SAINT CATHERINE OF SIENA-SAINT LUCY AND SAINT GILES PARISH



OCTOBER 15, 2023 • Twenty-eighth 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

From Fr. Robert Carlton



This year marks the final year of the multiyear Eucharistic Revival that was begun by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops in 2022 on the feast of Corpus Christi. During this year, which will culminate with the Eucharistic Congress in Indianapolis in July, the goal of the Revival is "to foster Eucharistic devotion at the parish level, strengthening our liturgical life through the faithful celebration of the Mass, Eucharistic adoration, missions, resources, preaching, and organic movements of the Holy Spirit." In

essence, the goal is to not only get back to the basics of the liturgy but to the essence of what the Eucharist really is. According to the document *Sacrosanctum Concilium*, which is the decree from Vatican II on the sacred liturgy, "Christ is always present in His Church, especially in her liturgical celebrations. He is present in the sacrifice of the Mass, not only in the person of His minister... but especially under the Eucharistic species... The sacred liturgy does not exhaust the entire activity of the Church... [but] the liturgy is the summit toward which the activity of the Church is directed..."

The focus of the Church's work, then, is in the sacred liturgy and the focal point of the liturgy is the consecration of the Eucharist. Christ is really and truly present in the Eucharist, which is something that is a central part of the Catholic faith. Philosophically, the bread and wine that are brought forward appear as flour and water mixed together and baked. This is referred to as their "accidents," which indicates how they appear on the outside. Through transubstantiation, the "substance" of the Eucharist, or what something actually is on the inside, changes from bread and wine into Jesus' body and blood. The accidents stay the same but the substance has changed. It is essential to an understanding of our faith that the Eucharist is really the body and blood of Christ and not just a symbol of Jesus. The great Catholic writer Flannery O'Connor wrote of this distinction in a 1955 letter to her friend: "I was once, five or six years ago, taken by some friends to have dinner [with another couple]... toward morning, the conversation turned on the Eucharist, which I, being the Catholic, was obviously supposed to defend. Mrs. Broadwater [who Flannery was with] said when she was a child and received the Host, she thought of it as the Holy Ghost... now she thought of it as a symbol and implied that it was a pretty good one. I then said, in a very shaky voice, 'Well, if it's a symbol, to hell with it.' That was all the defense I was capable of but I realize now that this is all I will ever be able to say about it, outside of a story, except that it is the center of existence for me; all the rest of life is expendable."

Unfortunately, for far too many Catholics, the Eucharist has become this "pretty good symbol" of Mrs. Broadwater and it is not surprising that, as belief in the real presence of the Eucharist has declined, so has Mass attendance and participation in the Church. The goal of this year is to counter that trend and to emphasize how sacred the Eucharist is and that Jesus is really and truly present in the consecrated Eucharist. Throughout this year, Deacon Kevin Morgan and I are going to have a series of presentations and other activities as part of the Eucharistic revival for our parishes and, as there has been for some time, weekly adoration at St. Giles on Thursday evening at 7:00 pm. We hope to see you at these activities.

—Fr. Robert Carlton

St. Giles School

1034 Linden Avenue

St. Catherine-St. Lucy School 27 Washington Boulevard

Website: stgilesschool.org
Meg Bigane, Principal......mbigane@stgilesschool.org

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

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 708-383-8644E-mail: stgiles@stgilesparish.org 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 708-386-8077E-mail: parish@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, rcarlton@archchicago.org 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 (Marci) 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 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.orgparish@stcatherinestlucy.org Spirit and Light: A Catholic Collaborative for Living Faith Religious Education of Children and Adult Formation Programs Marci Madary, Director of Lifelong Formation..... Ext. 404 Christi Walkup, Director of Administration..... Ext. 421 Kelly McCreary, Faith Formation Administrative Assistant..... Ext. 101 Peggy Plastina, Coordinator, Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Ext. 408

Spiritual Life & Worship

e 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, 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 Rodriguez 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, Baby Sofia Rose, Dennis Rusin, Maureen Sansone, Paul Schleitwiler, Barbara Schulz, Colleen Rowley Schramm, Carole Sheehan, Madonna Sloan, Nick Sorrentino, Sr. Carol Spiegel, Nina Stanley, Sarah Such, Joann Taylor, Jose Torres, 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 intersessions 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 Teresa Noyszewski, and Richard D Rossi, brother of Joan Rossi.





