakes, at page 35, called Chocolate Drizzled Cherry Bars. (1996).

So Jesus said to them again,  
"Peace be with you; as the Father has sent Me,  
I also send you."

(John 20:21)