

SAINT CATHERINE OF SIENA-SAINT LUCY AND SAINT GILES PARISH



“For where two or three are gathered together in my name,
there I am in the midst of them.”

Matthew 18:19-20

SEPTEMBER 10, 2023 • Twenty-third 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 MASSES: Sunday at 9:00 am and 5:00 pm (Oak Park Catholic Community Young Adult Mass)

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 and 10:30 am

Fr. Carl's Corner



Recently, I presided at a well-attended funeral at church on the St. Giles campus. There were a number of parishioners in attendance who I had not seen since before the start of Covid and even in the past year as we were coming out of the pandemic. I said to one person how good it was to see them here in church, it has been some time since we last greeted each other. That person, without hesitation, admitted, "I've become very comfortable at home watching Mass on the livestream or the Cardinal's Mass. I have my cup of coffee and it's very comfortable and cozy!"

Believe me friends, I get that! But many (not enough, if truth be told) are back in the pews celebrating Eucharist as community. We all know others who are not and would give the same reason as the parishioner I recently encountered. Friends, it is time for us to reach out to family and others we know who are still "churching" on the couch at home! There are times when that is a good option, if we are sick or our own health is being compromised for some reason, whatever that might be. But nothing replaces the experience of the Eucharist and being together in person praying at Mass.

We come and see and experience the joys and challenges of each other and the community knowing we are given strength for the journey as we hear the Word of God and receive Jesus in the Eucharist. From here, we are sent forth to become the Body of Christ present in the community and in the world. We go forth to love and serve the Lord by our care for each other and the less fortunate among us.

Please consider sending this to someone who has not yet returned to Mass or pick up the phone, make a call and invite them to join you and our community of faith at Mass as we walk the journey together.

A few weeks ago, I shared my experience at St. Mary-of-the-Woods, Indiana. I was delighted to hear from a woman who, after reading about my adventure there, shared with me that she had recently visited the college for her 60th class reunion. Those memories and relationships run deep! She also shared this beautiful prayer titled River of Grace, a favorite, written by one of the Sisters of Providence. I hope you will also enjoy this. It speaks to the pain and concerns of many in our communities and many on this planet we call home.

River of Grace

Let us gather up the tears of all times, all nations, all peoples, all children to form a river of grace to moisten, saturate, drench the hardness of hearts of stones turning them into hearts of flesh, into the heart of the God of providence.

Let us gather up the tears of all times to honor the grief of all generations, to honor the grief of the planet over what we have done to God's creation.

May all these tears become living water that nourishes the deep down roots of Love that births new life into the cosmos. May this living water pour down the justice, mercy and love of the heart of God.

Sister Donna Butler, SP

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

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

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@stcatherinestlucy.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,

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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, 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, Virginia 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, 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 John MacKinnon, father of Mike MacKinnon; and Victor Guarino, spouse of Jean Guarino.

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.

ST. GILES CHURCH MASSES FOR THE WEEK

Monday, September 11

8:30 — † The Deceased of the Parish

Tuesday, September 12

8:30 — † Peter Glawe

Wednesday, September 13

Saint John Chrysostom, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

6:30 — † The Deceased of the Abraham Family

8:30 — Mike Leach (for healing)

Thursday, September 14

The Exaltation of the Holy Cross

8:30 — † Frances Hammer

† Sally Brennan

† Dr. Chester Gruszka

Friday, September 15

Our Lady of Sorrows

6:30 — † The Deceased of the Daley and Archibald Family

† Richard Shadyac

† Joe Madden

Saturday, September 16

Saints Cornelius, Pope, and Cyprian, Bishop, Martyrs

8:00 — † Deoclecio and Itala Floury

*4:30 — † Mary Alice Dixon

† Rose Jantelezio

† Margaret Cotrane

Sunday, September 17

The Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 — † Mary Rita Bresnahan

† The Deceased of the Shaker Family

† Victor Guarino

10:30 — † Dr. Salvatore T. Duque

† John Jr. and Jeffrey Gates

† Jerry Hefner

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

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

Tuesday, September 12

8:30 — School Mass

Sunday, September 17

The Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00 — † Eddy Jean

by The Vincent Family

† Thomas W. Reedy

by Tom and Pat Nelson

5:00 — Oak Park Catholic Parishes Young Adult Mass



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

WEDDING BANNS

II Kerry Lange and Jonathan Blazejewski

Oak Park Catholic Community

Public Forum

Discussing a proposed plan for social ministry outreach to Austin residents from the St. Catherine of Siena – St. Lucy Campus

Since January of 2023, at Fr. Carl Morello's direction, a group of volunteers from the Oak Park Catholic Community has been studying the feasibility of repurposing the unused rectory at St. Catherine – St. Lucy (SCSL) as a base for social ministry outreach to the residents of Austin. This initiative is a direct outgrowth of the third stated outcome of Renew My Church (RMC) for the Oak Park Catholic Community:

“The Archdiocese affirms the Oak Park grouping’s vision to use St. Catherine – St. Lucy campus as a base for powerful ministry outreach to the West Side of Chicago... supported by the entire Oak Park Catholic community.”

