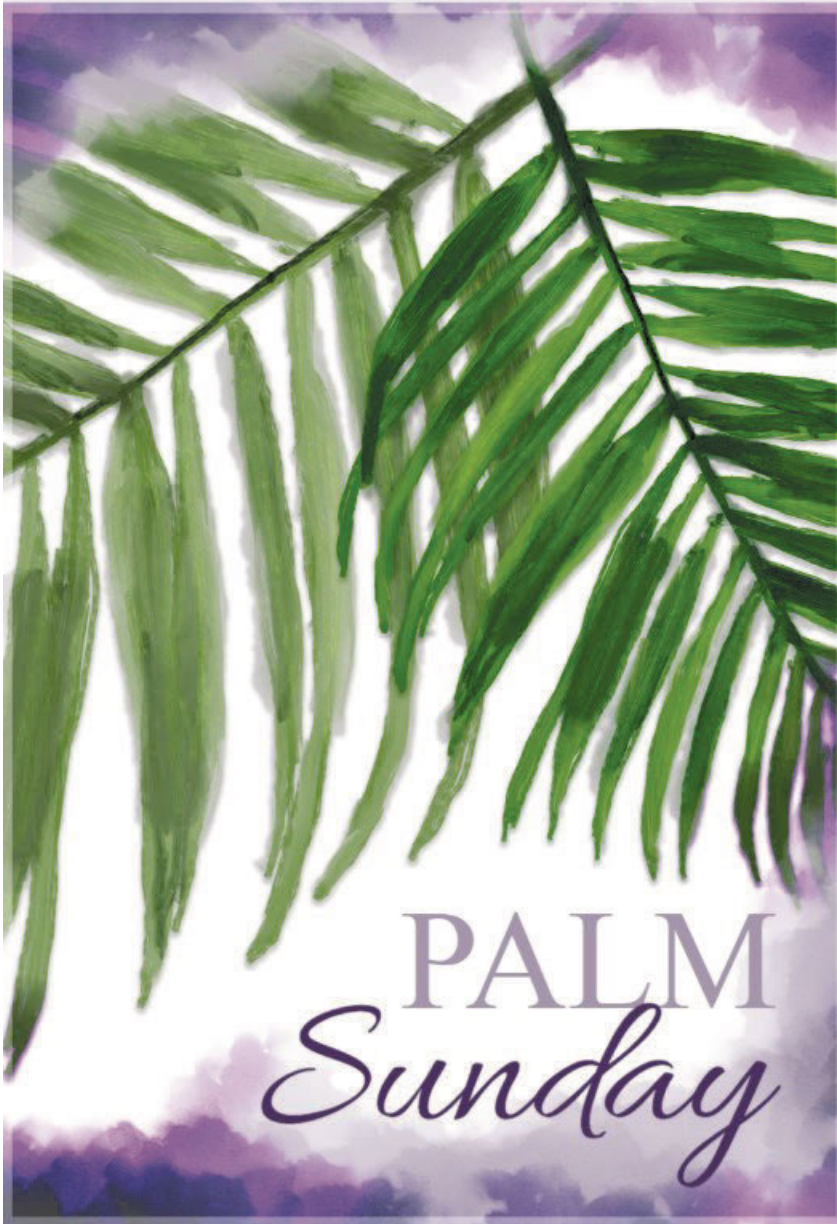




SAINT CATHERINE OF SIENA-SAINT LUCY AND SAINT GILES PARISH



SAINT CATHERINE OF SIENA- SAINT LUCY CHURCH

38 North Austin Boulevard
Oak Park, Illinois 60302
708-383-3430
www.stgilesparish.org

Weekday Mass
Tuesday at 8:30 AM

Weekend Mass
Sunday at 9:00 AM

SAINT GILES CHURCH

1045 Columbian Avenue
Oak Park, Illinois 60302
708-383-3430
www.stgilesparish.org

Daily Masses
Monday through Friday
at 6:30 AM
Tuesday, Wednesday
& Thursday
at 8:30 AM
Saturday at 8:00 AM
(Confessions following Mass)

Weekend Masses
Saturday at 4:30 PM,
Sunday at 8:00 AM & 10:30 AM

Family Mass Community
Sunday at 10:00 AM
School Gym

PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD APRIL 13, 2025

"Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord.
Peace in heaven and glory in the highest."