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

ST. GILES CHURCH MASSES FOR THE WEEK

Monday, October 16

6:30 — † The Deceased of the Parish

† Brent Whiston

Tuesday, October 17

Saint Ignatius of Antioch, Bishop and Martyr

8:30 — † Carlos Mazon † Louis S. Bouriaily

† John Doerrer, Sr.

Wednesday, October 18 Saint Luke, Evangelist

6:30 - † Owen Petrzelka

† Simon Shaker

† The Deceased of the Shaker Famiv

All Parishioners and Benefactors

Thursday, October 19

Saints John de Brebeuf and Isaac Jogues, Priests, and Companions, Martyrs

8:30 — † Margaret Lambert

† Sally Brennan

† James Adams

Friday, October 20

6:30 — † Anthony Abraham

† Kathryń Earnhardt

† Peter Zent Saturday, October 21

8:00 — † Sally Brennan 2:30 — Wedding: Amy Sullivan and Brendan Kelley

4:30 — † Louis and Elizabeth Toth

† Dr. Harold and Carol Bonus

† Lillian Vavrina

Sunday, October 22

The Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 — † Chester Hammer

Patrick Lally

† The Deceased of the Shaker Family

*10:30 — † Rev. Thomas McDonough

† Bev and Peter Bertoia

The Deceased of the Shaker Family

Theresa Martino

*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, October 17

Saint Ignatius of Antioch, Bishop and Martyr

8:30 — All Parishioners and Benefactors

Sunday, October 22

The Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00 — † Gerry Ernst

by Evie Stockinger

The Intentions of the Vincent Family

by The Vincent Family

† Linda Lewis

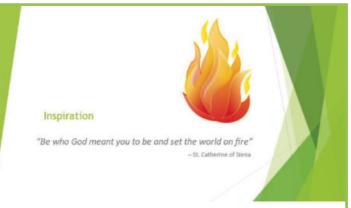
by Tom and Carol Frank

5:00 — Oak Park Catholic Parishes Young Adult Mass



WEDDING BANNS

- Juliette Leger and Joseph Cibula
- Amy Sullivan and Brendan Kelley



Special Advisory Listening Session

The Feasibility Team for the re-purposing of the St. Catherine-St. Lucy Rectory as a powerful social ministry center will be holding a special listening session for SCSL campus parishioners who live in Austin.

October 22, 2023

We will meet in church following the 9:00 am Mass. Light refreshments will be served.

Deacon Kevin Morgan, Maudette Carr, and Mary Darnall Feasibility Team Members

Healing Prayer, Healing Song: An Ecumenical Service to Pray for Healing

Join us on Thursday evening, October 19, at 7:30 pm at Ascension Church for *Healing Prayer*, *Healing Song*: a new ecumenical prayer outreach. The service includes scripture, healings songs and prayers from various traditions, shared silence, and the opportunity for



individual prayer, laying on of hands, and anointing. A special "Healing Choir" provides musical support and songs of healing at the service. Additionally, an ecumenical and multi-cultural prayer team of pastors and other pastoral care minsters assist in this ecumenical outreach of prayers for healing, wholeness, and unity in our world. As an ecumenical service, we recognize the unifying power of Christians from different traditions, ethnicities, and races to join as one, intentionally to pray for the healing of division and for a deepening of unity in our world. The service will be livestreamed and will also be offered on November 16.

For more information, contact David Anderson at d.anderson@ascensionoakpark.com. Ascension Church is located at 808 S. East Avenue, Oak Park, IL 60304.

