

SAINT CATHERINE OF SIENA-SAINT LUCY AND SAINT GILES PARISH



My soul thirsts for you.

PSALM 63

SEPTEMBER 3, 2023 • Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time

ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA - ST. LUCY CHURCH
38 NORTH AUSTIN BOULEVARD, OAK PARK
WEEKDAY MASS: Tuesday at 8:30 am
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,

Help! We are doing a wonderful Corporal Work of Mercy by offering showers to our migrant brothers and sisters living inside and outside the 15th District Police Station. They have time for showering, eating a simple breakfast together as a community, and getting clean clothes as needed. Folks have been very generous with volunteer time, sending clothes and helping with food. Here's where we could use some monetary help. The water bill has gone up significantly and is about \$4,800 for the last period of May through July. Any small or large donation will

help us with this added cost as we continue to care for those in need among us. Can you imagine if you could only shower or bathe two times a week? Watch for ways you can donate by using the QR code provided (see page 7 in this bulletin and look for the posters in church), dropping an envelope in the collection basket marked "Migrant Ministry," or even stopping at the parish office with your donation. Your help is needed and much appreciated.

These are such trying and stressful times for many, and kindness is needed more than ever. However, it seems like patience and kindness are lacking in many who seem very short-tempered these days. Perhaps to help make the world around us a better place, we need to consciously work at BEING MORE KIND and showing kindness to others. Here are a few suggestions to consider:

- Talk to strangers, especially people different from yourself. A simple "Hello, how are you?" can restore another's faith in humanity.
- Fast from unkind words. Use your words carefully to bless, heal, and bring peace.
- Let cars go in front of you in traffic.
- Let someone go ahead of you in the grocery store.
- Here's a challenging one: If someone at home or work makes you angry, leave that person a flower, a chocolate, or some little treat each day until you are over it. (This is a tough one for sure!)
- Light a candle each Sunday and pray for someone different each time.
- Choose a picture or an article from the paper and pray for the people involved.
- Take someone with whom you disagree to coffee and listen more than you talk.

The world in general and the world most immediately around us needs more kindness. Trying one of these suggestions may inspire others to be more kind. **Kindness starts with each one of us!**

Welcome!

This weekend my friends, Tom and Dr. Geetha Chitta, will speak at Ascension and St. Edmund Parish about their organization, **Foundation for Children in Need**. They have been to St. Giles before, and I am happy to give them the opportunity to speak about their work with the children and elderly in need in India. I have visited their mission in India, and have witnessed firsthand the care they provide and the ministry they do. And I also sponsor a child. In my estimation, they are like living Saints among us.

To all, have a joyful and safe holiday weekend and 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 Friday, 9:00 am - 4:30 pm,

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@stcatherinestlucy.org

Website: stcatherinestlucy.org

Business Hours:

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

Marci Madary, Director of Lifelong Formation Ext. 404

Connie Rakitan, Program Director, Faith & Fellowship

Alex Ryan, Liturgy Coordinator Ext. 403

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Lifelong Faith Formation

and Religious Education of Children

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

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Kelly McCreary,

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Sharon Leamy, Principal sleamy@catherinelucy.org

Spiritual Life & Worship

ST. GILES CHURCH MASSES FOR THE WEEK

Monday, September 4

Labor Day

8:30 — † The Deceased of the Parish

Tuesday, September 5

8:30 — † William Smith

Wednesday, September 6

6:30 — † Camile Sarrouf

† Owen Petrzelka

† Geneva Royal

† Jim Bickler

8:30 — † All Parishioners and Benefactors

Thursday, September 7

8:30 — † Antionette DeMario

Friday, September 8

The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

6:30 — † Caesar Tabet

† John Hubbuch

† Owen Petrzelka

Saturday, September 9

Saint Peter Claver, Priest

8:00 — † Elizabeth and Sam Jantelezio

2:30 — Wedding: Angela Pelagio and Frank Casaccio

*4:30 — † Sean Varner

† Frank Senese, Jr.

