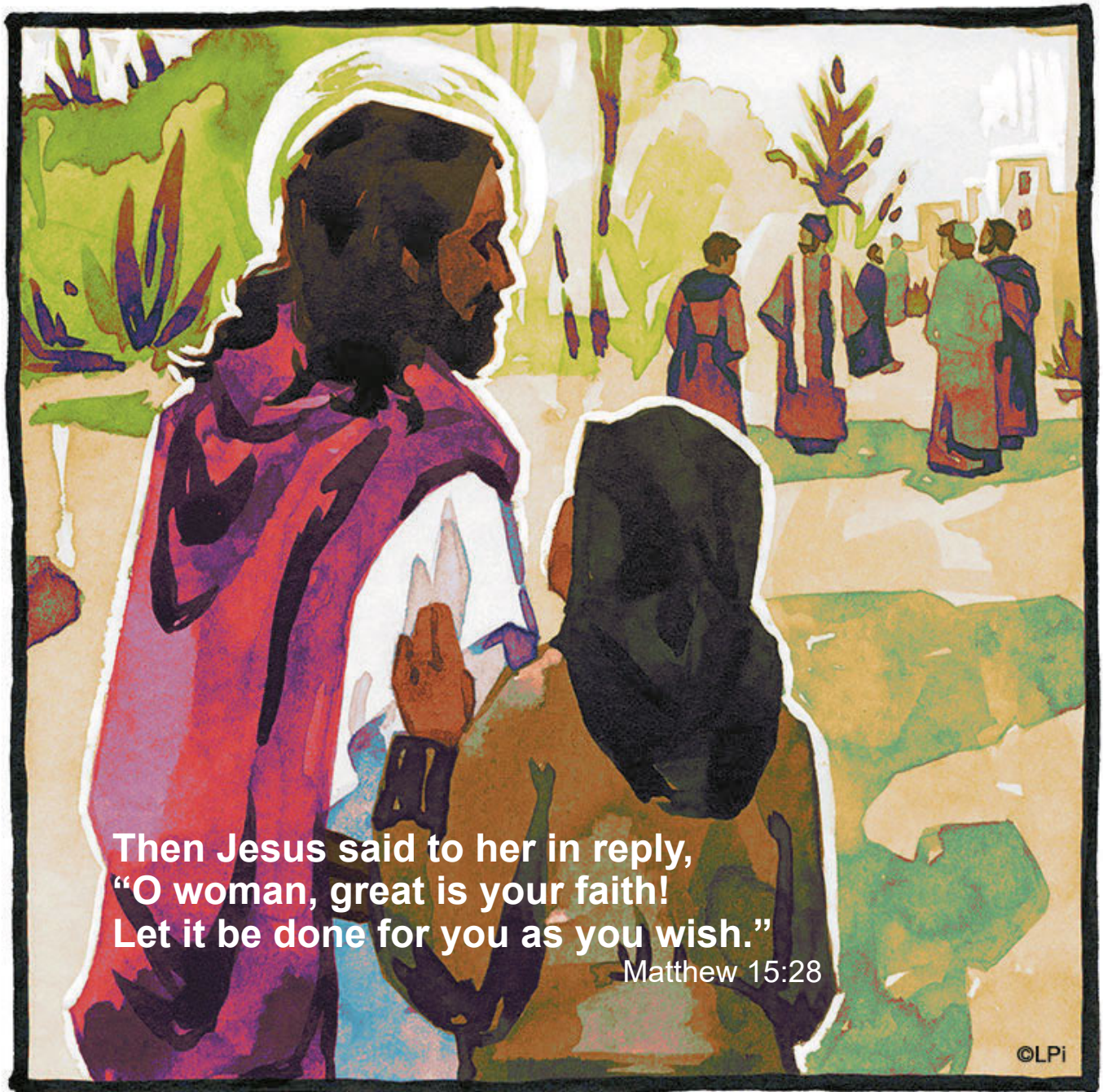


SAINT CATHERINE OF SIENA-SAINT LUCY AND SAINT GILES PARISH



AUGUST 20, 2023 • Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA - ST. LUCY CHURCH
38 NORTH AUSTIN BOULEVARD, OAK PARK
WEEKEND MASS: Sunday at 9:00 am