A primary motivation of the feasibility study is addressing the needs in Austin, beginning with SCSL School families. This project will be an OP Catholic Community response to our neighbors' identification of need. The RMC vision offers a unique opportunity to collectively provide this support.

The volunteer group recently submitted its feasibility report and recommendations to Fr. Carl, who in turn gave the report to Bishop Birmingham. Both Fr. Carl and Bishop Birmingham have encouraged the group to share its findings with the community for feedback before a final plan is developed.

The Feasibility Study Team will be holding a series of public forums throughout the community between early September and late November at a variety of locations and times in a deliberate effort to engage the community as fully as possible. The public forum will feature a 30-minute presentation by members of the Feasibility Study Team followed by a question-and-answer session to follow.

Please review the schedule of the planned forums and plan to attend the one that is most convenient for you. Please bring family members and friends.

Sunday, Sept 10, 11:30 am – St. Giles School Gym after Family Mass

Sunday, Sept 17, 11:30am – St. Giles McDonough Hall

Sunday, Sept 24, 12:00 pm – Ascension Pine Room

Sunday, October 15, 12:00 pm – St. Edmund Murphy Hall

Tuesday October 24, 7:00 pm – St. Luke's School Waldron Room

Monday, October 30, 7:00 pm – St. Bernardine Cafeteria

Please register for the meeting most convenient for you to attend by scanning QR code here. Pre-registration will enable us to prepare each venue for the number of people we are expecting to attend. We will anticipate additional attendees due to last-minute scheduling changes, so please come even if you were unable to register.

Questions? Please contact Feasibility Study Team co-chair Dan Doody at dan@doody.com.



Faith & 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 of Siena-St. Lucy Rectory (38 N. Austin Blvd.).

We are in need of volunteers to participate as “Catechists” (more accurately, *accompaniers*) for each of our three groups that meet 2-1/2 hours weekly at the St. Catherine-St. Lucy campus.

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



Parish Life

The Music Box

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

Have you ever considered becoming a Cantor at Mass? Would you like to learn more about this ministry? If so, training and information sessions will be offered this Fall at St Giles. The sessions will include topics such as *how to lead the assembly in sung prayer, how to proclaim psalms and sing chant melodies*. Vocal coaching will also be provided in the training.

The **Combined Choir** of St. Catherine of Siena-St. Lucy and St. Giles will rehearse on **Wednesday evenings at 7:00 pm** in St Giles Church beginning on September 13. New members are welcome.

The St Catherine-St Lucy **Praise Choir** will continue to sing under the direction of Dr. Julius White. Rehearsals will be held on **Tuesdays at 7:00 pm** at St Catherine-St Lucy Church beginning on September 12. New members are welcome.

For more information about Cantor training, the Combined Choir, or the Praise Choir please contact

Sue Kaszynski at the Parish Office.

Skaszynski@stgilesparish.org

708-383-3430 ext. 423



Watch this space for upcoming musical treasures and tidbits.



Notes from the Finance Committee Meeting

The combined Finance Committee met on Tuesday, September 5.

The Finance Committee welcomed a new member: Susan Charrette. Susan is a member of the Family Mass Community. She is currently a Spanish instructor but has also served as the Operations Manager for the Civic Federation, a Research Economist for the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, and a professor at Brown University. Susan has a PhD in Economics.

The committee reviewed the 2022-2023 Profit and Loss Statements for St. Catherine-St. Lucy and for St. Giles. In the unification process, the two legacy parishes are still using their own set of QuickBooks (accounting software) while waiting on the archdiocese for a combined QuickBooks which would streamline the process. In the meantime, the majority of the accounting for both campuses passes through the QuickBooks at St. Giles.

Some of the highlights from the meeting:

- the capital expenses at both campuses were reviewed with the recommendation that the Operations Director, Matt Brophy, break out the capital project expenditures for the last fiscal year for both campuses and also indicate the source of funds that paid for each project.
- the Sunday collection report will also list the weekly budget goal and indicate any shortfall or overage. The weekly budgeted Sunday Offertory goal is \$30,000. The parish has been running at an approximate deficit of \$6,000 per week. The forecasted annual parish deficit based on weekly giving is \$312,000 as well as a school operating deficit due to decreased enrollment.
- it was recommended that Sunday Mass attendance be listed in the weekly bulletin. It will be listed per Mass. Also listed will be the total donations received for any of our Second Collections.