† Dr. Harold and Carol Bonus

† Lillian Vavrina

Sunday, September 10

The Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 — † Sean Varner

† The Deceased of the Shaker Family

† Owen Petrzelka

10:30 — † Steven Thomas Hammer

† Anthony Calonico

† Jack Rowan

**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, September 10

The Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00 — † Louise Heath

by Evie Stockinger

† James O'Connor

by Tom and Pat Nelson

5:00 — Oak Park Catholic Parishes Young Adult Mass

WEDDING BANNES

- I Kerry Lange and Jonathan Blazewski
- III Angela Pelagio and Frank Casaccio

Welcome
our new friends

*We are very pleased
to welcome
the following new parishioners:*

Patrick and Amy O'Rourke, Gina Santangelo and Michael Nickels, Cecilia "Cille" Bucolo, Brett Geschke and Tara Brito, Jorge and Colleen Escobar.

We Pray For . . .

Those who are hospitalized or homebound, including: Steven Acevedo, Patrick Ahearn, Coletta Ali, Anthony Arena, Jessica Scanlon Bailey, 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, Paul Schleitwiler, Barbara Schulz, Colleen Rowley Schramm, Carole Sheehan, Nick Sorrentino, 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 Caleb Smith.

BAPTISMS in our Parish

*"Little ones, the Christian
Community welcomes you with
great joy into our family of faith."*

Miles Cooper Huston, Thomas and Allison (Nosek) Huston; **Quinn Layton Chiarelli**, Sloane Layton Chiarelli, Keith Chiarelli and Jennifer Layton; **Rory Patrick O'Rourke**, **Quinn Therese O'Rourke**, Patrick and Amy (Boruta) O'Rourke; **Ieuan Hugh Diaz-Dryhurst Roberts**, Jonathan Dryhurst-Roberts and Elva-Maria Diaz; **Lily London Matthews-Bailey**, James Bailey and Kieran Matthews; **Beau Jeffrey Keegan**, Daniel and Tanya (Frost) Keegan; **Jasmine Leanne Storch**, Brian Storch and Chi Hoang, **Anthony Joseph Page**, Brian and Lauren (Greco) Page; **Amelia Virginia Casnova**, Anthony Casnova and Kassandra Marino.



Spirit and Light

Register Now for Children's Religious Education Programs!

Registration for Religious Education classes has been extended to September 3!

Families who had children in Religious Education last year received the registration link through the *flocknote* communication platform. If you do not see it in your inbox, check your spam or junk folder.

Families new to the RE program will need to contact the Religious Education office at 708-434-1554 or slreligioused@spiritandlightcenter.org to obtain a registration link.

2023-24 Religious Education Tuition

- (1) Child Family – \$300
- (2) Children Family – \$450
- (3 +) Children Family – \$550

For more information on program offerings, tuition and start dates, be sure to check out either website:

<http://www.stgilesparish.org/religious-education/> or
<https://ascensionoakpark.edlioschool.com/apps/pages/RERegistration>

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 church. 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, please contact the Religious Education office.

Top Reasons to Become a Catechist

- **You will grow in your own faith, learn the teachings of the church and deepen your relationship with Jesus.**
- **Your Baptism calls you to share in Jesus' ministry.**
- **Not only does it deepen your prayer life and relationship with God, but by serving you have made it a family affair.**
- **Children, teens, and adults in today's world, more than ever, need to encounter good role models of faith.**
- **You have much to share with those you'll teach, and you'll have opportunities to share faith with other catechists.**
- **As a caring adult, your action of being involved and teaching the gospel speaks louder than words.**
- **You'll be challenged, you'll have fun, and you'll make new friends.**
- **You'll be helping people deepen their relationship with Jesus.**
- **You'll be handing on a 2000-year-old tradition that changes lives.**
- **It's our job: Jesus sent us to "go and teach all nations."**

If you have any other questions, we would love to hear from you.

Please email the Religious Education office at slreligioused@spiritandlightcenter.org
or call 708-434-1554.

Spirit and Light

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 Music Box

Welcome to **The Music Box**, a place to find information about music ministry at St. Catherine-St. Lucy and St. Giles Parish. It is a location for music opportunities, choir invitations and announcements, and our organ project updates.

The St. Giles Church and St. Catherine-St. Lucy Church Combined Choir will once again join our voices to sing on Sunday mornings three times a month. We had a great experience last year and we look forward to celebrating together this coming season. Rehearsals are held on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 pm in St. Giles Church, beginning on September 13. New members are always welcome.