ST. GILES CHURCH
1045 COLUMBIAN AVENUE, OAK PARK

DAILY MASSES: Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 6:30 am;
Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday at 8:30 am; Saturday at 8:00 am (Confession following Mass, 8:30 to 9:00 am)
WEEKEND MASSES: Saturday at 4:30 pm and Sunday at 8:00 am, 10:30 am and at 5:00 pm

Fr. Carl's Corner



Dear Parishioners,

While we are all aware of the storm damage that has kept St. Edmund Church closed since Easter, we may not be aware or realize what an impact the church being closed would have on George's Restaurant just across the street. After Sunday morning and weekday Masses, folks would meet over at George's for conversation and nourishment. The last few times I have been to George's, he has asked me, "Fr. Carl, when will the church be opened again?" The answer - it is a process, and a slow one right now. We are finally at the point

where contractors have been walking through and will bid on the work to be done. I anticipate this work to be completed sometime this fall.

In the meantime, consider stopping in at George's, whose business has been diminished by the unfortunate storm damage to St. Edmund Church. Be sure to say, "Hi George," and tell him, "Fr. Carl sent me!!"

We can all take an important lesson from this situation. Not long ago while I was away visiting a friend, I was preparing for a meeting on Zoom. Suddenly, the electricity went out and remained out for hours. At a time like that, there was not much I could do. Events like that are simply out of our control. As stuck as we may feel, there is also a sense of freedom in the situation. In these instances, we need to remember God has given us free will, the ability to choose, and the power to create. None the less, our freedom is limited. For in the end, it all belongs to the Lord. Accepting what we can and cannot do and acknowledging God's control over it all is not always easy to do. But that is the place, even in the most frustrating of circumstances, we find peace.

Pope Francis reminds us – Faith is not a privilege to be claimed, but a Gift to be shared.

With you a Christian. For you a priest. Have a joyful week ahead.

Fr. Carl

The Parish of

St. Catherine of Siena-St. Lucy and St. Giles Oak Park, IL 60302

St. Giles Campus Parish Center Office

1025 Columbian Avenue

Phone 708-383-3430..... Fax 708-383-8644

..... E-mail: stgiles@stgilesparish.org

..... Website: stgilesparish.org

Business Hours:

Monday thru Thursday, 9:00 am - 4:30 pm,

Fridays, 9:00 am - 1:00 pm (June 16 through August 11)

Evening reception: Monday thru Thursday, 4:30 - 8:00 pm

Lauren Locke, Sr. Sue Paweski and Sue Croke, Receptionists

St. Catherine of Siena-St. Lucy Campus Rectory Office

38 North Austin Boulevard

Phone 708-386-8077

..... E-mail: parish@stcatherineslucy.org

..... Website: stcatherineslucy.org

Business Hours:

Saturday, 9:00 am - 4:30 pm; Sunday, 8:30 am - 12:00 pm

Other times by appointment.

Chemetha Baker, Weekend Receptionist

Rev. Carl Morello, Pastor Ext. 422

Rev. Robert Carlton, Associate Pastor

Rev. Edward P. Salmon, Resident..... Ext. 308

Rev. Thomas E. Unz, Resident..... Ext. 313

Mr. John (Lois) Henricks, Deacon

Mr. Loretto J. (Carlotta) Madonia, Jr., Deacon (retired)