- Lk 19:38

FATHER CARL'S CORNER



Here we are, it's Palm Sunday! Our readings remind us of a moment when HOPE entered Jerusalem, not with force, but with humility. Jesus rode a donkey, not a war horse. He came

not as a conqueror, but as a peacemaker. The crowd cried out "Hosanna" longing for salvation in a world of injustice and oppression.

In many ways that cry still echoes today. In times when our country feels divided or out of control – whether through political strife, cultural tensions, or economic hardship – we may find ourselves asking, WHERE IS HOPE? WHERE IS PEACE?

Palm Sunday invites us to believe that peace does not always come through power, but through presence. It reminds us that we are all called to be part of the movement toward healing and unity. Not just the leaders, not just the powerful, but each one of US, in both small and profound ways. This isn't the work of any one group, it is our shared calling. People of every background, belief, and walk of life can take up the palm branch and walk the road of peace, even when it feels hard or uncertain.

I offer two suggestions as we enter Holy Week, a spiritual one and a practical one.

As a spiritual suggestion, commit to a daily moment of prayer or reflection for peace – both personal and national. Ask God to soften your heart, open your mind, and guide your actions with compassion. As we pray for peace in the world, may we become instruments of it in our families, communities and conversations.

As a practical suggestion, try to reach out to someone with whom you disagree politically or socially – not to argue, but TO LISTEN! Whether it is a family member, neighbor, or coworker, seek to understand rather than to convince. Even a single conversation can be a quiet step toward peace.

As we wave our palms in worship, may we also carry their meaning into our everyday lives by choosing humility over pride, presence over performance, and hope over despair. In doing so, we are joining the same path Jesus walked, not toward power, but toward love and peace.

Finally, be sure to check our schedule of services for Holy Week throughout the Oak Park Catholic Community at all four of our worship sites – Ascension, Saint Edmund, Saint Catherine of Siena-Saint Lucy and Saint Giles Churches. On these days of Holy Week we celebrate the most important and sacred rituals and liturgies of the year reminding us in both good times and in bad and in times of uncertainty and doubt, that we are loved by God. God is always with us. Have a blessed Holy Week.

With you a Christian. For you a priest.

Come Holy Spirit, Creator blessed, and in our hearts take up Your rest! Confirmation took place at St. Giles Church this weekend on Saturday!

[Congratulations](#) to all who were confirmed and have now promised to live with the Holy Spirit working through them.

F. Carl

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

SAINT GILES CHURCH

MONDAY, APRIL 14

6:30 AM The Deceased of the Parish

TUESDAY, APRIL 15

6:30 AM All Parishioners & Benefactors

8:30 AM The Deceased of the Daley & Archibald Families
Diana Pietro

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16

6:30 AM Owen Petrzelka
Megan Shaker
Susanne Stitt

8:30 AM Reverend Thomas B. McDonough (4-16-1989)

THURSDAY, APRIL 17

HOLY THURSDAY

8:30 AM Morning Prayer

*7:00 PM Mass of the Lord's Supper
Adoration Until Midnight

11:45 PM Night Prayer

FRIDAY, APRIL 18

GOOD FRIDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

8:30 AM Morning Prayer

*3:00 PM Celebration of the Lord's Passion

7:00 PM Living Stations of the Cross

7:30 PM Family Mass Community Prayer Service with
Silent Passion in the School Gym

SATURDAY, APRIL 19

HOLY SATURDAY

8:30 AM Morning Prayer

11:00 AM Blessing of the Easter Food

7:00 PM Easter Vigil and First Mass of Easter

SUNDAY, APRIL 20

EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD

6:00 AM Sunrise Mass in the Saint Giles Courtyard
(Weather permitting, otherwise in Church)

8:00 AM All Parishioners & Benefactors

10:00 AM Family Mass Community in the School Gym

*10:30 AM All Parishioners & Benefactors

*This Liturgy will be live-streamed from the Saint Giles website, stgilesparish.org.