The St. Catherine-St. Lucy Praise Choir will also continue to sing in the Gospel style under the direction of Dr. Julius White. The Praise Choir will sing on the fourth Sunday of the month at St. Catherine-St. Lucy's 9:00 am Mass and on the second Saturday of the month at the St. Giles' 4:30 pm Mass. The choir is hoping to expand its membership to include singers from St. Giles, St. Giles Family Mass Community, and St. Catherine-St. Lucy.

Praise Choir rehearsals will be held at St. Catherine-St. Lucy Church beginning on Tuesday, September 12, at 7:00 pm.

For more information about any of these singing opportunities, please contact Sue Kaszynski at the Parish Office. skaszynski@stgilesparish.org or 708-383-3430 ext. 423



Watch this space for upcoming musical treasures and tidbits!



Parish Life

Eucharistic Revival Meeting

Please join Fr. Robert Carlton and Deacon Kevin Morgan on Tuesday, September 26, at 7:00 pm in McDonough Hall on the St. Giles Campus for a presentation on the real presence of Jesus in the Eucharist. There will be discussion on the church teachings on the importance of the Eucharist, and testimony from parishioners on how the Eucharist has impacted their lives. All parishioners from the Oak Park area Parishes are welcome!

This will be the first of events for the Oak Park area Parishes as we look forward to the Eucharistic Congress next July in Indianapolis. Please contact Fr. Carlton at rcarlton@archchicago.org if you have any questions.



CHAOS Youth Group

What is CHAOS, you ask? In the words of the teens, "it's a safe place that I can come to and know I am accepted and included. I can be myself and will not be judged or dismissed for my ideas or comments." All activities are planned by the teens and include sharing of "high's and low's" of the week, short reflections, playing games, sharing concerns about school, doing home-work, and so much more. We are looking forward this year to being more involved in community service, in addition to ASP.

This past week, everyone checked in on their worries and joys about getting back to school, getting involved in their favorite sports and extra-curricular activities. We planned to do a partner walk, which involves picking a topic to share on with a partner and walking outside for about 20 minutes. Due to the oppressive heat, we spontaneously changed our plans. One of the team created a Wordle game for all of us to play, followed by an uproarious, fun game of UNO, with special rules!!!!

Our priority is building community through relationship and radical inclusivity. In addition, there is deep respect for each teen's individual faith journey including their doubts and uncertainties. There is also support for their exploration of spirituality alongside established traditions.

The bottom line: acceptance, safety, friendship, and a tremendous amount of fun, laughter and a stress-free space to hang-out with others! And, of course, there are plenty of favorite snacks and drinks – an absolute must for all!!!!!!

Teen Leaders: Mary, Luisa, Kaden, Callie and Rachel
Youth Ministers: Annette and Frank Hulefeld

Don't ever hesitate to contact Annette or Frank for further information:
hulefeldannette@gmail.com;
fhulefeld@comcast.net

THURSDAY EVENINGS, 7:00-9:30 pm.
THE ALLEY (room off the alley behind the St. Giles Campus Parish Center at 1025 Columbian Avenue..
ALL ARE WELCOME!!

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

Parish Life

Update from the Catholic Parishes of Oak Park Migrant Ministry Help with the two new refugee families

Maria Garvy is working with Margie Rudnik and Celine Woznica to help with the two new refugee families being resettled in our area. They are putting together a Welcome Pack for each family. Below is a list of the Welcome Pack needs, but basically each family needs some of everything to manage a home. Anything you can contribute is greatly appreciated and Maria will be happy to pick donated items up at your house. Contact Maria Garvy at 708 846 8839 or at garvybrady@comcast.net

If you would like to help by donating money toward the purchase of items needed for a Welcome Pack, or if you would like to help defray expenses to provide showers, meals and clothing items for the migrants who are at the 15th Precinct Police Station, you can do that through the St. Catherine-St. Lucy and St. Giles website (stgilesparish.org) and go to the link for GiveCentral, and then choose the option for Migrant Ministry. If you prefer, just scan the QR code here to connect with the Migrant Ministry fund on GiveCentral.