Mr. Kevin (Marc) Morgan, Deacon

Mr. William (Abbie) Pouncy, Deacon

Mr. John (Barbara) Walters, Deacon

Sharon Bresnahan, Accounts Administrator..... Ext. 420

Matthew Brophy, Director of Parish Operations Ext. 102

Carol Coleman, Business Manager Ext. 419

Sue Kaszynski, Director of Music and Liturgy Ext. 423

Marc Madary, Director of Lifelong Formation..... Ext. 404

Connie Rakitan, Program Director, Faith & Fellowship

Alex Ryan, Liturgy Coordinator Ext. 403

Julius White, Praise Choir

Rachel Faulman, Parish Administrative Assistant

and Bulletin Editor Ext. 401

..... E-mail: stgiles@stgilesparish.org

..... -or- parish@stcatherineslucy.org

Lifelong Faith Formation

and Religious Education of Children

Phone 708-383-3430..... Fax 708-383-8644

..... E-mail: religioused@stgilesparish.org

Kelly McCreary,

Faith Formation Administrative Assistant..... Ext. 101

Peggy Plastina,

Coordinator, Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Ext. 408

St. Giles School

1034 Linden Avenue

Phone 708-383-6279..... Fax 708-383-9952

..... E-mail: office@stgilesschool.org

..... Website: stgilesschool.org

Meg Bigane, Principal mbigane@stgilesschool.org

St. Catherine-St. Lucy School

27 Washington Boulevard

Phone 708-386-5286..... Fax 708-386-7328

..... Website: catherinelucy.org

Sharon Leamy, Principal sleamy@catherinelucy.org

Spiritual Life & Worship

We Pray For . . .

Those who are hospitalized or homebound, including: Steven Acevedo, Patrick Ahearn, Coletta Ali, Anthony Arena, Jane Baker, Jori Baker, Phyllis Baker, Marissa Becker, Kyle Becnel, Joe Bigliotti, Danita Bowie, Viola Cleo Bradshaw, Herbert Breidenbach, Melissa Brumund, Phil Calabrese, Patrick Cibula, Ray Cimms, Patricia Crotty, Lucille Dalbis, Bill DeBiase, Eugenia de Morales, Andrea Dickson, Wanda Farmer, Mike Fenske, Katherine Fisher, Tom and Carol Frank, Mary Ellen Frank, Jim Gallagher, Earl Gallermo, Michael Gallo, Marcial Gomez, Grace Gryzlo Goodmanson, Jennifer Hanna, Maggie Astacio Hedges, Deacon John Henricks, Bill Holmes, Frank Huss, Ginny Jones, Phillip Jones, Patrick King, Marie Koko, Pat Koko, Paul Koko, Hardie Kressler, Kathleen Kroker, Kimberly Lester, Gabriela Machado, Jim Madden, Deacon Lorry Madonia, Mary Mamolella, Patricia McDonald, Leolina Rodriguez Meira, Anne Muldihill, Sr. Louise Noesen, Matt O'Connell, Mark O'Reilly, Amelia Patterson, John Poplett, Bob Quane, Patricia Reardon, Tom Rezek, Lillian Ricci, Dennis Rusin, Maureen Sansone, Paul Schleitwiler, Barbara Schulz, Colleen Rowley Schramm, Carole Sheehan, Sr. Carol Spiegel, Nina Stanley, Sarah Such, Joann Taylor, LaNedra Vaughn, Shirley Venerable, Nancy Wesclitz, Nichol Williams.

(Names will be periodically removed from this listing in the bulletin and also from the list of recurring intercessions spoken at weekend Masses. Others have received a Prayer Shawl representing the prayers for healing by the Parish community. Please contact the parish office to include someone on this prayer list or to request inclusion in the weekend Mass intercessions, or to request a Prayer Shawl.)

And for those of our family members and parishioners who have died, especially Joseph P. Kure, Donna Parker and Edward Condon.

WEDDING BANNS

I Angela Pelagio and Frank Casaccio

Back to School Blessing!

August and September bring the end of summer and the beginnings of a new school year.

This weekend, August 19-20, all students, teachers and staff heading to school will be blessed at each Mass at both sites – whether they are starting kindergarten, heading to high school, going off to college or starting at a trade school.

You will get a small token to carry with you through the school year.

Come, start your new year with the prayers and love of your whole faith community!

