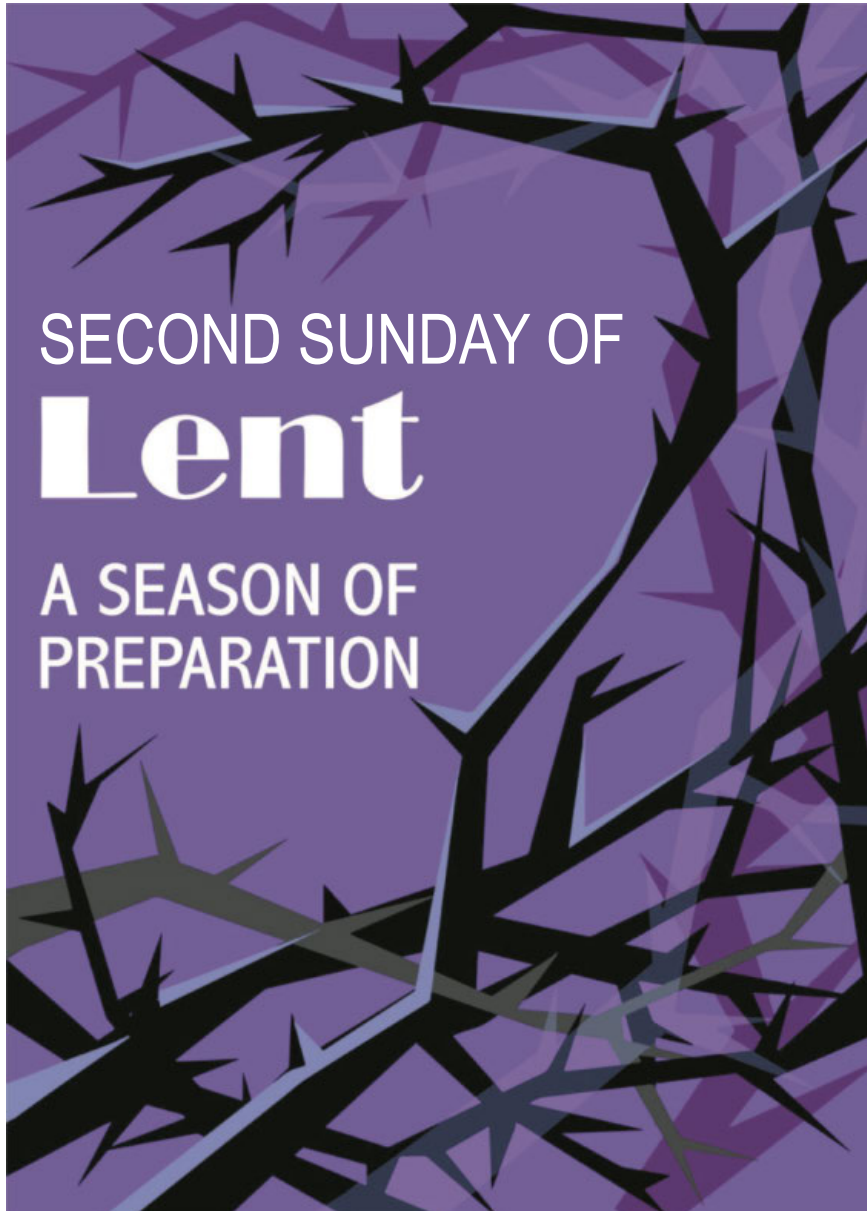




## SAINT CATHERINE OF SIENA-SAINT LUCY AND SAINT GILES PARISH



### SAINT CATHERINE OF SIENA- SAINT LUCY CHURCH

38 North Austin Boulevard  
Oak Park, Illinois 60302  
708-383-3430  
[www.stgilesparish.org](http://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](http://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

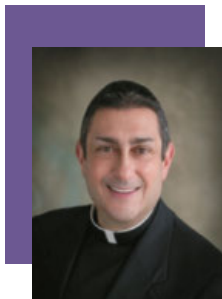
## SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT MARCH 16, 2025

While he was still speaking, a cloud came and cast a shadow over them, and they became frightened when they entered the cloud. Then from the cloud came a voice that said,  
"This is my chosen Son, listen to him." Lk 9:34-35

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## FATHER CARL'S CORNER



Blessed Second Sunday of Lent! I hope that this week you will find time to join us for our second Lenten Reflection, Lean into Love with guest speaker, Maryanne Colter. Last week, our reflections began with Lean into Listening, a wonderful presentation by

Dr. John Igwebuike where we learned the inner work of self-examination, self-awareness, and self-reflection to help us grow and develop as a listener.