Margie Rudnik, margaretrudnik@gmail.com, or
Celine Woznica, immigrantministry@gmail.com

Welcome Packet Items:

Kitchen:

Set of dishes per person*
Set of silverware per person
Drinking glasses per person
Set Mixing Bowls
Set Pots and Pans
Set Cooking Utensils
Measuring spoons/cups
Set Sharp Knives
Can Opener
Cutting Board
Dish Strainer
Tea Kettle
(3) Sets of Kitchen Towels
Dishwashing Soap
(2) Sponges w/ scrubby side
Tall Kitchen Trashcan
Trash bags
Aluminum Foil
Plastic Wrap
(2) rolls of paper towels

Bedroom:

___ # of Queen Beds
___ # of Twin Beds
___ # of Cribs
Comforters per person
Set of sheets per person
Pillowcase set per person
Pillow per person
(25) Hangers
Bath:
Bath towels per person
Washcloths per person
Shower curtain with hooks
(2) Bottles Shampoo
(4) Toothbrushes
(2) Tubes of Toothpaste
(15) Disposable Razors
(4) Rolls Toilet Paper
(2) Soap
(2) Deodorant
(2) Boxes Kleenex
Small Trashcan

Cleaning Items:

All-Purpose Cleaner spray
Toilet Brush
Box Laundry Soap
Broom & (1) Dust Pan
Mop & (1) Bucket

Misc.:

Laundry Basket
Pad Paper & Envelopes
(5) Pens/Pencils
Book Stamps
Fan

Calendar
Small Tool Kit
(2) Light Bulbs
Scissors

Optional:

Rice Cooker
Extra Blankets
Collapsible Shopping Cart
Umbrellas
Strainer/Colander

*(1) dinner plate, (1) salad plate, (1) soup bowl & (1) mug per person
Number of items varies depending on size of the family. Beds DO NOT have to be purchased for Welcome Pack, they will be provided by Catholic Charities.

FOOD COLLECTION FOR THOSE IN NEED



Dear Parishioners: Thank you for your continued generosity. We are targeting support for the food pantry at St. Bernadine (run by the St. Vincent De Paul Society of St. Luke and St. Bernadine Parish).

Specific, non-expired items will be collected for the 9/10; 10/22; 11/12; and 12/25 collections: Canned Vegetables and Fruit; Protein: i.e. Canned Tuna, Chicken, Peanut Butter, Ravioli, etc. Tomato and Marinara Sauces and Pasta. Soup, Snacks and Crackers.

The **FOOD FIRST** collection at St. Catherine of Siena-St. Lucy Church will be this weekend, **Sunday, September 3**. Please bring your donations of canned or shelf-stable food and paper products with you to the 9:00 am Sunday Mass. Donations are brought to the altar during the Offertory.

St. Giles Church weekly collection continues. Please bring your donations of canned or shelf-stable food and paper products to the St. Giles shrine in the gathering space at the church or to the covered bins located at the back door on the north side of the Parish Center.

Thank you for your generosity to these collections, and thank you to the stewards for their work in delivering these items to our local pantries.

Parish Life

Our Parish Weekly Stewardship For Fiscal Year July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024

	8/27/2023	YTD
	Total	
Envelopes	\$ 10,853.50	\$121,222.04
Loose	\$ 2,037.13	
Electronic*	\$ 11,660.50	\$ 95,190.26
Total Giving	\$ 24,551.13	\$216,412.30
8/22/23-8/28/23		

Thank you to all who continue to support St. Catherine of Siena-St. Lucy and St. Giles Parish. Those wishing to make their donations online through GiveCentral can find the link and easy-to-follow instructions on the church websites:

www.stgilesparish.org OR
www.stcatherinestlucy.org.

Contact Sharon at the Parish Center, 708-383-3430 Ext. 420, with any questions or for assistance. We could not be here without you!

Faith & Fellowship



Faith and Fellowship – Come and See!

After you have read the weekly articles in the parish bulletin about Faith & Fellowship, now is your opportunity to learn more about this unique ministry – what we do and how we do it. We are holding two “Come and See!” meetings on Monday, September 11 (7:00 – 9:00 pm) and repeated Thursday, September 14 (1:00 – 3:00 pm) at the St. Catherine-St. Lucy Rectory (38 N. Austin Blvd.).

