



# The CROSSROADS

Old St. Patrick's Bulletin

*A Catholic Community in Chicago's West Loop*

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 5

## Second Sunday of Advent

“Prepare the way of the Lord,  
make straight his paths.  
Every valley shall be filled  
and every mountain and hill  
shall be made low.  
The winding roads  
shall be made straight,  
and the rough ways made smooth,  
and all flesh shall see  
the salvation of God.”  
LUKE 3:4-6



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DECEMBER 5, 2021

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Sunday, December 5, 2021

By Al Gustafson

### *Finding Your Christmas Miracle*

Late in the afternoon a young girl played in the woods behind her home. She lost sight of where she was and discovered she was lost. Wanting to get back to her mom and the place she belonged, she anxiously ran this way and that searching until it was quite dark. More disoriented and now exhausted, she sat down, became still and silent, and drifted in and out of sleep.

When she didn't come home, the girl's mom went looking for her daughter. Realizing she was lost in the woods, she gathered neighbors to help her search. The mom kept the search up all night long until day began to break, and she spotted the girl. It was at that very moment the girl opened her eyes, and seeing her mother exclaimed, "Mommy, I found you!"

Like the little girl, this season we are all looking for something. With our Christmas star leading the way, effort will be made to find it. My Christmas star will lead me to pray more, read something spiritual, try to be kinder, attend Christmas parties, look for the perfect gifts for those I love, decorate, and entertain friends and family. In the effort of following my Christmas star, I am confident I will exhaust myself much like the girl did looking for her mother. But like the girl, may I also become still and silent.

In our silence, Silence can find us. This is an important spiritual truth we know, but we may not know we know it. Perhaps a few examples are in order.

The natural world is a favorite place to encounter this deep silence. Whether it be standing at the city's lakeshore or sitting alone in a backyard under a cloudless night sky, Silence can find us there. When it does, I experience a presence and wholeness that includes me and at the same time is so much more than me.

Sometimes silence acts like a companioning presence as it congregates between humans. The Silence can find us when we are together at the birth of a child or gathered around the death bed of a loved one. The Silence infuses a dignity, connection, and a preciousness to what we are experiencing.

Silence can find us at church. Sitting in the quiet of the Old St. Pat's sanctuary, the quality of the quiet can have a depth dimension that gathers us into it. It is subtle, but we can have a bodily perception of being welcomed into a vastness and vitality qualitatively different than the spaces we normally inhabit.

Silence can find us in the stillness that follows the music at mass or at the end of a homily. The Silence brings understanding and confidence that we can trust that the divine life expressed in song and word is alive in us and beats in our very blood whether we are aware of it or not.

In this season, our hearts can get hungry, and we follow our Christmas star to find what we are looking for. Can we believe that what we are looking for is also looking for us? In the stillness and silence, we create the space for God to find us.

The Christmas miracle certainly requires desire and effort on our part. Like Elizabeth and Zechariah's longing for a child and the three kings who travel from a distant land. And, it requires solitude and stillness to receive the angel messengers and the dreams of God into our hearts.

For here is another spiritual truth. No one ever finds their Christmas miracle by chasing after it, but only those who chase after it ever find their Christmas miracle.



# OLD ST. PAT'S 2021 VIRTUAL SOLIDARITY MARKET

[OLDSTPATS.ORG/SOLIDARITYMARKET](http://OLDSTPATS.ORG/SOLIDARITYMARKET)

We invite you to visit our Virtual Solidarity Market page! Due to COVID, we are highlighting many of your favorite crafters and vendors typically featured at our annual Solidarity Market and offering the Solidarity Market online. We hope that you will take the time to support them. The market page is now live through December 24.

The market is an expression of our commitment as people of faith to honor the dignity and work of all human beings by seeking fair trade and locally made goods.