I want to give you a heads up about next weekend, March 23, the third Sunday of Lent. All our parish worship sites will use the Cycle A readings that celebrate the first scrutiny praying for those being welcomed into our communities at this year's Easter Vigil. We have five adults and three teenagers who will be fully initiated and welcomed into the church. They will be Baptized, and receive Confirmation and Eucharist at the Vigil Mass. While the scrutiny rite will take place at two Masses, one at each of our parish sites, we will hear the readings and offer prayers together at all the Masses that weekend as the Catholic Communities of Oak Park and Neighbors.

This rite calls us to hear the story of a Samaritan woman who comes to the well for her daily water drawing chore. She has an encounter with Jesus and the conversation leads us to recall how Jesus spoke to this Samaritan woman and in doing so incorporated her into his own group of followers. Jesus challenges her to a new relationship with God through Him. We see that the Samaritan woman becomes both a disciple of Jesus and an apostle to her community as she goes to share this good

news. This gospel tells us, it is not the disciples, but the Samaritan woman who becomes the first missionary.

The interaction between Jesus and the Samaritan woman is meant to reflect the work of bringing the gospel into different cultures and lands, in this case Samaria. For this reason, I am inviting women who are formed in scripture and preaching to share a reflection after the gospel next weekend. Each priest celebrant will offer a short homily on the scripture and then women from our communities will share a reflection on the gospel story of the woman at the well. I feel this is an appropriate time to hear such a reflection. When a woman shares this story, it reinforces the biblical truth that women's voices are meant to spread the gospel, not be silenced. Women often carry the responsibility of nurturing others, whether emotionally, spiritually, or physically. Hearing the voice of a woman along with her perspective reflecting on Jesus' offer of "living water" resonates deeply as she understands the thirst for love, purpose, and belonging. Hopefully, all will be open to these reflections offered next weekend.

Finally, please read the letter from Cardinal Cupich on the following page. This is an important message offering support and encouragement for the work we are doing here as the Catholic Communities of Oak Park and Neighbors. This addresses any uncertainties or concern some may have regarding our direction as together we look to the future and continue the work of building the Kingdom of God.

Have a blessed and safe week ahead.

With you a Christian. For you a priest.

*F. Carl*

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## LIVE THE LITURGY

The Apostles do not realize what is happening during the transfiguration. They are confused and afraid, and then they hear a voice from the cloud: "This is my chosen Son; listen to him." Sometimes in life, all we have is the voice of God. Listen to it.

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO



February 20, 2025

Dear Catholic Community of Oak Park,

Please know of my gratitude for your dedicated efforts toward collaborating as one Catholic Community of Oak Park and for your faithful witness to the Gospel in serving our neighbor. Your efforts through The Neighborhood Bridge and Migrant Ministry give example to the whole Archdiocese of how we can live out our faith by helping those in need. Additionally, your Spirit and Light initiative has shown how to work together to form our people as missionary disciples.

Understanding there are questions about whether there will be one pastor or two pastors for the Oak Park parishes moving forward, please know my intention is for Oak Park to continue with one pastor and two parishes. One pastor provides the underlying governing structure and clarity of decision making needed to carry forward the collaborative renewal efforts you have begun in Oak Park. That said, unless and until your discernment suggests otherwise, continuing as two parishes has been helpful for organizing staff and school relationships.

Sometime in the next few years when Father Carl Morello decides to retire, it is my hope, as well the Archdiocesan Priest Placement Board's, that a successor would work with Father Morello through a transition period. Priority will be given to identifying candidates with the skills to empower lay staff and leadership grounded in a vision for renewal. The Placement Board will also discern how to provide the priest support needed to support the pastor in shepherding the sacramental life of the two parishes and the Catholic Community of Oak Park.

This is an exciting and challenging time of renewal in the Archdiocese and in Oak Park. Thank you for your collective leadership to work as one Catholic Community of Oak Park. You are in my prayers. Please keep me in yours. With every good wish, I remain,

Sincerely yours in Christ

Archbishop of Chicago.