In next week's bulletin, we will publish the information on the capital projects and sources of funds.

The next Finance Committee meeting will be November 7. Any questions regarding finances please feel free to contact Matt Brophy (mbrophy@archchicago.org) or Carol Coleman (ccoleman@archchicago.org) at the parish offices.

Parish Life



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.



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@graceriverforest.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

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.

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 next **FOOD FIRST** collection at St. Catherine of Siena-St. Lucy Church will be **Sunday, October 1**. 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

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

GRIEF SHARE

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!



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

	9/3/2023	
	Total	YTD
Weekly Budget	\$ 30,000.00	
Envelopes	\$ 13,217.00	\$136,321.39
Loose	\$ 1,882.35	
Electronic*	\$ 11,090.50	\$106,280.76
Total Giving	\$ 26,189.85	\$242,602.15
8/29/23-9/4/23		
Shortfall \$	\$ 3,810.15	
Migrant Collection	\$ 2,686.00	

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!

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO



Second Collection Next Weekend

SEMINARIAN EDUCATION FUND

The archdiocesan collection for the education and formation of our future priests.



Thank you for supporting our seminarians through your generous gift to their education.



archchicago.org/seminarianfund

Parish Life

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.



Ascension Class of 1971

Join your classmates on Sunday, September 24, for an afternoon of memories and friendship. You can meet classmates at the 10:30 am Mass at Ascension and/or at 11:30am at the school for a tour of Ascension School. The party continues at 1:00 pm with food and drink in Western Springs.

For more information contact Judy D'Onofrio at (708) 250-8905 or Peggy Kraft at (708) 366-2849.

An Evite will be going out soon with more information. Please share this invite with other members of the class you are in contact with.

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

Parish Life

Food For Thought Lament and Tears

*"Today God is calling us to work together
In humility and love, to join hands so that
the rivers can flow together, to become
a mighty river of justice and peace, a river
of worship and prayer, of lament and tears,
of actions and stubborn hope.
And then in the power and the mighty spirit
of God, we will see the face of the earth
renewed for the sake of our children
and children's children." (Rev. Rachel Mash,
Environmental Coordinator of the Anglican Church)*

This year the Season of Creation began September 1st, and will end with the release of an update to the Pope's landmark papal letter *Laudato Si'* on October 4th. Pope Francis termed the new document an apostolic exhortation, an effort to "put an end to the senseless war against our common home."

The new piece comes after a summer of record-breaking temperatures, with deadly wildfires, storms and flooding. It will be released on the Feast Day of Francis of Assisi, last day of the yearly Season of Creation, and as backdrop to the first day of the Synod on Synodality, in Rome from October 4-29.

Francis hopes his environmental piece will influence deliberations on global response to climate change, COP 28, meeting in Dubai later this year. Might it influence the Synodal proceedings as well? There's been criticism of the Church's sparse enthusiasm for taking up the dire message of *Laudato Si'*.

Some influential U.S. bishops do not rank it among "culture wars," but in this Season of Creation, Bishops Gudziak and Malloy, Chairs of Domestic and International Justice and Peace Committees of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, urged Catholics to take up the cause of environmental action in the name of justice and peace.

The ecological conversion of hearts and changes in lifestyle are critical to our holiness, but public policy decisions will significantly change the course of our environmental future.

Tom Lynch. tgl7714@gmail.com. 9/10/23

Referral: NCR Earthbeat, 9/1/23

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Spiritual Classics October Discussion on the Writings of Saint Francis

In connection with the Feast of Saint Francis in October, our next *Spiritual Classics* discussion will be on the Writings of Saint Francis, to be held on **Thursday, October 5, 2023 at 7:30 pm in the Ascension Parish Center Dining Room**. Our own Father Bob Hutmacher, OFM, will lead the discussion. Please note we are meeting on Thursday this month.

Saint Francis, the patron saint of Italy, animals, and ecology, founded the Order of the Friars Minor. He, more than anyone, imitated Christ in his own life, living in poverty and giving to everyone in need. He had thousands of devoted followers. His writings are part of his legacy to Christians all over the world.

Our discussion on October 5 will focus on significant writings and prayers of Saint Francis. For a pdf copy of the selections for our discussion, please send an email to laffc@ascensionoakpark.com. If you don't have email access, you may call 708-557-2265 to request a copy.



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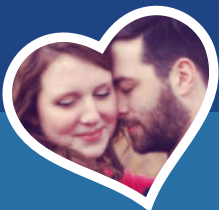
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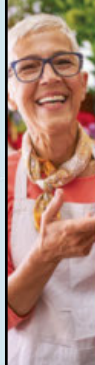
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