And don't forget: we are still looking for help with the Knights of Columbus Tootsie Roll fundraiser, Friday and Saturday (Sept 8 and 9).

Contact Connie Rakitan, faith_fellowship@hotmail.com or 708-383-9276.

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



Feed Our Fathers:

Providing Dinners to our priests at the St. Giles Campus Rectory

Sign up now to provide dinners once a week for 3-4 persons to the Rectory on the St. Giles Campus. Scan the QR code for more details on the Sign-up Genius. Questions? Please call or text Vera Chan at 312-909-4501.



Parish Life

St. Giles MINIVINIA

PERFORMANCES BY
**ELLIOT WIMBUSH
& BILL SERRITELLA**

**SEPT 15 2023
7 PM**

**BRING YOUR CHAIRS AND
PACK SOME SNACKS! BID
FARWELL TO SUMMER AT
ST. GILES MINIVINIA**

FREE ADMISSION - ON THE COURTYARD LAWN

ST. GILES CHURCH CAMPUS

1025 Columbian Avenue - Oak Park, Illinois 60302

Tootsie Rolls!



The Knights of Columbus have for many years supported our Faith & Fellowship and SPRED programs through the annual Tootsie Roll drive – and we'd love to have you help! **On Friday, September 8, and Saturday, September 9, we will be at the intersection of Lake Street and Oak Park Avenue**, soliciting donations from motorists, and giving them a Tootsie Roll as a sign of appreciation. The more people in the intersection, the more money we collect! Connie Rakitan is coordinating this project in conjunction with Knights. Contact her (faith_fellowship@hotmail.com or 708-383-9276) to find out how you can participate.



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. Madonna Sloan will take pictures for our Senior Directory.

Please call Joan Wojick at 708-771-4783 to register for this event.



Food For Thought A Reality of Tragedy

"Respect for Life means just that: the unborn, yes, and the elderly and the stranger, the migrant and the homeless person."

Respect for Life includes the ‘other,’ no matter how defined—by gender, skin color, language, ethnicity—an endless list.” (NCR. P. Zagano. 8/28/23)

The report we write about documents how Saudi border guards had killed hundreds—perhaps thousands—of Ethiopians seeking to cross the border from Yemen into Saudi Arabia. Laden with concussive force, the brutal accounts were so severe that it was difficult to read the details. A 14-year old girl described waking up after the attack: “I could feel people sleeping around me; Then I realized they were dead bodies.”

These are defenseless children and unarmed people fleeing a savage conflict and relentless poverty, hoping for a chance at a life free of violence in one of the richest countries in the world.

Given Saudi Arabia's record on human rights, mowing down defenseless women and children, how different is it from how Greek officials let a ship sink off their coast, filled with migrants?

The wanton disregard for the lives of migrants, right up to maximum deadly force, seems to be the norm.

The European Union pays the murderous Libyan Coast Guard to prevent migrants from crossing the Mediterranean.

Britain is sending its migrants to Rwanda!

In this country, Gov. Abbott of Texas has strung barbarous devices across the Rio Grande; if the current doesn't drown them, the razor wire and saw blades will.

So what of this global assault on the dignity and lives of the migrants?

The task of religion is to expand the conversation and model good behavior. The Church has stepped up to house immigrants, and there are places for unwanted children.

But here and there is not enough.

As the events in the Saudi desert illustrate, this century is going to be nasty and brutish and long.

What would Jesus say? He's already said it:
*"Now this is the judgment: the Light has come
 into the world, yet men have loved the darkness
 rather than the light; their works were evil.
 This is the will of my Father who sent me, that
 whoever beholds the Son, and believes in him,
 I will raise him up on the last day."*
 (John 3:19-20; 6:40.)

Tom Lynch. tgl7714@gmail.com. 9/3/23
Referral: Human Rights Watch Report, 8/25/23



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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 llauffc@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.



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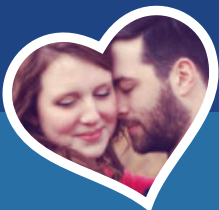
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