Our vendors are selected because they commit to

- 1) fighting poverty and transforming lives through job training and worker justice
- 2) creating entrepreneurial opportunities for people often denied access to markets; and
- 3) being good stewards of the earth's resources. Fair trade is also a global movement that ensures small-scale farmers receive a fair price for their harvest, use environmentally sound farming practices, implement fair working standards, and invest in their communities. In general, Fair Traders are committed to sustainable practices which are so important in our fight against Climate Change.





## OSP Adoption Group

**Our Mission Statement** ~ To find connection with others whose lives have been touched by the miracle of adoption and to lovingly share our stories with those who wish to learn more. For more information or to join our group, contact co-chairs, Theresa Valach (tvalach11@gmail.com) or Cynthia & Ed St. Peter (cstpeter@att.net)

OSP Encounter:  
20s, 30s, 40s

### Faith Sharing

An inclusive and affirming faith sharing space for members of OSP Encounter.

Join us Wednesdays from 6-7:30 at Old St. Pats in our Rectory for a time to pray, talk, listen, and build community together. All are welcome.

For more details and to register, please click the link below.

For more details and to register, please visit [bit.ly/encounter-faithsharing](https://bit.ly/encounter-faithsharing)

### Advent Evening of Prayer and Reflection

**December 15**

**Advent Reconciliation Service** - 6:15 pm in the church

Meet Your Creche: A Spiritual Practice An Advent Evening with Jack Shea - 7:30 pm Zoom Webinar

It's the Christmas season. Time to decorate. Time to find your creche, dust it off, and set it up. But, with a little effort, this might be more than just one more thing to do. Putting up the crèche can be a spiritual practice. All the figures are symbolic players. They have something to say to us, something that focuses on our experience, and brings wisdom and beauty into our lives.

We will explore this practice. It will bring Christmas into the place it is meant to be – your home.

Please join for this presentation via Zoom webinar. To receive the Zoom link register at: [bit.ly/meetyourcreche](https://bit.ly/meetyourcreche)

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

## 7 AM MASS ON SUNDAYS

Starting the First Sunday of Advent (November 28, 2021), Old St. Pat's will be bringing back the 7 a.m. Mass to our Sunday schedule. So each Sunday, we will celebrate Eucharist in the church at 7 a.m., 8 a.m., and 10 a.m. as well as 5 p.m. and 8 p.m. Additionally, we will host a 9:30 a.m. liturgy two Sundays a month, when our Foundations Youth Ministry and Partners Religious Education families are on campus for their gatherings.

## ANNUAL BETH KATSAROS MEMORIAL WINTER COAT DRIVE

Sunday, December 5 | All Masses | OSP Church Vestibule



Help us honor the Memory of Beth Katsaros again this Advent Season by donating a new or gently used winter coat.

This year we will be hosting this annual event with the help of the Confirmation Class at OSP.

We are limiting this drive to: **Winter Coats, Hats, Scarves, Gloves, Boots**

You will find containers in the Church Vestibule where you can donate your items. They will be marked Men/Women/Children and items can be placed accordingly.

**CONFIRMATION KIDS:** If you need service hours, please contact me directly about this very necessary Chicago winter event. – Beth Marek | Director of Outreach  
elizabethm@oldstpats.org | 312.831.9361

## WORLDWIDE PRAYER SERVICE AND CANDLE LIGHTING

to honor and remember children who have gone too soon

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 12  
6:45 PM Program Begins  
7:00 PM Candle Lighting

QUEEN OF ALL SAINTS BASILICA  
6280 N. Sauganash Avenue  
Chicago, Illinois 60646



The Elizabeth Ministry of Queen of All Saints parish is honored to host The Compassionate Friends Worldwide Candle Lighting service this year on Sunday, December 12th.

At 7:00 PM local time, family and friends around the globe unite in lighting candles for one hour to honor the memories of any child of any age who has died. Everyone is welcome to participate in all or part of the service as they feel comfortable. All will be invited to light a candle in memory of their loved one, whose names will be read aloud during the service.

No reservations are necessary. Masks are required at all times.