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

SAINT CATHERINE OF SIENA- SAINT LUCY CHURCH

TUESDAY, APRIL 15

8:30 AM All Parishioners & Benefactors

FRIDAY, APRIL 18

GOOD FRIDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

7:00 PM Celebration of the Lord's Passion

SATURDAY, APRIL 19

HOLY SATURDAY

1:00 PM Blessing of Easter Food

SUNDAY, APRIL 20

EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD

9:00 AM All Parishioners & Benefactors

SAINT EDMUND CHURCH

SUNDAY, APRIL 20

EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD

No 5:00 PM Mass



Abstinence from meat is to be observed by all Catholics 14 years old and older on Good Friday.

Fasting is also to be observed on Good Friday

by all Catholics who are 18 years of age but not yet 59. Those who are bound by this may take only one full meal. Two smaller meals are permitted if necessary to maintain strength according to one's needs, but eating solid foods between meals is not permitted. The special Paschal fast, as well as abstinence, are prescribed for Good Friday and encouraged for Holy Saturday.

Singles Upper 50s & Above:

Looking for a deeper relationship with God and a renewed sense of purpose for your journey through life's transitions? Connect with others and recharge your spiritual batteries on a RENEW retreat! The next weekend is on May 2-4, 2025, at the Carmelite Spiritual Center in Darien, IL (southwestern suburb of Chicago). For more info, www.RenewRetreats.org, or e-mail RENEW at renew.chicagoland@gmail.com, or call (309) 912-6065.





Holy Week: Come and See

Holy Thursday, 7:00 PM: St Giles Church

Footwashing: an act of service and love



Feet, my brothers and sisters, bear the stress and hardships of a lifetime of walking and living. We invite you to the Foot Washing fonts throughout the church on Holy Thursday evening as we humble ourselves in this act of service and love to one another. On the evening, he was betrayed, Jesus "poured water into a basin and began to wash his disciples' feet, drying them with the towel wrapped around him...After washing their feet, he put on his clothes and returned to his place. 'Do you understand what I have done for you?' he asked them 'Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another's feet'" (John 13:5, 12, 14).

Jesus Christ humbled Himself when He came down to this earth as a man, but He further humbled Himself when He took on the duties of a foot-washing servant.

Foot washing takes humility from both: the one who washes and the one who is washed. No one will mind your varicose veins, bunions, or bent toes, bring a humble heart of service and love. In the words of the Servant Song by Richard Gillard:

"Will you let me be your servant, let me be as Christ to you?
Pray that I might have the grace to let you be my servant too." - by Valerie Jennings

Good Friday: *Multiple Opportunities for Prayer and Adoration (see the full schedule)*

Good Friday dawns, and the cross becomes the central figure. We hear the story of the Passion, and we respond in trust by lifting up the needs of the world in the ancient form of the intercessions dating back to the early church. Then, we adore the cross—no longer a symbol of pain but a symbol of amazing, astounding, love. On Good Friday, we have multiple ways at all the worship sites to spend time with the amazing love of God, poured out for us this day.



Easter Vigil, 7:00 PM: St Giles Church



All day Saturday, we wait. We now come to the Easter Vigil with great expectation. ***This is the night*** we gather outside as the light of the new fire is blessed, the fire that will shine for us throughout the Easter Season and at every baptism and funeral. ***This is the night*** that we hear and sing the Exsultet that proclaims our redemption and calls us to recognize the power of this night. ***This is the night*** that we listen to the scriptures that tell our salvation history—from creation to resurrection. ***This is the night*** we ask all the saints to stand with us as we bless the baptismal waters. ***This is the night*** that we initiate new members into our church. ***This is the night*** that we celebrate the great Easter Eucharist.

This week, enter a holy time. Let us come together, old and young, from our diverse background and communities. As one family of faith, we step into Easter.

