



ST. JOSAPHAT PARISH

A church to come home to since 1883

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

September 19, 2021

First Reading

Wisdom 2:12, 17–20

Responsorial

Psalm 54:3–4, 5, 6 and 8

**The Lord upholds
my life.**

Second Reading

James 3:16–4:3

Gospel Mark 9:30–37

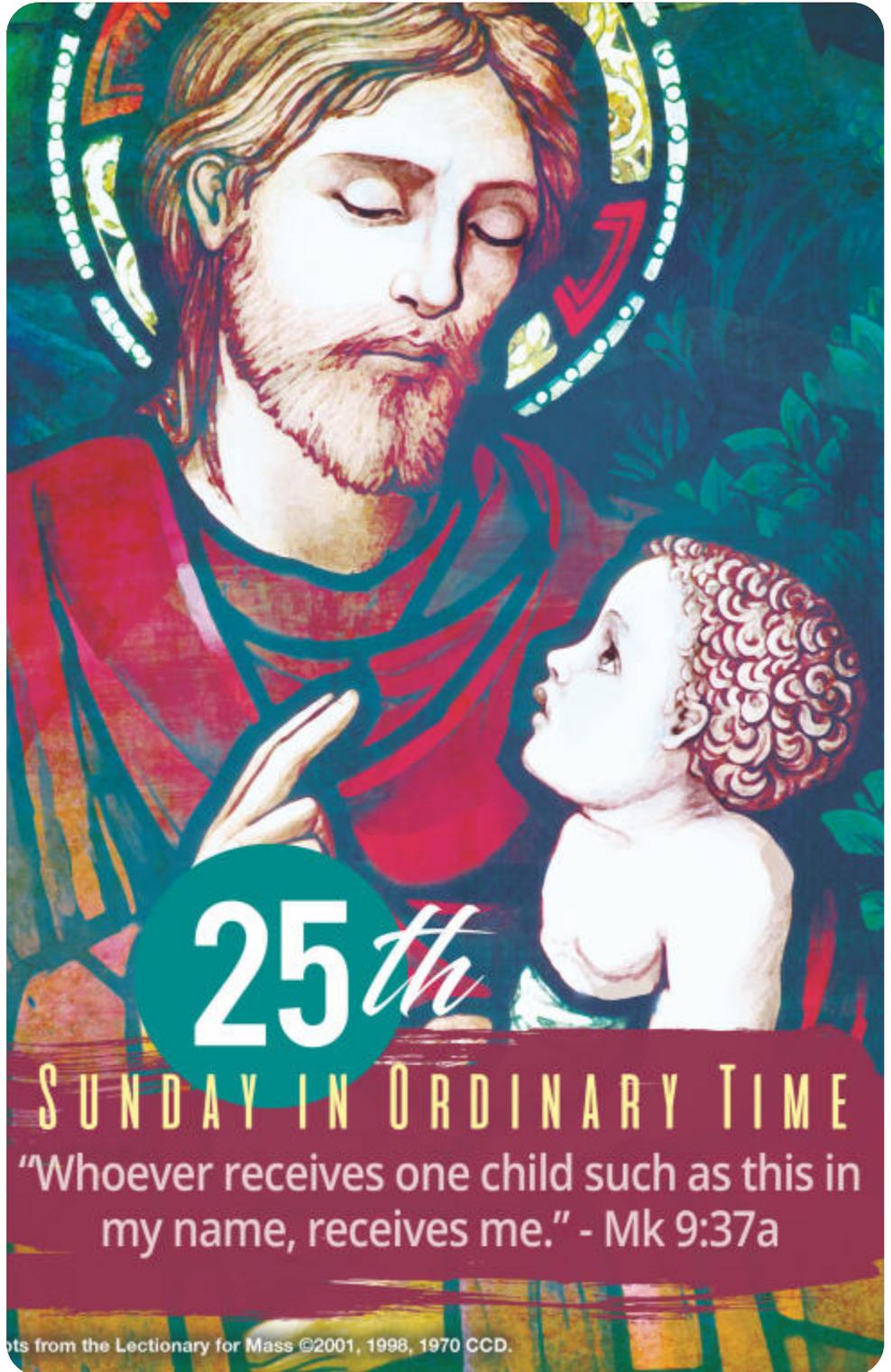
[https://bible.usccb.org/bible/
readings/091921.cfm](https://bible.usccb.org/bible/readings/091921.cfm)

SPECIAL COLLECTION

The **Seminarian Education Fund** helps cover the cost to educate men studying for priesthood in the Archdiocese of Chicago, as they proceed through the various stages of formation before ordination as a priest. Please support those seeking to answer God's call to a life of service as a priest for our city. Text **Seminary** to 312.625.5666.