ST. GILES CHURCH MASSES FOR THE WEEK

Monday, August 21

Saint Pius X, Pope

6:30 — † The Deceased of the Parish

Tuesday, August 22

The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary

8:30 — † Florence (Peg) Kennedy

Wednesday, August 23

6:30 — † Frances Hammer

† Beth Groff

† Owen Petrzelka

8:30 — † All Parishioners and Benefactors

Thursday, August 24

Saint Bartholomew, Apostle

8:30 — † Wendell Venerable

Friday, August 25

6:30 — † Mitchell Shaker

† Edward Soma

† Patrick O'Driscoll

Saturday, August 26

8:00 — † Stewart and Anna Daley Eagen

† Louis and Elizabeth Toth

4:30 — † All Parishioners and Benefactors

Sunday, August 27

The Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 — † Mary Rita Bresnahan

† Robert L. Sciaraffa

† The Deceased of the Shaker Family

*10:30 — † Kathleen Draz

† Any Forgotten Member of the Church

5:00 — *Oak Park Catholic Parishes Young Adult Mass at St. Giles*

Hospitality in Courtyard after Mass

**This Mass will be live-streamed from the St. Giles website, stgilesparish.org.*

ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA-ST. LUCY CHURCH MASSES FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, August 27

The Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00 — † Marie Bay

by Era Yee

† Eva Patterson

by The Vincent Family

† Doris Smith

By Renee Smith Quinn

† Zoe Colhoun (living)

by Renee Smith Quinn



Praying the Rosary on Zoom Fridays at 7:00 pm

Join Deacon Kevin and Marci Morgan on Zoom to pray the Rosary on Friday evenings.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/>
Meeting ID: 865 8895 7490
Passcode: 634955



Spirit and Light

Registration for Religious Education began Thursday, August 10!

Families who had children in Religious Education last year should have received a link to register online. If you do not see it in your inbox, check your spam or junk folder.

New families to the program will need to contact the Religious Education office at 708-434-1554 or slreligious@spiritandlightcenter.org to obtain a new family registration link once the registration opens on August 10.

2023-24 Religious Education Tuition

(1) Child Family – \$300

(2) Children Family – \$450

(3 +) Children Family – \$550

A CALL FOR CATECHISTS – You are invited to become a catechist of any of our Religious Education Programs – There are opportunities to share your faith with our children (3 years – 8th grade). No experience is necessary except for an open heart and a willingness to share your faith with the future of our collaboration. A benefit to being a catechist, if your child is enrolled in the program, there will be a 50% reduction in your tuition.

If you would like to be a catechist or volunteer for any of the faith formation offerings, do let us know. If you have any other questions, we would love to hear from you. **Please email the Religious Education office at slreligious@spiritandlightcenter.org or call 708-434-1554**

For more information, check out either website:

<http://www.stgilesparish.org/religious-education/>

<https://ascensionoakpark.edlioschool.com/apps/pages/RERegistration>

Or contact the Spirit and Light Religious Education Office at slreligious@spiritandlightcenter.org or 708-434-1554

2023/24 Program Offerings

PREP is designed to give pre-school children (ages 3-5 years - PK3, PK4 and K) an introduction to basic Catholic Christian Principles.

CATECHESIS OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD (CGS) is a faith formation program based on the Bible, the Liturgy of our Church, and educational principles of Maria Montessori. Children and Catechists gather to further experience their relationship with Jesus, the Good Shepherd, and their life in the church. The CGS program has three multi-age levels for children in grades Pre-K through 6th.

CGS - LEVEL I - 3 to 6 Years Old (PK3, PK4 and K)

CGS - LEVEL II - 6 to 9 Years Old (GRADES 1, 2 and 3)

CGS - LEVEL III - 9 to 12 Years Old (GRADES 4, 5 and 6)

Spirit and Light

FAMILY RELIGIOUS EDUCATION is an opportunity for the entire family, parents and children in Grades 1-6, to grow in faith. The child along with parents attend a monthly meeting where there is time for family conversation as well as age-appropriate activities. The remainder of the month, students work with parents at home using a text book.

TRADITIONAL RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (TRE) is a text-based faith formation program for 1st – 8th grades. The program is designed for students to learn about our Catholic faith, teachings, and traditions.