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

Those who are hospitalized or homebound, including: Patrick Ahearn, Coletta Ali, Mark Andersen, Mardie Anderson, Jessica Scanlon Bailey, Jane Baker, Phyllis Baker, Katie Barnicle, Fred Bartholomew, Danita Bowie, JoAnn Boyle, Eloise Brown, Pat Burke, Tim Carraher, Mary Cozzi, Nancy D'Agnolo, Liz Decker, Carole DiCicco, Andrea Dickson, Paula Dote, Bob Dunne, Mary Ann Evans, Katherine Fisher, George Fleming, Bernadette Gaffney, Baby Ford Gallagher, Samantha Gennell, Mary Fran Gleason, Marcial Gomez, Maggie Astacio Hedges, Deacon John Henricks, Lois Henricks, Bill Holmes, Jennifer Hoyt, Bill Jany, Ginny Jones, Phillip Jones, Joe Karas, Marie Koko, Pat Koko, Paul Koko, Hardie Kressler, Rossana Lopollo, Virginia Madden, Deacon Lorry Madonia, Linda Malloy, Lauren Marshall, Regina Martin, Lynne Tallon Matassa, Chuck Mauter, Janet McEnaney, Martina Mgimba, Sebastian Mitchell, Willa Montgomery, Everette Moore, Jamie O'Reilly, Amelia Patterson, Lorenzo Perez, Patrick Pollard, Connie Rakitan, Gia Rapacki, Hannah Rice, Peg Sabatino, Paul Schleitwiler, Janet Schroeder, Gregory Sherwood, Maureen Sloan, Deborah Sobreira, Sr. Carol Spiegel, Theodora Thompson, Regina Thorpe, Shirley Venerable, Nancy Wesclitz, LaShonda Wilson.

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: Elmer Adams, spouse of Beverly Adams, and Catherine Ripp, spouse of Chuck Ripp.



We pray in celebration of all the candidates that received their Confirmation this Saturday at Saint Giles. Please watch the bulletin in the upcoming weeks for the names of all those confirmed!

Saint Giles Campus Parish Center Office

1025 Columbian Avenue. Oak Park, Illinois 60302
Phone: 708-383-3430 - E-mail: stgiles@stgilesparish.org
Website: stgilesparish.org

Business Hours:

Monday through Friday - 9:00 AM - 4:30 PM
Monday through Thursday Evening - 4:30 PM - 8:00 PM
Saturday - 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Lauren Locke & Sister Sue Paweski, Daytime Receptionists
Kathleen Coleman, Everett McCreary & Madelyn McCreary, Evening & Weekend Receptionists

Saint Catherine of Siena-Saint Lucy Campus Office

38 North Austin Boulevard, Oak Park, Illinois 60302
Phone: 708-386-8077 - E-mail: stgiles@stgilesparish.org
Website (legacy): stcatherinestlucy.org

Business Hours

Saturday - 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM, Sunday - 8:30 AM - 12:00 PM
Other times by appointment.