The service will be livestreamed for those who wish to join us from home. Go to [qasparish.org](http://qasparish.org) and click Live Stream Mass to join us online.

Please contact [elizabethministry.qas@gmail.com](mailto:elizabethministry.qas@gmail.com) with questions or to request the name of a loved one to be read during the service.

**COMPASSIONATEFRIENDS.ORG**



## GIVING TO OSP

*“As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of God’s varied grace.” (1Pt 4:10)*



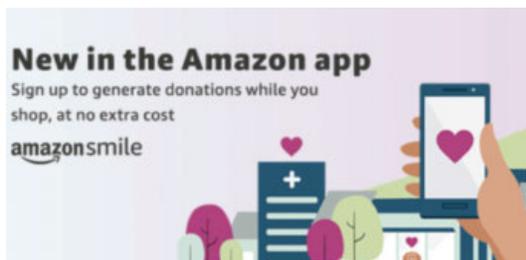
As Christian stewards, we’re asked to receive God’s gifts gratefully, cultivate them responsibly, share them lovingly in justice with others, and return them with increase to the Lord. Indeed, as disciples of Jesus, we are grateful for the gifts we have received and are eager to use them to show our love for God and for one another. (USCCB)

Over the past 18 months, you have been true stewards—collaborators and cooperators in continuing the redemptive work of Jesus.

Because of you and your generosity, we have welcomed people back into our pews while continuing to bring livestream mass to thousands each Sunday. Because of you we continue to build our faith community through sacramental preparation and celebration; through spiritual direction, faith formation, and education of our members and friends, both young and old. Because of you, our Pastoral Care and Ministry of Care continue to walk with the many, many people who are hurting right now due to illness, loneliness, and grief.

And because of you, we — the faith community of Old St. Pat’s— are sharing gifts lovingly in justice with St. Agatha Catholic Church; with our friends in North Lawndale including the North Lawndale Area Recreation Association, the New Covenant Community Development Corporation, Phoenix Hall/Empower to Succeed; with our outreach partners the Center for Career Transitions, Harmony, Hope and Healing and Unlocking Communities; in support of immigrant and refugee resettlement and relief; and in support of hurricane relief.

Thank you for giving yourselves to God and to one another in love.



Want to help make a difference while you shop in the Amazon app, at no extra cost to you? Simply follow the instructions below to select "Old St Patricks Church" as your charity and activate AmazonSmile in the app. They'll donate a portion of your eligible mobile app purchases to us.

How it works: **1.** Open the Amazon app on your phone **2.** Select the main menu (=) & tap on "AmazonSmile" within Programs & Features **3.** Select "Old St Patricks Church" as your charity **4.** Follow the on-screen instructions to activate AmazonSmile in the mobile app

**Text to Give**

Please text **"OLDSTPATS"** to (833) 245-7641 and follow the prompts to make a gift through our secure giving platform, Pushpay.




Vehicle Donation:

**Careasy.org/old-st-patricks-church**

**GREATER CHICAGO FOOD DEPOSITORY AND OUTREACH**  
 Help Stamp Out Hunger in Chicago  
[www.chicagosfoodbank.org](http://www.chicagosfoodbank.org)



We have been partnering with the Greater Chicago Food Depository here at OSP for over 25 years. By volunteering at GCFD, our Outreach Partners (Su Casa, The Boulevard, and House of Mary and Joseph Shelter) receive food credits for their programs.

These food credits help feed the residents while providing nutritional food items too.

**Upcoming Outreach Dates:**

**Second Saturdays**  
**Sat., December 11 | 8:30 - 11:15 am**

**Second Tuesdays**  
**Tues., December 14 | 9 am-noon**

*All over age 16 are welcome*

Contacts:  
 Mary Beth Riley, [mbriley07@yahoo.com](mailto:mbriley07@yahoo.com),  
 630.460.7889  
 & Jim Holbrook  
[jamesjholbrookjr@yahoo.com](mailto:jamesjholbrookjr@yahoo.com)  
 773.237.2625





# THE DREAM OF A GREEN CHRISTMAS: GREEN NOTES FROM OSP CREATION CARE TEAM

Celebrating and sharing are at the heart of the Christmas season in our families and at OSP. How can we shape our desire to celebrate and share during the holidays, while still being kind to the earth, our only home? Here are a few ideas from Eartheasy.com and other sources.