Living the Mass: How Liturgy Shapes Our Lives

Each Sunday at the end of Mass, we are sent out on a mission! The priest or deacon announces: "Go in peace, glorifying the Lord by your life" challenging us to deeply live out our faith in the world. "Liturgical spirituality" brings together liturgy and spirituality by examining how our lives are formed and nurtured by the Church's liturgy, how our "being" in the world is shaped by the way we worship.

This year, the Oak Park Catholic Community will be invited to explore Liturgical Spirituality through a ten-part speaker series. Sessions will be held on Sunday mornings between the 8:00 AM and 10:30 AM Masses once or twice a month from October through May. The first session is scheduled for **October 29 at 9:15 am** in Ascension's Pine Room. Led by Fr. Bob Hutmacher, OFM, this session will serve as an introduction to Liturgical Spirituality. Parishioners and Parish Staff from both Oak Park parishes will lead the subsequent sessions, exploring the liturgical year, signs and symbols of worship, and the parts of the Mass. Save the date for October 29! A full schedule is forthcoming. If you have any questions, please email JaneAnne Campbell at ja.campbell@ascensionoakpark.com.

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 DePaul Society of St. Luke and St. Bernadine Parish).

Specific, non-expired items will be collected for the 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.

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

The next **FOOD FIRST** collection at St. Catherine of Siena-St. Lucy Church will be **Sunday**, **November 5**. 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.

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.

Spirit and Light Collaborative

SPIRIT AND LIGHT ADVISORY BOARD

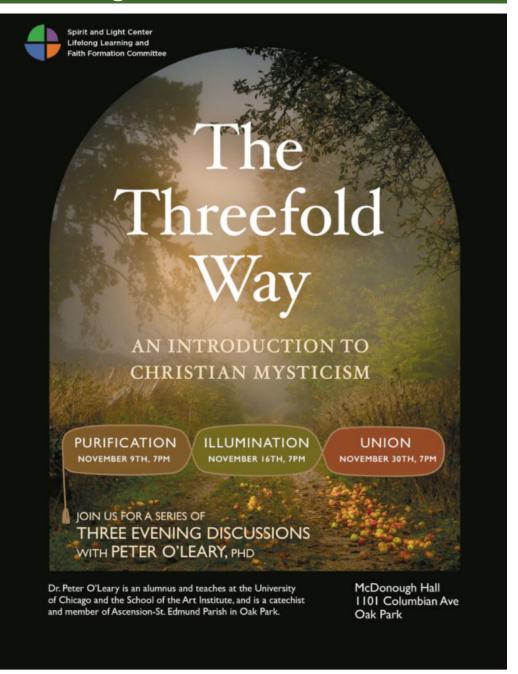
An Advisory Board for *Spirit* and *Light* has been created for the following purposes:

- 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 the Spirit and Light
- In conjunction with the Ascension and St. Edmund and St. Catherine-St. Lucy and St. Giles Parishes Pastor, Directors of Operation, Finance Committees, Spirit and Light Director and Director of Administration, to create the budget for Spirit and Light
- Participate in the hiring process of those employed by Spirit and Light
- Offer feedback to the Pastor (s)regarding the job performance review of the Spirit and Light Director

The Members of the Advisory Board represent all worshipping communities in our Oak Park Catholic Parishes:

Jim Schwarber, chair
Jean Meister, secretary
Luis Beteta
Tim Blatner
Glynis Hall
Paul Kraft
Katie Kudlacz
Esther Lopez
Melanie Pivarski
LaTrice Porter-Thomas
Kathleen Sproat

If you have questions, concerns, or ideas regarding *Spirit and Light*, please feel free to reach out to an Advisory Board member.



"Evangelization, at its essence, is the proclamation of salvation in Jesus Christ and the response of a person in faith, which are both works of the Spirit of God."

-- United States Council of Catholic Bishops



Coming Up: 2023 ASP Teen Reunion Oct. 15, 6:30 pm St. Giles Courtyard



Thank You to our Parish Community for your support!

Announcing the Kickoff of ASP 2024!