Chemetha Baker, *Weekend Receptionist*

Rev. Carl Morello, *Pastor* - Ext. 422

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

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

Rev. Vittorio Bruscella, *Pastoral Assistant* - vittoriocmf@libero.it

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*

Mary Boss, *Bulletin Editor* - mboss@archchicago.org

Sharon Bresnahan, *Accounts Administrator* - Ext. 420

Matthew Brophy, *Director of Parish Operations* - Ext. 102

Carol Coleman, *Business Manager* - Ext. 419

LaVerne Johnson, *Parish Administrative Assistant* -

Ext. 401, stgiles@stgilesparish.org

Sue Kaszynski, *Director of Music & Liturgy* - Ext. 423

Julius White, *Praise Choir*

Spirit & Light

Dr. Marci Madary, *Director of Spirit & Light* -

mmadary@spiritandlightcenter.org

Rachel Faulman, *Catechesis of the Good Shepherd &*

Out-of-Grade Sacraments -

rfaulman@spiritandlightcenter.org

Cooky Perez-Eraci, *Director of Youth Ministry* -

mperezzeraci@spiritandlightcenter.org

Tim Smyth, *Faith & Fellowship Program Director* -

tmsmyth@spiritandlightcenter.org

Alex Ryan, *Evangelization & Sacraments*

Alexryan@spiritandlightcenter.org

Saint Giles School

1034 Linden Avenue, Oak Park, Illinois 60302

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

E-mail: office@stgilesschool.org

Website: stgilesschool.org

Meg Bigane, *Principal* - mbigane@stgilesschool.org

Saint Catherine-Saint Lucy School

27 Washington Boulevard, Oak Park, Illinois 60302

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

Website: catherinelucy.org

Sharon Leamy, *Principal* - sleamy@catherinelucy.org



TRIDUUM

HOLY THURSDAY, APRIL 17

Morning Prayer - 8:30 AM at Saint Giles Church
Mass of the Lord's Supper - 7:00 PM at Saint Giles Church
 Adoration Until Midnight
 Night Prayer - 11:45 PM

GOOD FRIDAY - APRIL 18

Morning Prayer - 8:30 AM at Saint Giles Church
Celebration of the Lord's Passion - 3:00 PM
 at Saint Giles Church
Celebration of the Lord's Passion - 7:00 PM
 at Saint Catherine-Saint Lucy Church
Living Stations of the Cross - 7:00 PM
 at Saint Giles Church
**Family Mass Community Good Friday Prayer Service with
 Silent Passion** - 7:30 PM in the Saint Giles School Gym

HOLY SATURDAY - APRIL 19

Morning Prayer - 8:30 AM at Saint Giles Church
 Blessing of Easter Food - 11:00 AM at Saint Giles Church,
 and at 1:00 PM at Saint Catherine-Saint Lucy Church
Easter Vigil and First Mass of Easter - 7:00 PM
 at Saint Giles Church - Initiation of New Members
 (No 4:30 PM Mass at Saint Giles Church)

EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 20

Sunrise Mass - 6:00 AM in the Saint Giles Courtyard
 (Weather permitting, otherwise in the Church)
Mass at 8:00 AM and 10:30 AM at Saint Giles Church
Mass at 9:00 AM at Saint Catherine-Saint Lucy Church
 with the combined Parish Choir
Family Mass Community Mass at 10:00 AM
 in the Saint Giles School Gym

PRAYING THE ROSARY ON ZOOM

Join Deacon Kevin and Marci Morgan on Zoom to pray the Rosary on Friday evenings at 7:00 PM.
<https://us02web.zoom.us/> - Meeting ID: 865 8895 7490 - Passcode: 634955



CURIOS ABOUT ALPHA?

If you are looking for a place to share a meal, watch an interesting video and wrestle with questions at the core of faith and life - come and see! You are invited no matter your background or beliefs. Alpha is free, and there is no pressure to come back. All are welcome - invite a friend, spread the word.

Scan here to sign up, for more information or to register:



Sponsored by the Spirit and Light evangelization team, serving Ascension and Saint Edmund and Saint Catherine of Siena- Saint Lucy and Saint Giles parishes. Email alexryan@spiritandlightcenter.org with any questions.

**Thursdays at 6:30 PM in
 McDonough Hall, 1101 Columbian Ave.**

SACRAMENTAL RECORDS FOR SAINT CATHERINE-SAINT LUCY CHURCH

All sacramental records for both Saint Lucy and Saint Catherine of Siena Churches and the combined Saint Catherine-Saint Lucy Church are housed in the parish offices located at 1025 Columbian.

Please contact the parish office at 708-383-3430 or by email at stgiles@stgilesparish.org to inquire about copies of sacramental records. Valid Identification must be presented to request copies of sacramental records.

PARISH NEWS

Want to know all the latest news from the parish? 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.

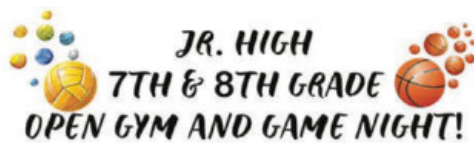




YOUTH MINISTRY

Come together to engage in great conversation, reunite with your school friends and meet new friends! Plan events, activities, service opportunities, youth, movie, and open gym nights, outings, develop leadership and unity, learn more about yourself and your faith and so much more.

The next meetings will take place in the Youth Ministry Room at Saint Edmund School, 200 S. Oak Park Avenue. (Enter on Oak Park Avenue) from 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM on the following Tuesdays: April 22 and May 6.