1. Think of ways to buy fewer new things. Have a family gift exchange where each person draws the name of a single person to receive a gift. Give an experience, like tickets to theater or dance, or a restaurant gift card. Shop thrift and antique stores for one-of-a-kind gifts that don't take new resources to make.
2. Connect with nature over the holidays. Decorate a tree with food for the birds such as seed bells, suet, pine cones with peanut butter, and seed trays. Take a walk through your neighborhood or local park before the holiday meal. Have the kids keep track of what they see: birds, squirrels, clouds. Talk about the walk during the meal.
3. Use a live tree rather than an artificial one. Live trees are often grown locally, and can be recycled as mulch for city parks and garden beds. But artificial trees live forever in the landfill. Plus, live trees smell wonderful in your house!
4. Cut down on outdoor lights, use LED bulbs in displays, and turn off lights when everyone is asleep.
5. Save trees by making homemade cards. Use kids' drawings or pictures from magazines and calendars, and glue them to card stock.
6. Find alternatives to store bought gift wrap; the trash from holiday gift wrap and shopping bags currently totals over 4 million tons. Use fabric gift bags, old maps, newspaper, pages from books or wrapping paper from prior years. If you buy store bought paper, look for recycled paper content. Avoid foil paper; it is hard to recycle, and can't be used as mulch because of its metal content.



## Shop Fair Trade at OSP Virtual Solidarity Market or the Chicago Fair Trade Popup Shop

Shop the world by shopping Fair Trade for delicious food, comfy accessories, fashionable clothing, one of a kind home goods, and kids' toys. All Fair Trade vendors support just wages for artisans, employment for groups at the margins, and environmental protections for everyone. Again this year, many Fair Trade vendors you know and love from past Solidarity Markets are back with offerings from around the world at the Virtual Market and the Popup Shop.

- Shop online 24 hours a day at OSP Virtual Solidarity Market through December 24 at [oldstpats.org/solidaritymarket](http://oldstpats.org/solidaritymarket)
- Shop Chicago Fair Trade's Annual Holiday Pop-up Store, 5228 N. Clark. Hours for the Pop-up Shop are Tuesday-Thursday 11-6; Friday-Saturday 11-7, Sunday 11-6. Closed Mondays. Options at the Pop-Up Store include: in person; by phone with a sales associate at (872) 356-1202; or online.
- For more details, check out [chicagofairtradepopupshop.org](http://chicagofairtradepopupshop.org)

OLD ST. PAT'S 2021 VIRTUAL  
**SOLIDARITY MARKET**

## Continue Meatless Mondays during the Holidays



You can sign up for seasonal recipes and inspiration at <https://www.mondaycampaigns.org/meatless-monday/about> Get an email every Monday with suggestions for meatless breakfasts, lunches and dinners, from No Meat

Meatloaf to Wild Rice Stuffing and Creamy Coconut Pumpkin Pie. There is even a kid friendly section with suggestions like Mediterranean Hummus Pizza. Impact the planet by going meatless on Mondays!

### OSP Green Care Team Welcomes You!

Are you interested in sustainability and the environment? Want to be a faithful steward of our common home? Then join OSP Green Team. For more information, contact Kayla Jackson at (312) 798-2399 or [kaylaj@oldstpats.org](mailto:kaylaj@oldstpats.org)



Pope Francis said, *“migrants bring an opportunity for enrichment and the integral human development of all.”* Fratelli Tutti (10/4/2020) Our dignity is bound up in that of our brothers and sisters. This Advent pray, learn and act so that God’s promise comes to life for all especially our immigrant and refugee families.