### 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. 422Rev. Edward P. Salmon, *Resident* - Ext. 308Rev. Thomas E. Unz, *Resident* - Ext. 313Rev. Vittorio Bruscella, *Pastoral Assistant* - vittoriocmf@libero.itMr. 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.orgSharon Bresnahan, *Accounts Administrator* - Ext. 420Matthew Brophy, *Director of Parish Operations* - Ext. 102Carol Coleman, *Business Manager* - Ext. 419LaVerne Johnson, *Parish Administrative Assistant* -

Ext. 401, stgiles@stgilesparish.org

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

mperezeraci@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

## MASS SCHEDULE

### SAINT GILES CHURCH

#### MONDAY, MARCH 17

6:30 AM The Deceased of the Parish

#### TUESDAY, MARCH 18

6:30 AM All Parishioners & Benefactors

8:30 AM Louis & Lena Calonico  
Henrietta Bezouska  
Edith Enderle

#### WEDNESDAY, MARCH 19

6:30 AM Owen Petrzelka  
Joseph & Teresa Guzzardo  
Dick Say

8:30 AM All Parishioners & Benefactors

#### THURSDAY, MARCH 20

6:30 AM All Parishioners & Benefactors

8:30 AM Albert Joseph  
Gary Parker  
Michael Haddad

#### FRIDAY, MARCH 21

6:30 AM The Deceased of the Shaker Family  
Michael Haddad  
Albert Joseph

#### SATURDAY, MARCH 22

8:00 AM Mitchell and Evelyn Parker

\*4:30 PM Mary Phillips  
Susanne Stitt  
Jim Quilter

#### SUNDAY, MARCH 23

8:00 AM Rose Jantelezio  
Ray Hedges  
Betty Shaker

10:00 AM Family Mass Community in School  
Gym

10:30 AM Anna Broderick  
Luisa Raspanti  
Alicia Lupita Hernandez  
Craig Larsen

\*This Mass will be live-streamed from the Saint Giles website, [stgilesparish.org](http://stgilesparish.org).

### SAINT CATHERINE OF SIENA- SAINT LUCY CHURCH

#### TUESDAY, MARCH 18

8:30 AM All Parishioners & Benefactors

#### SUNDAY, MARCH 23

9:00 AM Eric James Torrez

### SAINT EDMUND CHURCH

#### SUNDAY, MARCH 23

5:00 PM Oak Park Catholic Parishes Mass

## PLEASE PRAY FOR:

Those who are hospitalized or homebound, including:

Elmer Adams, 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, Joey Cocco, Mary Cozzi, Nancy D'Agnolo, Liz Decker, Carole DiCicco, Andrea Dickson, Paula Dote, Mary Ann Evans, Katherine Fisher, 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, Erik Liberi, 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, Tim Riley, Paul Schleitwiler, Janet Schroeder, 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.



Abstinence from meat is to be observed by all Catholics 14 years old and older on Ash Wednesday and on all the Fridays of Lent. Fasting is to be observed on Ash Wednesday 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.

## PARISH NEWS

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.



## THIS WEEK IN LENT

### Monday

#### ***Eucharistic Adoration***

March 17, 4:00 - 9:00 PM  
St. Edmund Church

Draw closer to the Lord, this Lent through the silence of Eucharistic Adoration.

Also, March 24 and 31, and April 7

### Tuesday

#### ***Lenten Evening of Reflection and Prayer***

March 18, 7:00 PM  
McDonough Hall, St. Giles

#### ***Lean into Love***

MaryAnn Coulter from Braver Angels will lead us in reflection on practicing deep listening and connection in a divided world.

### THURSDAY

#### ***Healing Prayer, Healing Song***

March 20, 7:30 PM  
Ascension Church

#### ***Eucharistic Adoration***

March 20, 7:00 PM  
St. Giles Church

### FRIDAY

#### ***Stations of the Cross***

March 21, 7:00 PM  
St. Catherine-St. Lucy Church

Stations of the Cross will be followed by a time of prayer, praise and Eucharistic Adoration, led by the Praise Choir of St. Catherine-St. Lucy and St. Giles Parish.