Saint Edmund School - 200 S. Oak Park
Enter at the doors on Pleasant Street

Friday, April 25 - 7:00 - 8:30 PM

Open Gym and Games Night! Bring your water bottle, basketball or volleyball, or favorite game to Saint Edmund School. Hang out with your friends and meet new ones. Parents are welcome!

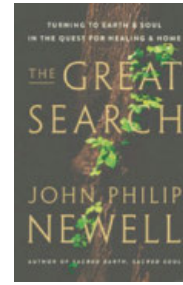
Contact: Cooky Perez-Eraci, Director of Youth Ministry at
708-370-3674 or mperezzeraci@spiritandlightcenter.org.

JOIN THE MIGRANT MINISTRY CROP WALK TEAM!

We have again been invited to be one of the beneficiaries in this year's CROP walk on Sunday, May 4, in Oak Park. The CROP Walk is sponsored by CWS (Church World Service) and its goal is to fight hunger. Last year, 18 migrants joined us on the walk because they remembered being fed by CWS on their way north! While 75% of the funds raised are targeted for the global level, 25% are spent locally. We will receive a percentage of the local funds collected based on how much we raise. So...let's raise a lot of funds! You are welcome to join our team as a team walker or donate directly to the team instead. Our team is the Migrant Ministry Movers and Shakers and here is the link: <https://events.crop hungerwalk.org/crophungerwalks>, or scan the QR code below.



Please consider either walking or donating!
Spread the word!



A BOOK STUDY AND DISCUSSION WITH MEDITATION

The Great Search: Turning to Earth and Soul in the Quest for Healing and Home

By John Phillip Newell

"We are seeking healing as an Earth community, and we are longing for a new sense of home spiritually. Vast numbers of us have left the four walls of institutional religion. Others are choosing to stay. But whether we remain in the religious traditions of our birth or move beyond them, we need new vision if we are to find healing in our relationship with Earth and one another. 'Seek and you will find,' says Jesus. This is the promise at the heart of the Great Search today." P. 2

This exploration began in September and will continue through May 25. The nine chapters of the book will frame the nine sessions. Facilitated by Shelby Boblick, this group conversation will be most impactful if attendees buy or borrow the book and read the chapter in advance. Future meetings will take place on the following Mondays from 1 to 2:30 PM with the following topics.

April 21: Chapter 6 -

Seeking Love, Jalauddin Rumi

April 28: Chapter 7 -

Seeking Wisdom, Rabindranath Tagore

May 5: Chapter 8 -

Seeking Meaning, ETTY Gillesum

May 12: Chapter 9 -

Seeking Faith, Edwin Muir

We will meet in the conference room on the second floor of the Gleeson Building at 1101 Columbian Avenue on the Saint Giles Church campus. Handicapped accessible!

The sessions are open to anyone interested, and please "register" (by an e-mail to Shelby at shelbyboblick@outlook.com) for each session you plan to attend. 30 people maximum. No need to attend every session. There is no cost to attend.



FAITH AND FELLOWSHIP

"The ladies of Faith and Fellowship were treated to an afternoon of crafts, fashion, and food at this year's Ladies' Afternoon on Saturday, March

29. Everyone had a wonderful time! Additional clothing from the event was also donated to The Migrant Ministry. Special thanks go out to Sharon Polack, Joanne King, Diane Norris, Denise Nowak, Joan Johnson, Natalie Wise, Teri Monaco, Kelly McCreary, and Jen McCreary for making this event happen." Please note that the "Big Shebang" end of the year Mass and dinner celebration is officially set for May 21 at the Saint Catherine-Saint Lucy Campus, beginning at 7:00 PM!



GIVE CENTRAL SMARTSTICKERS

This Easter we are introducing **GiveCentral**



SmartStickers, an innovative way to make donating faster, easier, and more engaging. With **Near Field Communications technology**, these stickers allow donors to simply **tap their smartphones** and

make a secure donation in seconds - no cash, no check, no hassle, and no apps. You will find the stickers on GiveCentral flyers that will be posted on all of the bulletin boards in Church as well as on the kiosk at Saint Giles and on the information table at Saint Catherine of Siena-Saint Lucy. Thank you for your generosity during this Easter season!