MIDDLE SCHOOL MINISTRY is a religious education opportunity for 7th and 8th grade students. Learning occurs primarily through discussion and activities at tables with a table leader. Students meet in person twice a month and have an at-home activity once a month.

SPRED (Special Religious Development) is a program of the Archdiocese of Chicago whose purpose is two-fold: the inclusion of the developmentally disabled into the liturgical and community faith life of the parish and the formation of a small faith community where both special friends and their catechists nurture their faith. Ages 6-10 years old.

- SPRED is not available for registration through this online form - Call the Spirit and Light RE Office for more information and registration.

Registration for Sacramental Preparation (Holy Communion, Reconciliation, and Confirmation) will happen in September.

Have questions? Contact the Religious Education office at
sreligioused@spiritandlightcenter.org or 708-434-1554

***Spirit and Light: A Catholic Collaborative for Living Faith* is looking for people to be members of an Advisory Board.**

As you may remember, the mission of ***Spirit and Light*** is to kindle the fire of faith in each person to bring the joy of the Holy Spirit and Christ's presence to the world.

The purpose of the Advisory Board is as follows:

- Help shape the mission and vision of ***Spirit and Light***

- Advise and consult with the ***Spirit and Light*** Director

- Plan, organize and execute activities to raise funds for ***Spirit and Light***

- Plan, organize and execute activities to build community among the families that participate in the programs of ***Spirit and Light***

- In conjunction with the Ascension and St. Edmund Parish, and St. Catherine-St. Lucy and St. Giles Parish Pastor, Directors of Operation, Finance Councils, ***Spirit and Light*** Director and Director of Administration create the budget for ***Spirit and Light***

- Participate in the hiring process of those employed by ***Spirit and Light***

- Offer feedback to the Pastor regarding the job performance review of the ***Spirit and Light*** Director

The Advisory Board will meet once a month with some work between meetings.

If you are interested and would like to know more about joining the ***Spirit and Light*** Advisory Board, contact Marci at mmadary@spiritandlightcenter.org

Lifelong Formation



Spirit and Light Catechist Enrichment *Finding God in Every Moment*

Saturday, August 26, 2023

1:00 – 3:30 pm

St. Giles Campus, McDonough Hall

This afternoon is a time for spiritual enrichment and growth for all Oak Park Parish (Spirit and Light) catechists, assistants, confirmation mentors, table leaders, and any interested future catechists. Together, we will consider how God is present in every moment in our lives through the practice of Theological Reflection. Additionally, there will be time for people working in a different Religious Education to gather and focus on details specific to a particular program. The afternoon will be co-led by Marci Madary and Terri Monaco.

To Register: <https://forms.gle/Vy1ezt2i6HBK2ekcA>

For more information contact Marci at mmadary@spiritandlightcenter.org
or Terri at tmonaco@spiritandlightcenter.org

Ministering in the realm of spirituality throughout her professional life, Dr. Marci Madary is fascinated by the movement of God in this good world. Along with speaking on a variety of topics revolving around spirituality, Marci facilitates groups, provides spiritual direction, and is passionate about poetry. She is enlivened to be a part of Spirit and Light, serving as Director.

The daughter of a Director of Religious Education, Terri Monaco has been involved in Religious Education one way or another all her life. From Catholic grade school, to high school retreats, and to being an active parishioner and parent at Ascension Church, Terri had found her place as a catechist over the years. She has been a Confirmation Mentor, CGS Catechist, and a second grade/First Communion leader. She is honored to serve Spirit and Light, the Catholic Collaborative, as the TRE and Co-Sacramental Coordinator.

Spiritual Classics In-Person Discussion on Cardinal Bernardin's *The Gift of Peace*

Starting in September, Spiritual Classics will be meeting in-person once a month at the Ascension campus in the Parish Center.