## IMMIGRANT AND REFUGEES: A Faith Journey

Sunday, December 5, 2021

Light two purple candles. PEACE.



*“Every valley shall be filled and every mountain shall be made low.” — Lk 3:5*

The Gospel continues...‘the winding roads shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth.’ Last week we focused on preparing ourselves for God’s coming. This week’s call is to prepare the world. What are the mountains, valleys, and crooked, rough roads in our neighborhoods? In our nation? In our world? During this Advent week of Peace, learn the stories of migrants Faces of Migration USCCB and Afghan refugees Voices of Afghanistan to understand the challenges they face. Then decide how to

respond.

Pope Paul VI said, “If you want peace, work for justice.” We pray ‘on earth as it is in heaven’. It is our responsibility, by virtue of our baptism, to make low the lofty mountains of fear and discrimination toward immigrants and refugees. It is our role as children of God to fill in the valleys and gorges of Congressional inactivity while the lives of our immigrant and refugee families hang in the balance. Refresh your memory about the U.S. Catholic Bishops’ call for positive, comprehensive immigration reform: USCCB Immigration Reform. Then vow to respond.

One way is to call on Congress for No More Delay - Positive Immigration Reform Needed Today. Use this link to find ways to act for justice as an individual or as a group. Prepare the way of the Lord and bring God’s peace to the world.

### Let Us Pray

Loving God, as John the Baptist cried out to prepare the way, may we heed his call to prepare the world today for your immigrant and refugee children. Fill us with strength and perseverance to do what is needed. Guide us as we work to make it on earth as it is in heaven for all your creation. Amen

## REFUGEE FAMILIES’ DECEMBER WISH LIST

Old St. Pat’s Immigrant & Refugee Ministry (IRM) is currently sponsoring five family households. Here is a list of some of their needs/wants just in case you can give them a hand by donating new or gently used items.

- Men’s jeans, size 32x30
- Gift/grocery cards (Target, Aldi, Walmart, Amazon, etc.)
- Used (but still operating) tablets/iPads
- Disposable diapers (size 4)
- Furnishings for our Honduran family’s new home
- **Any organization--restaurant, landscaper, contractor—willing to hire/train a Spanish-speaking employee, with some bus driving and construction experience, contact Kayla at [kaylaj@oldstpats.org](mailto:kaylaj@oldstpats.org).**

If you have other items available that are in good condition, please let us know and we will determine if our families have a use for them. Please send a photo of your donation item to Keri Kolozsi-Greene at [kkg0511@gmail.com](mailto:kkg0511@gmail.com) or text to 872/529-7444.

## IN SEARCH OF VOLUNTEER SENIORS TO TUTOR NORTH LAWNSDALE YOUTH

Support the AARP Foundation Experience Corp ([www.aarp.org/eccicago](http://www.aarp.org/eccicago)) that is seeking individuals 50 and older to tutor 1st-3rd graders in Chicago Public Schools from mid-October through May. Volunteers meet with 3 students for 30-minute structured sessions twice a week (M/W or T/Th). The focus is foundational literacy and reading fluency skills.

The AARP Foundation Experience Corps is a volunteer-based, intergenerational tutoring program designed to help young people become great readers. You can make a big difference in a child's life today.



Register online at: [aarp.cvent.com/d/58q7w1/4W](https://aarp.cvent.com/d/58q7w1/4W) or contact: Mr. O.S. Owen, Volunteer Recruitment Director, AARP Foundation Experience Corps at 312-660-8662 or [owen@aarp.org](mailto:owen@aarp.org).