NEW CATHOLICS IN CONVERSATION

New Catholics in Conversation is a continual inquiry and faith sharing experience to those new to Catholicism. Each month, we explore a new topic of Catholic life and see how it impacts our everyday lives. The sessions run exactly one hour and include a reflection, conversation and prayer. We meet on the second Monday of the month at 7:15 PM at the McGivern Center on the Saint Edmund campus.

April 14 - Holy Week - The Days We So Need

May 12 - Vulnerability, Belonging, Compassion

For more information, contact
Pat Carew at pat@enerstar.com

SENIOR CORNER



Please plan on joining us for a "Pizza Lunch" on Tuesday, April 22, at noon in McDonough Hall on the Saint Giles campus. A salad will

also be supplied, and you may wish to bring along a dessert to share with the others to complete our lunch. Deacon John Walters will give a presentation on "Historical Jesus," after our lunch. Come join our friends for this post-Easter celebration.

"To be seventy years young is something far more cheerful than to be forty years old."

Oliver Wendell Holmes, Sr.

MISERICORDIA



CANDY DAYS

Friday, April 25 and Saturday, April 26

PLEASE VOLUNTEER!

Two or more hours of your time will make a big difference for more than 600 children and adults with developmental and physical disabilities.

To volunteer, please call Michael Elsen at 708-323-6638 or email him at michaeljelsen@gmail.com

Thank you!



COMMEMORATIVE EASTER FLOWERS

Honor deceased loved ones.

Decorate our churches for
the Easter Season.

Support the Saint Catherine
of Siena-Saint Lucy and
Saint Giles ASP Trip.

Our Appalachian Service Project (ASP) 2025 Team is accepting donations for Easter Flowers in remembrance of those who have gone before us into eternal life. Each plant is \$25. The flower plants purchased in memory of deceased loved ones will decorate our churches during the Easter season. The donations will assist our ASP Team in meeting our fundraising goals for teens to attend our week-long service trip this summer! The names of those honored will be published in the parish bulletin after Easter.

Please enter the name of the person(s) you wish to honor in the space provided. Please print legibly!

The cost is \$25 per plant. Please make checks payable to Saint Giles ASP. Donations can also be made through GiveCentral by scanning the QR Code here.

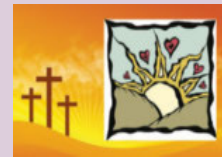


I would like to donate _____ plants (Number of Easter flower plants) in honor of:

Enclosed is my total donation of \$ _____ (\$25 per plant).

Name and address of donor for receipt purposes):

Please return order forms and donations to the Parish Center marked "Commemorative Easter Flowers" by Wednesday, April 16.



EASTER SUNRISE SHOEBOXES

Shoeboxes collected will be donated to the Franciscan Outreach Organization and Housing Forward. The collection will end on Palm Sunday, April 13.

Fill a shoebox or a comparable-size container (you provide the container) with a variety of items. These items should be new and of a personal size. Here are just a few suggestions:

- Tube socks
- Kleenex (small packages)
- Plastic rain poncho
- Wash / face cloth
- Toothbrush / toothpaste
- Baby powder
- Hand sanitizer
- Hotel size - soap & shampoo
- Brush and/or comb
- Deodorant
- Small towel
- Razor
- Hand lotion
- Other small items
- Gift card from McDonald's, Burger King, etc. (not to exceed \$10)

Please be sure to include these items: Word Search or Crossword Puzzle Book with Pen or Pencil, some wrapped Easter candy, also gallon sized freezer bags (1-3) to carry these items.

When your shoebox is filled (you can decorate it if you choose to do so), put a rubber band around it. Mark the box either "Man" or "Woman". Place your shoebox in the designated area in your church. They can also be placed on the back pews in the Gathering Space at Saint Giles Church or dropped off at Saint Giles Parish Center. During Holy Week, the boxes will be delivered to the organizations so that they may be distributed at Easter time.