The Gift of Peace by Cardinal Joseph Bernardin, a former Archbishop of Chicago, will kick off Spiritual Classics for the 2023-2024 year, on **Tuesday, September 5, 2023 at 7:30 pm in the Ascension Parish Center Dining Room.** The discussion will be led by Jeff Wood. All from the Oak Park parishes are welcome.

In the last two months of his life, Cardinal Bernardin made it his mission to share his personal reflections and insights on a string of traumatic events in his life, including his battle with pancreatic cancer, a false accusation of sexual abuse, reconciliation with his accuser, and his decision to discontinue chemotherapy and live his remaining days as fully as possible. Bernardin tells his story openly and honestly, and shares the profound peace he viewed as a gift from God.

If you have any questions or would like more information about the Spiritual Classics discussions, send an email to llaaffc@ascensionoakpark.com. Reading the book is not required in order to join the discussions – feel free to just come and learn more about Cardinal Bernardin's inspiring thoughts as he approached the end of his life.

Parish Life

Migrant Shower Program at St Catherine-St. Lucy Rectory

Each Tuesday and Thursday, a group of Oak Park volunteers from the Oak Park Catholic Parishes open the doors of the St. Catherine-St. Lucy rectory to migrant families staying at the local District 15 police station on Madison. They are able to bathe... freshen up... get clean socks, underwear, and personal items. A volunteer member of the staff assists them in the preparation of breakfast.

Last week, we had a visit from Bishop Kevin Birmingham and Fr. Carl to the Migrant Shower Day. It was great having Bishop Birmingham, who speaks Spanish, interact with the families.



This past week our Venezuelan guests had the opportunity to make some of their Venezuelan food beginning with "arepas." We thank Bishop Birmingham and Fr. Carl for their visit.

Sebastian, the little boy pictured, wanted to be held by Fr. Carl.

Thank you to all the volunteers that make this happen each Tuesday and Thursday.

If you would like to help, please contact Celine Woznica at immigrantministry@gmail.com



UPDATES ON CATHOLIC PARISHES OF OAK PARK MIGRANT MINISTRY

Thank you to everyone who responded to last week's notice about the Catholic Parishes of Oak Park's outreach to the asylum-seeking migrants sleeping on the floor of the Chicago Police Station at 5700 W. Madison. The situation is difficult, but we can make life a bit easier with donations of food, clothing, shoes, blankets, sheets, pillows, and small hotel-size toiletries. Suitcases of all sizes are welcome so migrants can keep their belongings together. Donated items need not be new and can be left on the Woznica front porch, 711 S. Elmwood Ave.

Scan the QR Code here to link to a document with other ways of assisting:

We have met both families that we hope to resettle. Escarlet and Yoel and their beautiful 18 month old daughter arrived in Chicago in March, and have been living in an under-resourced shelter in South Chicago. The conditions are not good and they are anxious to move out. The second family, Jessica and Carlos, have three children. They have been living in unstable housing in Melrose Park, including sleeping in a car. They were recommended to us by the Scalabrini Immigrant and Refugee Services.

We welcome assistance in finding them housing, including contacts with realtors in the area or available low-cost apartments. Catholic Charities will be assisting us with housing costs for both families for at least six months.

Monetary donations are most welcome to support this ministry work. Please send donations to St. Catherine-St Lucy and St Giles Parish, 1025 Columbian Ave, Oak Park, IL 60302. Include a note that the donation is for the "Migrant Fund."

Thank you for your prayers and support of our asylum-seeking brothers and sisters. For more information, contact Celine Woznica or Margie Rudnik at immigrantministry@gmail.com



Parish Life

Quiere Recibir los Sacramentos?

¿Qué es RICA o Rito de Iniciación Cristiana de Adultos?