## BE A WEDDING VOLUNTEER!

**OLD ST. PAT'S WEDDING MINISTRY IS BACK IN BUSINESS WITH A BUSY FALL AND WINTER SCHEDULE! IF YOU LOVE WEDDINGS AND WOULD LIKE TO HELP ENSURE A BEAUTIFUL DAY FOR OUR BRIDES AND GROOMS, PLEASE CONSIDER JOINING US AS A VOLUNTEER.**

**OLD ST. PATRICK'S WEDDING VOLUNTEERS PARTICIPATE IN THE HOSPITALITY MISSION BY ASSISTING BRIDES, GROOMS AND THEIR FAMILIES WITH THE ARRANGEMENTS AT OLD ST. PATRICK'S ON ONE OF THE MOST SPECIAL AND IMPORTANT DAYS IN THEIR LIVES. WEDDING VOLUNTEERS ENSURE THAT THE DAY-OF-THE-WEDDING ARRANGEMENTS AND LOGISTICS AT THE CHURCH ARE FULFILLED ACCORDING TO THE PLANS THEY HAVE MADE WITH THEIR PRIEST AND WITH THE OLD ST. PAT'S STAFF.**

**THE TIME COMMITMENT IS APPROXIMATELY 3-4 HOURS ON SATURDAYS ONCE EVERY 6-8 WEEKS. INSTRUCTIONS, TRAINING WITH EXPERIENCED VOLUNTEERS, AND A DAY-OF-WEDDING WORKSHEET ARE PROVIDED. ALL CDC GUIDELINES ARE FOLLOWED FOR A SAFE AND HEALTHY SACRED SPACE.**

**IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN BECOMING A WEDDING VOLUNTEER, PLEASE CONTACT SUSAN JOHNSON ([SUSAN1439@SBCGLOBAL.NET](mailto:SUSAN1439@SBCGLOBAL.NET))**

## GETTING MARRIED AT OLD ST. PAT'S?



 **Amazing Space**  
The Ideal Place for Wedding Receptions  
& Social Events!

Saturday Availability | Great Location | Special Pricing



Scan using your  
Smartphone camera  
to learn more!

[venuelogicchicago.com/  
amazing-space-625](https://venuelogicchicago.com/amazing-space-625)



## SAVE THE DATE

Evenings with Encore welcomes Fr. Pat McGrath in January of 2021

*More details coming soon!*



Born in Chicago and raised in the south suburbs, Fr. Patrick McGrath, S.J. entered the Society of Jesus (Jesuits) in 2000 and was ordained a priest in 2006. In addition to serving in various roles in Jesuit secondary education for more than 20 years, he is a popular retreat leader and homilist. Fr. McGrath uses storytelling, scripture, wisdom from the Catholic tradition and the spirituality of St. Ignatius Loyola to help others reflect and experience God in all things. Fr. McGrath currently serves as the President of Loyola Academy in Wilmette, Illinois. Founded in 1909, Loyola is the largest Jesuit high school in the United States. Loyola students come from all over the Chicago metropolitan area representing more than 90 different zip codes. The mission of Loyola Academy is to form women and men for meaningful lives of leadership and service in imitation of Jesus Christ through a college preparatory education in the Jesuit, Catholic tradition.

In June 2021, Cardinal Blase Cupich announced that Fr. McGrath will become the next pastor of Old St. Patrick's Church in Chicago starting summer 2022. Fr. McGrath was ordained at Old St. Patrick's (2006) and has served as a weekend presider there ever since. Fr. McGrath holds a B.A. from Notre Dame ('88), a M.Div. from the Jesuit School of Theology and a M.S. from Northwestern. He currently serves on the boards of Loyola Academy and Marquette University.

## CELEBRATION OF ENCORE 2021 EVENTS

### Hope House (pictured right)

Hope House is a residential program designed to help equip and encourage men striving to re enter society after prison and/or recovery from substance abuse. Encore members cook lunch at least 4 to 5 times a year and serve it to the men. Hope House address: 3827 Ogden Ave



### Encore joins the OSP Marathon Runners (pictured left)

Encore members had fun participating in the Chicago Marathon with friends and family!

### Chicago River Cruise (pictured right)

On a beautiful day in September, Chicago Architecture Center docent, Claudia Winkler, treated Encore members to a guided tour of the Chicago River.