AFTER MASS

Our SPRED volunteers will be selling tootsie rolls for the Knights of Columbus. The Knights donate very generously to our program for Special Religious Education for those with disabilities.



SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"Whoever receives one child such as this in
my name, receives me." - Mk 9:37a

arts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

ST. JOSAPHAT PARISH

We warmly welcome all visitors who have joined us to celebrate!



DIRECTORY

PARISH OFFICE AND RECTORY

2311 N. Southport • Chicago, IL 60614

Phone.....773.327.8955

E-Mail.....grace@stjosaphatparish.org

Website..... www.stjosaphatparish.org

facebook.com/StJosaphatParish

PARISH SCHOOL

2245 N. Southport • Chicago, IL 60614

Phone.....773.549.0909

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Website..... www.stjosaphat.net

PARISH STAFF

Pastor Rev. Francis Bitterman
frfrancis@stjosaphatparish.org

School Principal..... Mrs. Nel Mullens
Director of Evangelization/

Pastoral Associate... Mrs. Mary Jane Sullivan
maryjane@stjosaphatparish.org

Deacon Dcn. Pat Casey
312.316.7515, pcasey@sidley.com

Coord RE and Youth Ministry Erin Bretts
Music Director..... Joe Labozetta

Children's Music Director Brian Acker
Dir. Staff & Communication. Christine Frech

Parish Support Specialist..... Tina Smat
Donor Assistance and Don's Helping Hands

Coordinator..... Michelle Knight
(Staff contact info on parish website)

PARISH COUNCILS

Pastoral Council..... Kelly Smith
School Board..... Matt Turner

Finance Council..... Jen Kueker

UNIV. OF ST. MARY OF THE LAKE

TEACHING PARISH PROGRAM

Seminarian-2nd Theology Andres Rojas

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO



Everyone over the age of 2 is required to bring and wear a mask over their nose and mouth while inside the church, regardless of vaccination status.

You can still watch Mass online: facebook.com/StJosaphatParish/live/

MASKS STRONGLY RECOMMENDED ON THESE PREMISES



The Departments of Public Health strongly recommend all persons, regardless of vaccination status, wear masks indoors.

PARISH INFORMATION

INFANT BAPTISM

Infant Baptisms are often celebrated on Sunday at 11:15 am. Visit our website under Sacraments > Baptism for current dates.

Baptismal Preparation Class is the 2nd Monday of the month at 7 pm in the church. RSVP to the Parish Office.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Before Mass on Saturdays from 4:15-4:45 pm or by appointment.

BULLETIN

Available on stjosaphatparish.org and through a link on the JosaFAST weekly email. Submit articles via link on homepage of parish website. Deadline is Tuesday at Noon.

JOSAFast AND TAKE 5 FOR FAITH

Our weekly email is sent every Thursday at 5 pm. Our daily reflection is sent at 6 am. Sign up online or contact the Parish Office if you'd like to receive them.

LOW GLUTEN HOSTS AVAILABLE

Please stop by the sacristy before Mass to let the priests know, then go to the communion station of the presider of the liturgy.

HOME/HOSPITAL VISITATION & COMMUNION CALLS

If you would like someone to visit, please contact the Parish Office.

PASTORAL COUNSELING

Services are available from Miriam Wolfe, M.A., L.P.C. at 773.517.3182, and Theresa A. Nollette, LSCW, M.Div., 312.540.0320 or theresa_nollette@sbcglobal.net.

MOVING?

Email the parish office.

MARRIAGE

Please contact the Pastor at least six months in advance of your wedding to set a date. Parish Marriage Guidelines available at www.stjosaphatparish.org

DONATIONS

Electronic donations may be made through GiveCentral.org, or by texting SUNDAY to 312.625.5666. If you would like envelopes, or did not receive your envelopes, please contact the Parish Office.

DON'S HELPING HANDS MINISTRY

Contact Michelle Knight at the Parish Office michelle@stjosaphatparish.org

CAREER TRANSITION CENTER OF CHICAGO

Our parish has member benefits. Reference ctcchicago.org

ASSISTANCE FOR ABUSE CASES

Allegations concerning abuse and/or neglect should be reported to the local police. Key numbers: National Domestic Violence Hotline: 800.799.SAFE; DCFS Hotline: 800.25.ABUSE; Archdiocese of Chicago Office of the Protection of Children and Youth: 800.994.6200

BLESS YOUR HOME

Fr. Francis will gladly come to bless your home. Contact the Parish Office.