## SECOND WEEK OF LENT MARCH 16, 2025

Peter says in the Gospel today: "It is good, Lord, that we are here."

The disciple's eyes were opened to the Christ.

Let's try to open our own eyes just a little more this week. Can we be truly present to the Christ in those around us?

How might we lean in to love and listen more and more each day?

For all the Lenten offerings around the Oak Park area, scan the QR code or visit [tinyurl.com/OPLent25](http://tinyurl.com/OPLent25).





JOIN US - ONE IN  
LOVE LGBTQ+  
MINISTRY

**Saturday, April 12 - 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM**  
**Saint Giles Parish Center**  
**1025 Columbian Avenue, Oak Park**

ONE IN LOVE LGBTQ+ Ministry meets the second Saturday of each month. Please join us for a safe and respectful conversation. You are free to share your story, resources or whatever is in your heart that day, or just listen to others with an open heart.

We offer a friendly and safe place for Ascension and Saint Edmund Parish, Saint Catherine-Saint Lucy and Saint Giles Parish and the Saint Giles Family Mass Community LGBTQ+ individuals, their families and friends to share through deep listening circles.

If you have questions, please contact: Kathie Nash at [kathienash1023@att.net](mailto:kathienash1023@att.net)



## SENIOR CORNER

Join us for our next event, Breakfast With The Pastor. We will enjoy a light meal followed by Father Carl's Lenten reflection. Father will also give

us all an update on the Oak Park Catholic Community. The breakfast will be held on Tuesday, March 18 at 9:30 AM at Murphy Hall on the Saint Edmund campus, 188 S. Oak Park Avenue. The breakfast is open to all and free to all. Please plan on coming to meet old friends and make some new friends, as we gather together.



## YOUTH MINISTRY

Come together to engage in great conversation, reunite with your school friends and meet

new friends! Plan events and activities, service opportunities, youth nights, movie nights, open gym, outings, leadership, unity, learn more about yourself and your faith and so much more.

The next meeting 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 Tuesday, March 18.



Thank you!



**THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR YOUTH  
MINISTRY FUNDRAISER!**  
**WITH GERRY DIGMAN, AND  
THE OAK PARK IRISH DANCERS**

We are deeply grateful for your presence and generosity at our first youth ministry fundraiser. Your support helps us continue to create opportunities for young people to grow in faith, build community, and serve others. Thank you to those who contributed to our raffle baskets, volunteered, or contributed to the afternoon's success. A big shout out to Larry Wardzala, who helped put the decorations together. Together, we are making a lasting impact. Thank you for being a part of this mission!



## FAITH AND FELLOWSHIP

With Lent underway, residents at Central Plaza who attend the Faith and

Fellowship Bible study have been reflecting on prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. They shared the meaningful ways they've taken time out of their schedule to find spiritual nourishment in Christ, including spending extra time with Sacred Scripture and in nature. One of our partners shared a beautiful prayer that's guiding her through Lent: "Lord, how can I be a better Christian?"

Thanks to all the volunteers who have reached out with support for Faith and Fellowship during Connie's absence. Stay tuned in the coming weeks for details about the end-of-year Mass and celebration (The Big Shebang) coming in May.



## LENTEN OPPORTUNITY EASTER SUNRISE SHOEBOXES

Shoeboxes collected will be donated to the Franciscan Outreach Organization and Housing Forward. The collection will start on Ash Wednesday, March 5, and 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	Brush and/or comb
Kleenex (small packages)	Deodorant
Plastic rain poncho	Small towel
Wash / face cloth	Razor
Toothbrush / toothpaste	Hand lotion
Baby powder	Other small items
Hand sanitizer	Gift card from McDonald's,
Hotel size - soap & shampoo	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!



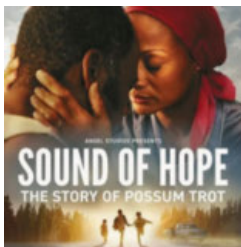
## VINE AND BRANCHES

We can all help to lessen the amount of plastic that goes to the landfill and here is how the Catholic parishes of Oak Park are responding. The Trex Corporation is challenging groups to collect plastic which will be used to produce some of the many items they make. It's not often that our actions have such positive results, i.e. putting less plastic in landfill and our oceans as well as creating useful recycled products. The Catholic parishes of Oak Park are participating in this drive as members of the Interfaith Green Network which joined this project several years ago and has earned 10 benches for our local community.