Las clases de RICA son parte de la catequesis que ofrece nuestra parroquia y está orientada a aquellas personas adultas de 18 años en adelante que desean aprender más acerca de la Iglesia Católica Romana y ser miembros en plena comunión con la Iglesia. En este bonito caminar aprendemos a ver como la iglesia ve a la persona en su semejanza e imagen de Dios, qué importancia tiene la vida cristiana para nuestra comunidad, usamos el catecismo de la iglesia, la Biblia y folletos. Los temas que estudiamos son muy variados, algunos de ellos son:

- ¿QUÉ ES LA IGLESIA?
- PERSONA DE JESÚS
- HISTORIA DE LA IGLESIA
- COSTUMBRES Y ORACIÓN
- LITURGIA, MISA
- LA BIBLIA, MAGISTERIO Y TRADICIÓN
- LOS SACRAMENTOS Y SACRAMENTALES
- MARÍA Y LOS SANTOS
- EL CREDO

EL REZO DEL SEÑOR Y SUS PETICIONES

Este camino de Fe termina su jornada en la Vigilia Pascual -Sábado Santo- celebración muy solemne en la cual no sabemos si es el cielo que baja o es la Iglesia que sube. La iglesia te espera, no faltes! Si usted es bautizado/a y no ha hecho la primera comunión ni confirmación le invitamos a la oportunidad de continuar aprendiendo más sobre su fe. Por favor contacto Mateo en la oficina parroquial al 708.383.3430 extensión 102 o por correo electrónico mbrophy@stgilesparish.org.



Becoming Catholic - Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA) in English

Have you or someone you know thought about officially joining the Catholic Church? Have you decided you want to become Catholic but are not sure where to start? The Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA) is a process to guide you in your discernment as well as a pathway to become Catholic.

On Monday, September 11, there will be a gathering for anyone interested in RCIA or those would like to begin the process. We will meet in the St. Giles Parish Center at 7:00 pm.

For more details, contact Marci Madary at 708-383-3430 ext.404 or mmadary@spiritandlightcenter.org

The Senior Corner



To begin our new year ('23-'24) of activities, we will convene in St. Giles Church on Tuesday, September 12, at 11:30 am for our "Inaugural Mass" celebration with Fr. Tom Unz. Following Mass, we will move over to McDonough Hall for lunch. Sandwiches, salad and beverages will be provided. If you

would like to bring a dessert to share, that would be nice. More information to follow.

But wait! There's more!

Want to know ALL the latest parish news? Sign up for the weekly parish e-news via our broadcast

email program, **flocknote**! To sign up, just scan the QR Code here, or go to this URL in your browser: <https://stgilesparish.flocknote.com/ENews>, and the information you need will be right in your inbox!



Faith & Fellowship



"When Are We Coming Back?"

Faith & Fellowship's recent cook-out was a reunion of sorts. We hadn't been together since May, and we hadn't had a cookout since 2019. And everyone kept asking, *When are we coming back?* "Back" to where? To our Monday Night, Wednesday Night, and Thursday Morning get-togethers of relaxing, praying, and hanging out within God's grace. Special events are great, but the core of Faith and Fellowship is our small weekly group when we accompany each other:

But we can't come back until we have a few more volunteers for these groups. Pick a group – any group – and contact Connie Rakitan at faith_fellowship@hotmail.com or 708/383-9276.

Parish Life

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

Help and encouragement after the death of a spouse, child, family member, or friend

GriefShare is a special weekly seminar and support group designed to help you rebuild your life after losing a loved one. Our group is led by caring people who have experienced grief and want to help you through the difficult days ahead.

We know it hurts, and we want to help.

Contact Us Today

Tuesdays, 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm
Beginning September 12, 2023
McDonough Hall on the St. Giles Campus
1101 Columbian Avenue, 2nd Floor,
Oak Park, IL 60302
Contact Geri Tapling, 708-223-4912
griefshare@stgilesparish.org



Dear Parishioners of St. Catherine of Siena-St. Lucy and St. Giles:

On behalf of the staff, parents, and students of St. Catherine-St. Lucy School, we want to thank you for the beautiful new parking lot. It is transformational!

Your never-ending kindness and generosity is so very appreciated. We are a better place because of your love and support.

*--The staff and families of
St. Catherine-St. Lucy School*



ProBono
NETWORK



Join the Pro-Bono Network on Wednesday, August 30, as we kick off this year's Justice Boot Camp with an amazing presentation that you will not want to miss!