EMERGENCIES

Call anytime.

PARISH OFFICE

Parish hours are Monday-Friday, 9 am-5 pm.

A PLACE OF WELCOME

Dear Parishioners,
Each month I want to focus on one aspect of our Mission and Vision as a parish to share with you. In case you haven't seen this before, here is our overall Mission and Vision:

OUR MISSION

(WHAT WE DO DAY-TO-DAY)

We bring people into closer relationship with Jesus Christ and the Catholic faith by sharing the Good News through prayer, evangelization, service, liturgy and the sacraments.

OUR VISION

(OUR DREAM FOR THE PARISH)

WE WANT OUR PARISH TO BE A PLACE WHERE :

- people encounter Jesus and feel God's infinite love.
- everyone feels welcome, especially those seeking Jesus for the first time.
- lay leaders are formed and empowered to be missionary disciples.

WE WANT OUR PARISHIONERS :

- to feel comfortable talking about their faith and their relationship with Jesus.
- to share the goal of reaching heaven, and through their witness, help others to do the same.
- to see our community as their support system.
- to lead and serve others as missionary disciples.
- to discern as young adults their vocation in life as single, married, ordained or religious.

This September we have been focusing on **St. Josaphat as a place of welcome**, especially those seeking Jesus for the first time. Our Alpha course starting this week is a great way to welcome someone into our community, especially those who might not yet have a relationship with Jesus or those who would like to take that relationship further. We are hosting two Alphas—one in person that begins Monday night at St. Teresa of Avila, and the other is online over Zoom and begins Thursday night. You can

invite someone to sign up for either Alpha on our parish website.

Our St. JosaFest also proved to be a wonderful way to welcome people from the community into our parish. I had many great conversations with people who were stopping in from the neighborhood and from new families that have recently joined our parish in the past few months. Everyone loved the weekend and could tell that St. Josaphat Parish is truly a welcoming parish with lots of great people who enjoy each other's company.

Please help us to keep inviting people into our parish community through Alpha, our Bible studies, our Men's and Women's groups, into our School and Religious Education programs and to other fun events that are happening around the parish.

We truly want to be "a church to come home to" for people looking for a spiritual home. And we want everyone to feel welcome when they walk through our doors and to know that St. Josaphat is here to help them grow in their faith and their relationship with Jesus.

God Bless,

Fr. Francis



SCRIPTURE REFLECTION

1ST: Wis 2:12, 17–20 2ND: Jas 3:16–4:3 GOSPEL: Mk 9:30–37

Think about the last time you felt like a servant. How did you feel about it? Sometimes we find ourselves serving others for the sake of achieving something greater for ourselves—like catering to a difficult client, or taking on a project or position that demands more hours than we are comfortable with. Sometimes we unintentionally create the circumstances in which we serve—an overindulged pet, a house full of children, or a spouse who certainly couldn't survive without your domestic expertise. We spend our time in service of things with hopes of achieving some level of greatness—maybe to elevate our status, increase our wealth or receive appreciation. Some are willing to work really hard at this and take pride in being in the top percentage of something, the center of something, to be admired for something—things that make us feel good about ourselves. It's human and natural to want to be great. Even the disciples knew this.

Jesus finds his disciples arguing about who among them is greater, and explains, "If anyone wishes to be first, he shall be the last of all and the servant of all." Most people don't aspire to be last, or the servant of all, and if that's what being great accomplishes, then maybe we need to reflect more on what it means to be great. A telltale sign is if our service to others results in feelings of disdain,

frustration, resentment or regret, then maybe we're doing it wrong.

The child that Jesus embraces is a symbol of vulnerability, powerlessness and dependency. At that time, children were regarded much differently than today! They had no rights, no status, no value, were considered a burden and often abandoned. Jesus takes a child into his arms, illustrating that greatness comes to us, not by what we accomplish for ourselves, but in what we do and give to "the least of these." It is a quality that arises within us when we are being our best selves—by serving those who cannot serve us, loving those who do not love us back, sharing with those who have nothing to share, giving without expectation of repayment, forgiving those who do not ask for forgiveness—truly embracing those we view as "less than" and finding their value even if they cannot. Maybe greatness is more of a choice than an achievement: choose who you serve from a place of love and grace. I'll bet that feels great!