During Lent there will be containers for those plastic items that Trex accepts. The vestibules of Saint Giles, Saint Catherine-Saint Lucy, Ascension and Saint Edmund churches, and the first floor of the Corrigan building on Linden will each have a large cardboard bin. The goal is to collect 1,000 pounds of plastic for which Trex will give us an attractive outdoor bench. Let's make this happen!

(CLEAN Items that are accepted: plastic grocery bags, garbage bags, bread bags, plastic overwrap, newspaper sleeves, bubble wrap, air pockets, and any plastics labeled #2 or #4)

If you are interested to help, contact Sister Sue spaweski@spsmw.org



The Faith and Film Ministry is pleased to announce the showing of the movie "Sound of Hope" on April 5 following the 5:00 PM Mass in Murphy Hall on the Saint Edmund campus. This Christian-based film is a true story based on the lives of Reverend Martin, his wife Donna, and their congregation, who transformed the foster care system in the small town of Possum Trot in East Texas. In the 1990s, Martin and his wife led the adoption crusade that impacted the lives of nearly 80 children in the foster care system. They encouraged their congregation at Bennett Chapel Missionary Baptist Church to go through the process of adoption despite the difficulty they experienced throughout the process, resulting in several lives being saved.

The film not only shares a story of hope and love but also serves as a powerful reminder of the significance of remaining obedient to God's calling. This is a story of resilience and determination, but it is also another reminder of remaining obedient and faithful in tough situations.

Please come and join us at this showing. It is well worth your time, and we truly appreciate your support of the Faith and Film Ministry.

## OUR PARISH WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP

For Fiscal Year July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025

March 2, 2025

	Weekly Total	YTD Collection
Envelopes	\$ 14,305.05	\$ 545,370.33
Loose—Total <i>included in YTD count</i>	\$ 2,213.63	
Electronic Giving <i>2/25/25–3/3/25</i>	\$ 10,941.72	\$ 426,739.91
Donor Advised Funds	\$	\$ 14,900.00
<b>Total Collections</b>	<b>\$ 27,460.40</b>	<b>\$ 987,010.24</b>

## MASS COUNT

Saturday, March 1, 2025

4:30 PM - 158

Sunday, March 2, 2025

8:00 AM - 111, 9:00 AM - 137, 10:30 AM - 210  
Family Mass - 123

**Total Mass Count - 739**

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](http://www.stgilesparish.org) or [www.stcatherinestlucy.org](http://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!

## PLANNED GIVING

As stewards of our faith, please be a light to others by considering a gift through your individual retirement account (IRA) in support of our parish. If your family's needs are being met, you may wish to include our parish as a beneficiary. By naming Saint Catherine-Saint Lucy and Saint Giles Parish as a beneficiary, you'll provide crucial financial support to our parish and the entire value of your gift will be transferred to us free from federal estate and income tax. It costs nothing to change the beneficiary on your retirement plan and will mean everything to our future parish community.

You can contact your IRA administrator and request a change-of-beneficiary form to include (insert parish name) as a recipient of your good stewardship. Please consult with your account administrator for more information, or contact Sharon Bresnahan at 708-383-3430 Ext. 420 or [sbresnahan@stgilesparish.org](mailto:sbresnahan@stgilesparish.org) or visit [myimpact.archchicago.org/resources](http://myimpact.archchicago.org/resources) or contact Deacon Greg Vogt, Philanthropy Officer, Archdiocese of Chicago at 312-995-0686 or [gvogt@archchicago.org](mailto:gvogt@archchicago.org).



**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](mailto:alexryan@spiritandlightcenter.org) with any questions.

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





## 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](mailto:pat@enerstar.com)

## SPIRITUAL CLASSICS FOR LENT

Are you seeking spiritual renewal in Lent? Come to the next Spiritual Classics gathering on Tuesday, April 1, at 7:00 PM in the Ascension Parish Center Dining Room, when we'll discuss Richard Foster's book, *Celebration of Discipline*. All Oak Park parishes are welcome.

Hailed as one of the best modern books on Christian spirituality, *Celebration of Discipline* has helped millions of seekers discover a richer spiritual life infused with joy, peace, and a deeper understanding of God. Foster explores the central spiritual practices of the Christian faith and shows how these practices open a path to spiritual growth.