Trip Dates: July 20 to July 27, 2024

Kickoff Meeting: November 5, 2023 at 7:00 pm McDonough Hall

St. Giles ASP Service Project has been around for over 20 years. St. Giles ASP is more than a trip to Appalachia to repair buildings—it is a service project built on relationships:

Meaningful interactions with the families we serve
Teamwork among our crews
Getting to know and work with ASP Staffers
Meeting other folks in the county we serve

This trip would not be possible without the generosity of our Adult Leaders' time and talent, who co-partner to lead work crews. If your teen is planning to attend, this is a wonderful opportunity to have a truly memorable shared service experience with them as an adult participant. (Please note that parents and their teen will reside at the same center but will be assigned to separate work crews.)

Please see the parish website, stgilesparish.org, for further information about registering for the 2024 ASP trip.



St. Catherine-St. Lucy Halloween Bake Sale

The Halloween Bake Sale will be held October 29, in Maguire Hall on the St. Catherine-St. Lucy Campus, following the 9:00 am Mass in church.

Sign-Up sheets for bakers, clean-up assistance and other volunteer opportunities will be in the welcoming area of St. Catherine-St. Lucy Church.

Come and join us for this wonderful (and delicious) parish event!

14th Annual Parish Rummage Sale October 27-28

Location: St. Giles Campus Gleeson Building, 2nd level, McDonough Hall 1101 Columbian Avenue. Oak Park



Come help us make this the BEST RUMMAGE SALE EVER! We need your help! We are seeking volunteers for the Parish Rummage Sale!

Help is needed October 23, 24, 25 and 26:

Can you give an hour or more to help with drop off, sorting of items and setting up?

Need service hours? Bring your form and we are happy to sign off that you donated your time!

October 27 and 28:

Can you help with the sale? Assistance is needed with refreshing tables and shelves, helping to take items down in the elevator, and assisting with the sale as needed.

Drop Off Dates and Set Up Hours:

Monday, Oct. 23, 10:00 am to 6:00 pm Tuesday, Oct. 24, 11:00 am to 7:00 pm Wednesday, Oct. 25, 11:00 am to 7:00 pm Thursday, Oct. 26 10:00 am to 5:00 pm

Sale Dates and Times:

Friday, Oct. 27, 2:00 pm to 6:00 pm **Saturday, Oct. 28,** 10:00 am to 1:30 pm with **bag sale from 2:00 - 3:00 pm**

*REMINDER: We cannot accept cribs, expired car seats, recalled baby items, large furniture or exercise equipment, construction materials, non-working electronics, large TVs (only flat screen TVs will be accepted) or household paint/chemicals.

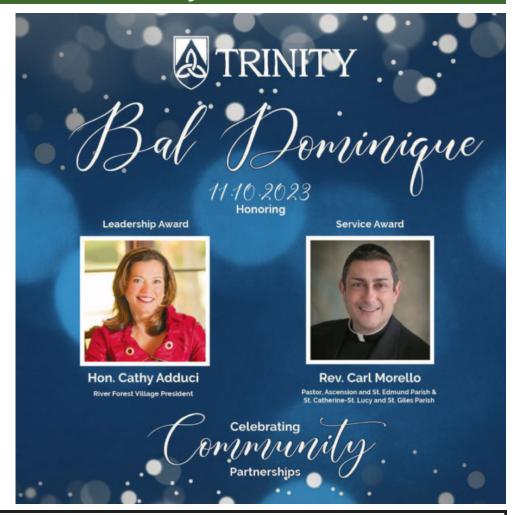
Questions or to Volunteer, contact the Coordinators: Marlene Panebianco at 708-848-3828 or marlene117@att.net Carol Rossi at 773-237-5804 or cg12345b@yahoo.com

Clear out your attics, closets, cabinets, drawers, basements, and garages; somebody else can use what you no longer need!

SENIOR CORNER



Come join the St. Catherine-St. Lucy and St. Giles Seniors for a brown-bag lunch and an afternoon movie. We are meeting on Tuesday, October 17, at 12 noon in McDonough Hall on the St. Giles campus, where we will be showing the 1943 classic, *Casablanca*, starring Humphrey Bogart and Ingrid Bergman. Enjoy some popcorn and a beverage while we enjoy the show. "See you at Rick's." "Here's looking at you, kid." Please call Joan Wojcik at 708-771-4783 to register.