### Morning of Reflection

OSP members and guests enjoyed a Morning of Reflection at the Carmelite Center in Darien. Sr. Patricia Crowley was the featured speaker who engaged participants in using their own stories as a means of discovering the presence of God.

### Storytelling (pictured below)

Once again, Encore members were regaled by the stories as told by notable local storytellers including Rick Kogan, Chicago journalist and radio personality.



# THE CHRISTMAS MIRACLE

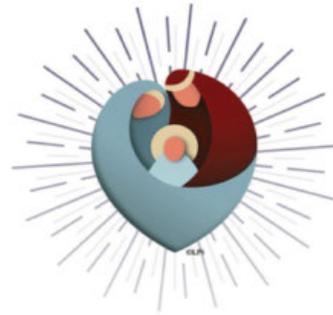
God loves things by becoming them. This is the Christmas miracle and what we Christians call incarnation. It began 13.8 billion years ago with a massive explosion we refer to as the Big Bang. It continued to evolve until what we Christians might call a second Big Bang, when God fully became human in the person of Jesus 2,000 years ago. Today, God continues to become what God loves, and that includes you as part of the Christmas miracle.

Throughout Advent and the Christmas season, our prayer in the online chapel will explore the Incarnation in three movements: the universe story, the Holy Family and the story of your life. Each chapel begins with meditative silence, resting in God's presence, followed by a time for reflecting on and responding to the reading, art or music of the day.

The chapel schedule is below, and you are welcome to join us whenever you are available. Register at [bit.ly/OSPchapels](http://bit.ly/OSPchapels) to receive the Zoom link to participate. For further details about the experience go to [contemplativecommunity.org](http://contemplativecommunity.org)

### Chapel Schedule:

- Monday | 7 am CST | John Blumberg & Linda Tomasello
- Monday | 7:30 pm CST | Al Gustafson – guided Loving Kindness Meditation
- Tuesday | 7 am CST | Ed Shurna & Vince Keenan
- Wednesday | Noon CST | Al Gustafson & Bill Hassett
- Wednesday | 8 pm CST | Mary Beth McEuen & Ed Siderewicz
- Thursday | 8 am CST | Marybeth Coleman & Eileen O'Shea
- Thursday | 5 pm CST | Happy Half-Hour (30-minute meditation)
- Friday | 10 am CST | Al Gustafson
- Saturday | 7 am CST | Kate DeVries & Margie Rudnik



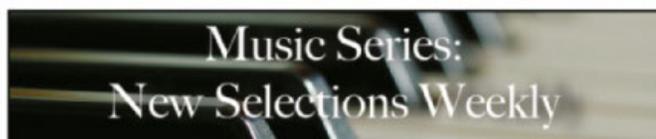
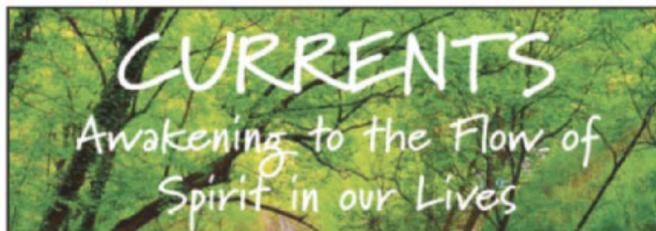
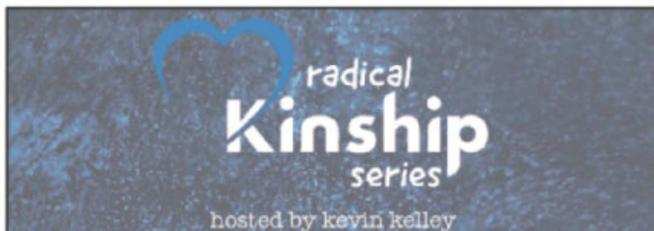


## Old St. Pat's Podcast

Check out all of our podcast series and listen now at [oldstpats.org/osppodcast](http://oldstpats.org/osppodcast)



The OSP Podcast is hosted and produced by Kate Anderson with music by Mark Scozzafave. The Radical Kinship Series is hosted by Kevin Kelley.