Marshall Hatch Jr, the Co-Founder and Executive Director of the MAAFA Redemption Project will share perspectives on Chicago's West Side, on his work and on the need for legal aid there. After his presentation, we will talk a bit about PBN and how you, as an attorney, can be a part of the solution.

Whether you are new to PBN, or one of our strong core of committed volunteers, we urge you to come to this event. We expect that this will be both educational and inspiring! We will also have staff there as well as project managers to answer any questions you have.

WHEN: Wednesday, August 30, 6:00 pm

**WHERE: St Catherine - St Lucy School,
27 Washington Blvd in Oak Park.**

Parking will be available in both of their parking lots.



Parish Life

Grieving the death of a spouse?

Or do you know someone who is?

Your life has changed forever. The daily emotions and challenges can seem too hard to bear.

You can find help at

The Loss of a Spouse

You'll learn

- practical advice from others who've been there
- what to expect in your grief
- how to cope with life without your spouse
- why it won't always hurt this much.

Sunday, September 17, 2023, Noon–2:00 pm
Grace Lutheran Church, 7300 West Division, River Forest
This seminar is co-sponsored by Grace Lutheran Church and St. Giles Catholic Church.
A light lunch will be served.



To register, call 708.366.6900 or email gracechurch@gracriverforest.org

Food For Thought

A Mission for Light

*O God, let all the nations praise you!
You are just, you are welcome, you are love.
Let us never deny your gifts to others,
all created in your image and likeness,
seeking relationship with you and your holy people.
You are unity and healing for all nations. Amen.
(Living Liturgy, p. 163)*

The Catholic Church's brightest lights shine with humanity and compassion for the marginalized, the needy and the poor, in places like the barrios of Latin America, the crowded streets of India, and now at Polish border points and all across the country, where Ukrainians fleeing the horrors of war have found safe refuge in the homes and hearts of their Polish neighbors.

The invasion began 18 months ago; the U.N. reports over 13 million Ukrainians have crossed the border into Poland.

Despite the history of enmity, and the scope of the rescue, the atmosphere is warm and friendly.

Attitudes have changed.

A Catholic spiritual army of clerics, religious and laity, is using a network of churches, convents, monasteries and parish homes, to host desperate migrants, coordinated by the 32 Caritas Centers.

The emerged faith community In the marriage of neighbors is quite Christ-like.

The light of Polish Samaritan justice recalls the good works of so many in the Catholic Church.

The Caritas Centers provide shelter, clothing, counseling, job placement, day care, and school placements.

Dominican Sr. Margorite Lekan, and her sisters arranged a financial program in Krakow to help migrating young mothers with infants and small children.

600 Dominican nuns from everywhere traveled to Ukraine to help rescue them.

Also in Krakow, Sisters of Charity brought families to their convent house. A network of convents and monasteries was set up through Ukraine

to the Polish border. In Krakow, as shepherds, the nuns saved many lives. The Catholic Church and its nuns have been central in the relief effort for this massive migration.

And the Polish people opened their hearts and their wallets.

Amazingly, in this magnitude of migration, there are no camps! Just a loving community.

As Catholics, we can all be proud. This is the kind of Church Jesus would establish and lead.

Tom Lynch. tgl7714@gmail.com. 8/20/23

Reference: NCR, David Bonior, 8/8/23



Wednesday Night Bible Study New Series!

7:00 pm
Dore Parish Center Living Room
on the St. Giles Campus
at 1025 Columbian Avenue,
and over Zoom

All are welcome - It is **NOT** necessary or required to attend each week... Come when you can!!

Join us for a new series of meetings on the **Letters of St. Paul!** We'll be sending out study guides, including bible verses/chapters that will be referenced as well as questions to ponder and discuss together.

Contact **Alex Ryan**, alexryan@stgilesparish.org for more information!



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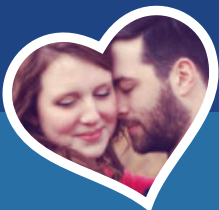
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