On Tuesday, May 6, we will discuss selected short stories of Flannery O'Connor. For more information about our monthly Spiritual Classics discussions, send an email to [laffc@ascensionoakpark.com](mailto:laffc@ascensionoakpark.com).



### ARE YOU WIDOWED AND STILL HURTING?

Attend a Joyful Again!  
2 Day Workshop and Spiritual Retreat

**April 5 and 6, 2025**

Saint Mary's Retreat House, Lemont, Illinois  
(Commute or stay overnight.)

For further information, call: 708-354-7211

Email at [info@joyfulagain.org](mailto:info@joyfulagain.org)  
[www.joyfulagain.org](http://www.joyfulagain.org)



Contemplative  
Outreach

## INTRODUCTION TO CENTERING PRAYER WORKSHOP

**Saturday Morning, March 29**  
**Saint Edmund Murphy Hall**

*Contemplative prayer allows the hunger  
and thirst for God to well up.*  
Father Thomas Keating OCSO

Are you looking for a way to explore or deepen your relationship with God? Centering Prayer is a gentle, silent method of consenting to God's presence and healing action within us. This program will provide the basics of a centuries-old method of silent prayer which consists of simply sitting in silence with God while opening our minds and hearts in wordless communion.

Registration will be at 8:15 AM, and the program will start at 8:30 AM and end by 12:30 PM. No charge. Donations cover materials and refreshments. Register by sending an email to [rbrtgorman@protonmail.com](mailto:rbrtgorman@protonmail.com) Walk-ins are welcome.

You are encouraged to attend four follow-up sessions on Wednesday evenings in April from 7:00 PM to 8:30 PM on Zoom. We will pray and watch videos of the Trappist monk, Father Thomas Keating, discussing this form of prayer.

Bob and Kathleen Gorman have been active with Contemplative Outreach for 10 years. They are commissioned presenters of the Centering Prayer method and serve on teams that facilitate 9-day silent retreats for Contemplative Outreach. They are active in the Oak Park Catholic Community.

Sponsored by *Spirit and Light: A Catholic Collaborative for Living Faith*

## MIGRANT MINISTRY UPDATE: THE MANNA THAT FEEDS US ON THIS JOURNEY



These are difficult times for everyone concerned for the welfare of our brothers and sister asylum-seekers and, of course, for the migrants themselves. We continue to work to meet immediate needs for clothing, shoes, coats, bedding, and toiletries but are increasingly putting time, energy, and precious volunteer effort into assisting the migrants with their immigration papers, understanding their rights, and completing "Family Action" packets. These packets

contain official documents to arrange for custody of their children in case the parents are detained and for other very sad but necessary tasks.

We are struggling, as well as our migrant brothers and sisters who are hesitant to fill out the forms. This could be due to any number of reasons: denial, avoidance, paralyzing fear, or not knowing with whom to leave their children. Many say that they are leaving everything in the hands of "Papa Díos" who brought them safely out of their home country, through the dangerous Darien Gap, away from the human traffickers and drug cartels, across seven countries, and finally to Chicago.

We celebrate their strong faith but also gently address the other factors that might hinder the completion of these necessary documents. We are on this journey together, gaining strength and growing in faith. What is the manna that feeds us on this journey? The smiles and hugs of the migrants themselves, the dedicated volunteers (including the hardworking Monday morning sorters pictured here), and stories of success. We learned this week that an asylum-seeker was stopped by ICE on the street. He showed the official the "Know Your Rights" card that we have been distributing. The card states that the migrant is exercising his right to remain silent. The ICE official left him alone.

Our work would not be possible without the volunteers and your generous donations. Here is our updated AMAZON WISH LIST (<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Zla8rbRLSGLVY4wJ42yhXNtcFJjxML1R/view>) and QR code. This is our LIST OF VERY LIMITED IN-KIND DONATIONS. March 31 will be the last day we will accept donations of winter clothes. For more information, email [immigrantministry@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:jeanne.gallo@theneighborhoodbridge.org).

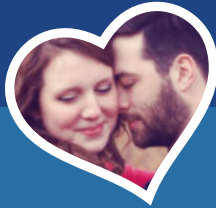


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