Public Forum discussing social ministry outreach to Austin residents from St. Catherine – 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) to affirm the third stated outcome of Renew My Church 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. The Renew My Church vision offers a unique opportunity to respond to our neighbors' identified needs. The volunteer group submitted its feasibility report and recommendations to Fr. Carl, who encouraged the group to share its findings with the community.

The Feasibility Study Team has held six public forums throughout the community so far with more scheduled. 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, October 15, 12 noon – St. Edmund Murphy Hall Tuesday October 24, 7 pm – St. Luke's School Waldron Room Thursday, November 2, 7 pm – St. Bernardine Cafeteria Sunday, November 12, 11:30 am – Oak Park Temple Sunday, November 12, 11:30 am – Fair Oaks Presbyterian Church Thursday, November 16, 7 pm – Pilgrim Congregational Church

Please register for the meeting most convenient for you to attend by using the 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.

Oak Park Catholic Community

How Witnessing Domestic Violence
Affects Children.



Preschoolers who witness domestic violence, may revert to the habits of younger children: thumb sucking, bedwetting, increased crying, and whining. School-aged children can develop antisocial traits, struggle with guilt over the abuse witnessed and take on the blame for the abuse their parent deals with. Domestic violence has ability to cause post-traumatic stress disorder in children that are raised around it.

The trauma of domestic violence is enough to cause dangerous changes in the developing brains of children, including nightmares, changes in sleep patterns, anger, irritability, difficulty concentrating. Routinely witnessing domestic violence places children at a high risk of developing depression, sadness, concentration issues into adulthood. In some instances, children that live in abusive households are also likely to fall victim to this treatment themselves.

https://www.verywellmind.com/the-impact -of-domestic-violence-on-children-5207940

If you are a victim or survivor of domestic abuse seeking help: National Hotline: 1-800-799 SAFE (7233); 1-800-7873224 (TDD)



SEEKING SITE CAPTAINS, VOLUNTEERS,& MEAL PROVIDERS FOR OUR EMERGENCY OVERNIGHT SHELTER

St. Catherine of Siena - St. Lucy Church 38 N. Austin Boulevard in Oak Park



VOLUNTEERS ARE A KEY PART OF OPERATING OUR

EMERGENCY OVERNIGHT SHELTER
FOR INDIVIDUALS & FAMILIES EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS

The opportunities for this shelter are:

> Site Captain

Site captains recruit and manage a team of volunteers from their congregation to fill volunteer needs and/or meals for a night of shelter operation.

> Evening Shelter Host (6:30 pm-10:00 pm)
Volunteers help get set-up for the evening, greet the shelter guests as they arrive help them to set up their sleeping area, host dinner, and interact with clients until lights out.

> Overnight Attendant (10:00 pm-5:00 am)
Volunteers support staff in ensuring a safe experience for the shelter guests.

> Breakfast Host (5:00 am-7:00 am)
Volunteers serve a light breakfast, help shelter guests exit and assist with light clean-up.

Meal Provider (To be delivered at 7:00 pm)
Volunteers donate and deliver a hot dinner meal, and/or a continental breakfast and/or a sack to-go lunches for 15 people.

To sign up, please scan the QR code to access the interactive calendar. Additional job descriptions and volunteer requirements can be found on the calendar.

For additional information, contact Cherrell Jackson at cjackson@housingforward.org



How to help the Asylum Seeker as a layperson

Immigration Attorney Ana Fuentes of FuentesPalmisano PC will be giving pointers for those interested in helping immigrants who are navigating the complex asylum process on their own

Saturday, October 21 9.00 am to 11.00 am

McDonough Hall @ St. Giles Campus 1101 Columbian Ave, Oak Park, IL 60302 Coffee and donuts will be provided

RSVP by October 16 https://forms.gle/Yi7ot8uKkHYZTvs97

Organized by Intercultural Immigration Ministry (IIM) Ascension and St. Edmund Parish





ST. GILES SCHOOL

Preschool OPEN HOUSE OCTOBER 17 7-8:30 pm

Come and see what a St. Giles preschool experience could be like for your child! Tour our Early Childhood Center and classrooms, meet our unit coordinator and talk with current PreK parents about their experience.