— Tina Smat, Parish Support Specialist

UNDERSTANDING HIS WORD

FINDING HOPE IN THE BIBLE

Mondays, 8–9 pm, on Zoom

Need a resource for dealing with challenging issues in contemporary daily life? Get to know the Bible! Join other adults from our parish community over Zoom to explore topical issues in our Christian lives. This weekly gathering aims to help you reach a deeper appreciation for how to use your Bible as a primary and relevant resource in daily living.

BREAKING OPEN THE WORD

Tuesdays, 10–11 am, on Zoom

Want to get more out of the upcoming Sunday's gospel? Join us as we "Break Open the Word!" Connect with fellow inquisitive minds as we walk through the scripture passage and its meaning. Those who participate have said it helps them to carry the message with them throughout the week, and really brings the Word into their lives. Give it a try!

Email maryjane@stjosaphatparish.org for more details or to sign up.

LAST CALL TO SIGN UP!

If you have a child or children in Grades Pre-K4–8th not enrolled in a Catholic school, we invite you to register them in our **Religious Education** program. We have created a place here at St. Josaphat where all our children feel welcomed and at home.

Classes begin **September 21**, and are on Tuesday nights from 6:00–7:30 pm in the school. Registration closes this weekend! www.stjosaphatparish.org > Kids.

THANK YOU, VOLUNTEERS

A huge shout-out of thanks to the catechists that have volunteered to guide our children closer to their faith:

Operations Support – Alice Driscoll

K – OPEN

1st – Michelle Daut

2nd – OPEN

3rd/4th – Emma Rios

5th/6th – Kristan Vaughan

7th – Debra Fairfield

8th – No students (John Dreixler on stand-by)



We wouldn't be able to run this program as smoothly as we do without you!

TEACHERS NEEDED

We are also still looking for catechists for **Kindergarten and 2nd Grade**. We will provide you with all the resources you need to teach and lead the children in our program. Being involved in the faith formation process allows you to deepen your own faith, meet new people and build our parish community. Please contact erin@stjosaphatparish.org if you are called to share your faith.

RCIA: RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS



- For those adults not baptized.
- For those baptized another faith and interested in learning what it means to be Catholic.
- For those baptized Catholic who have not received all of their sacraments.

If you think of someone who might be interested, or just want more info, email maryjane@stjosaphatparish.org

ALPHA BEGINS THIS WEEK!

Fr. Francis encourages all parishioners to join Alpha... and bring a friend!



What is Alpha? Alpha is a time to discuss faith in a light and fun atmosphere. Small groups are created to build community and bond while discussing topics such as, “Is there more to life than this?”, “How can I have faith?”, “How can I make the most of the rest of my life?”

Sign up today on our website! **In-person** at St. Teresa begins on Monday, **September 20** at 7 pm.

Online begins on Thursday, **September 23** at 7 pm.

All are welcome!!

CALLING ALL MARRIED COUPLES!

- Has the past year+ been a challenge for your married life?
- When you think about the time you've spent together, do you think it's been high in “quantity” and maybe not high enough in “quality?”
- Did you imagine pandemic life when you said “for better or for worse?”

You are not alone!

Join us as we re-invest in marriage together and learn how to reconnect after a year of worry, stress, lockdown and so much more in the Alpha Marriage Course. Together we will watch videos about topics very near and dear to our marital relationships. The videos will be paused by our “host couple” while you and your spouse discuss hot topics or questions. It's a fun, safe way to prioritize your most important family relationship—your marriage! Weekly topics include communication, conflict management, forgiveness and more.

Begins Tuesday, **October 19**,
for 7 weeks, Tuesdays from 8–10 pm, on Zoom

Sign up on our parish website today!

ST. JOSAFEST - THANK YOU

I would like to thank everyone who came out to St. JosaFest last weekend. It was a huge success! And it was so great to finally be able to come together as a parish community and celebrate with one another in person. I had so many parishioners come up to me and say how happy they were to be back together in person. And I met many new parishioners who have joined our parish since the start of Covid. They commented on how they've been hearing how St. Josaphat is such a wonderful parish and close-knit community and they were so glad that they finally got to experience our sense of hospitality and community.

A big thank you has to go to Jim Malooly and Tom Bransfield for organizing this year's St. JosaFest. It takes an enormous amount of planning and work to bring an event like this together. I think the week leading up to JosaFest it was like a full-time job for Jim Malooly. He was tireless in putting in the hours to make sure everything was taken care of for the event.

I know Tom and Jim were also supported by a host of volunteers who helped to set up, run different stations at the event and to help



clean up and breakdown at the end. Thank you to all of our volunteers who helped make this event a success and so much fun to enjoy!