Any questions, please contact Barb Schulz - 773-622-2121

Thank you for caring and participating! Know that your work of mercy will make a difference in someone's life!

MIGRANT MINISTRY UPDATE: MORE MANNA, MORE STORIES



Stories are the manna that feeds us on this journey and we have now started a Google doc for the volunteers to share their Migrant Ministry stories—stories of hope, inspiration, resilience, and gratitude. Recently one volunteer shared that a migrant leaving her ESL class came up to her, smiled, and slowly but deliberately said, “Thank you for being kind. I am

learning English. Thank you for everything.” The volunteer smiled in return, congratulated the migrant on her newly-acquired English skills, and noted what effort and courage it took to speak to strangers in a new language in a new country.

In his Ash Wednesday homily, Father Hutmacher encouraged us to choose kindness this Lent. Kindness is the salve for the struggles and division the world is experiencing. We strive to make all our interactions with migrants grounded in kindness. One volunteer commented that if a migrant gets deported, they leave remembering that there were kind people here. Through kindness we live up to the award we recently received from Har Zion Temple in River Forest during their recent Refugee Shabbat, recognizing our work as contributing the “Tikkun Olam,” the healing and repairing of the world.

Our work would not be possible without the volunteers and your generous donations. We have both ongoing and emerging needs. Specifically now, we are in great need of men’s shoes and boots, especially smaller sizes. In addition, we are seeking donations to our Legal Defense Fund as the asylum court dates are coming up for the migrant families we are accompanying. If you want to donate to the Legal Defense Fund, please note that when you donate to the Migrant Ministry through Give Central. We also need mentors to accompany the families and help them adjust to their new environment. It is not necessary to speak Spanish to be a mentor.

Here is our updated AMAZON WISH LIST (<https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/3VKSYQWISEBOM>) and QR code. This is our LIST OF VERY LIMITED IN-KIND DONATIONS (<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1GydW78-pFK4wkwnzMEMGUft8cprWKtsw/edit?tab=t.0>). We are no longer accepting donations of winter clothes, and we began accepting spring clothes on April 7. For more information, email immigrantministry@gmail.com.



You can also help by paying for all or part of the rent for a year, or by mentoring a family. To donate online through GiveCentral use the link below OR send donations to Saint Catherine-Saint Lucy and Saint Giles Parish, 1025 Columbian, Oak Park, IL 60302. Include a note that the donation is for the “Migrant Ministry.” Thank you for your generous heart! (<https://www.givecentral.org/customizable-online-giving/444/event/36149>).



JOIN A COMMUNITY OF VOLUNTEERS WHO ARE CHANGING LIVES!

The Neighborhood Bridge (TNB) has a variety of ways you can use your time and talent to help connect families on the West Side to high-quality human services in our community.

Advocate - Advocates help a participant in our program break down the barriers to services to obtain the help the Participant needs and wants.

First-time Advocates:

- Are asked to commit to spending 5-7 hours a month working with a Participant and to an initial 10-month term.
- Participate in a three-session training program and are equipped with the resources they need to support their Participant.
- Are supported by an Advocate Mentor in every meeting with the Participant.
- Receive support and professional development at quarterly community-building workshops.

Worker Bee - Help with painting and light remodeling of the lower level of the former Saint Catherine-Saint Lucy rectory.

Essentials Pantry volunteer - Help stock and fulfill orders from families

Professional Expert - Help in areas such as marketing communications, fundraising, grant writing, financial management, and human resources management.

You can learn more about volunteer opportunities at TNB, including becoming an Advocate, by attending one of our Bridge Breakfasts, held the first Saturday of each month.

To register for a Bridge Breakfast, go to <https://bit.ly/40Vrsoi>

For more information about volunteering, go to <https://theneighborhoodbridge.org/volunteer> or contact Jeanne Gallo, TNB’s Volunteer Coordinator, at jeanne.gallo@theneighborhoodbridge.org.

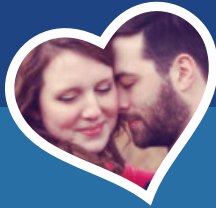


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