OUR PRESCHOOL IS A MAGICAL PLACE:

- Guided physical activity, directed social time, music and art
- Learning centers for Math, Language Arts, Science, and Social Studies
- Daily faith formation exploring God's creation and love for us
- 10:1 student/teacher ratio
- · Dedicated preschool playground
- PreK-8 learning opportunities through crossgrade experiences with older "buddies"

FOR MORE INFO:

office@stgilesschool.org www.stgilesschool.org

Food For Thought An Apostolic Exhortation

"'Praise God' is the title of this letter, for when human beings claim to take God's place, they become their own worst enemies. The world in which we live is collapsing, and may be nearing the breaking point."

(Pope Francis, "Laudate Deum.")

Atop one of the highest hills within the Vatican Gardens, gilded by green lawns and roses, butterflies and green parrots, a panel gathered to offer its insights on the importance of the Pope's latest document on the climate crisis.

"Praise God" was dedicated to
"people of goodwill," so they'd respond
to Pope Francis' apostolic
exhortation of October 4th.
Persons of good will are expected
to make ethical choices;
Decisions must be made,
to stave off catastrophe.

"Laudate Deum" is viewed as an addendum to the Pope's "Laudato Si', which was broadly about care for our common home. The new piece is focused squarely on the climate crisis: quite direct. Theologians describe it as a "punch to the gut."

Journalists called the document "blistering," "harsh" and "amazing" for how it addresses climate misinformation, and challenges the change deniers head-on. It states what the Pope wants to see happening at this year's EU Climate Change Conference.

The Pope chose to release his piece amid a year of record-breaking rising temperatures, flooding and wildfires, castigating Western nations, especially people in the United States, for "irresponsible lifestyles," with fatal harm to the planet.

"Praise God" is a compelling climate crisis apologia.

It affirms what Greta Thunberg said at the World Economic Forum:
"I am here to say our house is on fire."
The Pope calls out human indifference and irresponsible lifestyle, found heavily in our country.

Pope Francis' exhortation is a powerful apologia for why people of faith cannot exempt themselves from the work that is needed.

Tom Lynch. <u>tgl7714@gmail.com</u> 10/15/23 Reference: NCR Earthbeat, 10/6/23

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

		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	,
10/8/2023			
		Total	YTD
	Weekly Budget	\$30,000.00	
	Envelopes	\$ 9,641.00	\$221,431.35
	Loose	\$ 2,173.25	
	Electronic*	\$14,352.00	\$166,176.39
	Total Giving	\$26,166.25	\$387,607.74
	*10/3/23-10/09/23		
	Shortfall	\$ 3,833.75	
Mass Count Week of 10/08/23			
		10/07/23 4:30 pm	164
		10/08/23 8:00 am	97
		10/08/23 9:00 am	0
		10/08/23 10:30 am	215
		10/08/23 5:00 pm*	51
	(*Young Adult hosted	@ St Catherine-St Lucy)	
		Total Mass Count	527

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

First Meeting of the Season – Part II

Tonight's the excitement of our first Catechist/Partner meeting of the season! We have a new Catechist who, even after orientation, is not quite sure what to expect! When the Partners greet him, he'll be surprised to find that they are giving *him* "radical hospitality." Puzzles, artwork, gentle



background music, peace and quiet, will bring us together into a contemplative community. Gathering in our Prayer Circle, enjoying the symbol of a new candle, celebrating the holiness of being together in this place! Proclaiming the Scripture, being placed, personal prayer, singing a hymn. And then an Agape — sitting at table with cheese, crackers, grapes, coffee, tea, hot cocoa, conversation and fun; clean-up and "Shalom." Back together again. I can't wait!



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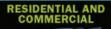
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