I would also like to thank all of our sponsors who funded the entire event. Thanks to your generosity and your commitment to St. Josaphat Parish, we were already in the black before the event even started! As your pastor, I am continually blown away by the generous spirit of our parishioners who give so readily of their time, talent and treasure to support our parish. Stay tuned for a final count on the money raised by St. JosaFest to support our parish.

Once again, thank you to Tom Bransfield, Jim Malooly and all of the sponsors and volunteers who made St. JosaFest such a huge success. I can't wait for next year's event!

Fr. Francis

NEXT UPCOMING FUN-RAISER: PARISH GOLF OUTING

Friday, **October 8**
at Harborside Golf Course
Noon shotgun start



MASS INTENTIONS

Fr. Francis is praying his daily Mass for us and these intentions this week:

- MONDAY** The Maher/Duckham families and Brian Leahy
- TUESDAY** Living and Deceased Mothers and Fathers
- WEDNESDAY** †Purgatorial Society
- FRIDAY** Parishioners of St. Josaphat
- SATURDAY** †Miles Adrian Thompson
- SUNDAY** 8 am: †Janet Benavides
10 am: †Elizabeth Seitz

PLEASE INCLUDE IN YOUR PRAYERS

WELCOMED IN BAPTISM

Briggs Matthew, child of Matthew Wilke and Brooke Campbell

Quinn Douglas, child of Mark Wilke and Sara McEnaney

Gabriel John, child of Daniel Williams and Margaret Hannahan

Nicholas Louis V, child of Nicholas Heinz IV and Brooke Weidman

THOSE IN NEED OF PRAYERS

Jeff Gallo, Bill Geitner, Fr. Dominic Grassi, Theresa & Leonard Hester, Mary Louise Koehl, Brian Leahy, Margie Perzynski, Laverne Toomey

REST IN PEACE

Maryann Wong



We're most in need of men's white t-shirts size L and XL, and hand or body lotion.

THIS WEEK

Mon.	9/20	8:00 am	Mass (Church)
		12:30 pm	Hands of Mercy (Zoom)
		6:30 pm	School Board (Zoom)
		8:00 pm	Bible Study (Zoom)
Tues.	9/21	8:00 am	Mass (Church)
		10:00 am	Faith Sharing: Breaking Open the Word (Zoom)
		6:00 pm	Religious Education (School)
		7:00 pm	Holy Hour of Prayer (Church)
Wed.	9/22	8:00 am	All-School Mass* (Church)
		11:00 am	Parish Staff Meeting (Zoom)
		6:00 pm	Liturgy Committee (Zoom)
Thu.	9/23	7:00 pm	Alpha (Zoom)
Fri.	9/24	8:00 am	Mass (Church)
		4:00 pm	Wedding: Abrahamson/Zagozdon (Church)
Sat.	9/25	10:00 am	Lector/EM Training (Church)
		5:00 pm	Mass, Fr. Francis (Church)
Sun.	9/26	8:00 am	Mass, Fr. Grassi (Church)
		10:00 am	Athletics & 6th Grade Family Mass, Fr. Francis (Church, or live on Facebook)
		11:00 am	Youth Group (Potter Library)

*All-School Mass is exclusively for our school students and staff

NEXT

Pre Cana	Sat.	10/2	10:00 am	(Red Door Room)
Baptismal Prep	Mon.	10/11	7:00 pm	(Church)
				Sign up online.

WHO'S NEW IN THE PEW?

We warmly welcome new parishioners Ms. Kirstie Perez and Family. If you are new to the neighborhood, please register through our website at www.stjosaphatparish.org.

SUNDAY OFFERING: FISCAL YEAR 2021 YEAR END REPORT

Budget.....	\$652,105.00
Actuals.....	\$688,505.82
Difference.....	\$36,400.82

DO YOU NEED TO TALK?

If the pandemic has you feeling anxious or depressed and you'd like to talk with a counselor, please call the Catholic Charities Counseling Support Line at 312.948.6951 Monday–Friday from 8:30 am–4:30 pm. If you leave a message after hours, a counselor will call you back.

DIRECTORY

PARISH STAFF

Phone.....773.327.8955
 Pastor Rev. Francis Bitterman
 frfrancis@stjosaphatparish.org
 Senior Director of Evangelization/
 Pastoral Associate....Mrs. Mary Jane Sullivan
 maryjane@stjosaphatparish.org
 Deacon Dcn. Pat Casey
 312.316.7515, pcasey@sidley.com

More on our website: Welcome > Directory

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