

With a big blue hollow body guitar as his pulpit, Rick “The Reverend” Raven delivers a fire-and-brimstone sermon of original Chicago blues. His sizzling guitar licks backed by the traditional groove of the Chain Smoking Altar Boys has made this trio a mainstay on the summertime blues bible belt of the Midwestern U.S., where the faithful flock to see them play numerous festivals and bona fide blues clubs like Buddy Guy’s Legends, The Slippery Noodle, and Blues on Grand. The Reverend had the opportunity to witness many great performances on the street corners and in the smoky clubs of Chicago’s blue blood south side, but it was Freddy King’s infectious down-home thumb and finger picking approach that helped him realize his life’s ambition of fronting his own raw urban blues band. Laying down the fat bottom for the Altar Boys is the rhythm section of Rick Holmes, Milwaukee’s own “Ace of Bass,” and Spencer “Kid” Panosh, a seasoned beat keeper who is one of the most sought-after drummers in Cheese country. Flying high above all of this is the interwoven guitar and harp groove of The Reverend and a harmonica great (usually “Cadillac” Pete Rahn or Madison Slim). *Blues Revue* magazine states that this is “mighty fine blues.”



Reverend Raven Trio

This is your opportunity to see the Reverend play a rare acoustic set on the Korbel Brandy Stage, and repent your sins on Saturday night with the good Reverend Raven & The Chain Smokin' Altar Boys at Norm's Beer & Brats.