## UPCOMING MASSES AND EVENTS

**December 8**

***Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of Mary***

- Mass at 7 am, 12:10 pm (livestreamed) and 5:30 pm

**December 15**

***Advent Reconciliation Service*** - 6:15 pm in the church

***Meet Your Creche: A Spiritual Practice***

***An Advent Evening with Jack Shea*** - 7:30 pm Zoom Webinar

**December 22:**

***In the Quiet: An Advent Evening of Reflection***

5 pm - 9 pm in church

**December 24**

***Christmas Eve***

- 3 pm Mass in church (livestream), Hughes Hall, and 625 W. Adams
- 5 pm Mass in church (livestream) and 625 W. Adams

***Midnight Mass***

- Prelude music begins at 11:15 pm
- Mass begins at Midnight (12 am)
- Livestream available

**December 25**

***Christmas Day***

- Mass in church at 7 am, 8 am (livestream), and 10 am (livestream)
- (no evening Masses on Christmas day)

**December 26**

***Feast of the Holy Family***

- Mass in church at 8 am, 10 am (livestream) and 5 pm (livestream)
- (no 7 am or 8 pm Mass on December 26)

**December 31**

***Vigil of the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God***

- Mass in church at 5:30 pm (livestream)

**January 1**

***Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God***

- Mass in church at 10 am



PLEASE VISIT [OLDSTPATS.ORG](http://OLDSTPATS.ORG) FOR SPECIFIC TIMES, LINKS, AND UPDATES!

# THANKSGIVING REFLECTIONS BY S.P.O.K.E.S.



“The kindness & generosity of the OSP Community is truly special. Despite the demands and challenges of life, especially in light of COVID, OSP parishioners continue to eagerly do all that they can to assist so many people that need help, through the church’s service events and other important parish initiatives. This caring spirit is what makes OSP such a great place.”

- Jim Jelinek

Jim Jelinek, Laura Jelinek, Mary LaBelle, Colleen Laughlin

Family Advisory Board

**“When the peace of Christ rules in our hearts, thankfulness overflows. Even in the darkest of times, we can praise God for his love, his sovereignty, and his promise to be near us when we call.” (Psalm 145:18).**



We have been long time parishioners at OSP due to of the fellowship and outreach opportunities to share our faith and God’s love with others.

Leading the OSP Family Advisory Board’s SPOKES program has given us the opportunity to bring together families and support our communities throughout the year.

The recent food drive for St Agatha’s had a great showing from our families. Placemats and prayer cards were handmade by children and donations exceeded our expectations.

Sharing Our Abundance with St. Agatha's!

As we drove in to church lot to drop of the carloads of food, families were in line to pick up meals for the week from the food pantry. As our donations were accepted with gratitude, we realized that we are doing God’s work and it fills our hearts.

- Laura Jelinek



AND they filled two SUVs full of food items and collected a generous amount of cash for additional groceries and fresh produce. So proud to work with this group! Thanks for sharing and caring.

- Beth Marek, Director of Outreach

Family Ministry and Partners Feeding Our Neighbors



## Christmas 2020 – The Giving Tree That Kept on Giving!!!

Covid Christmas 2020 proved to be quite fruitful while challenging but we creatively got the work of generosity of spirit and treasure completed. Outreach was overwhelmed by your generosity Dearest Old St. Pat's Community. All of our programs were covered in presents and your presence. And of all my years on staff, your generosity meant the most this past holiday season.

As a community we managed to support our overseas partners and St. Agatha's with generous checks. We even had funds to support some of our own community family too. All of our shelter residents & guests received an individual gift card of their own. It meant so much to them to be able to purchase items that they decided upon! We also provided brand new underwear and pajamas & slippers for them too. The ladies were given roses in addition. And last but not least, we provided individual gifts for all of the children at UI Health in the pediatrics and NICU floors. Let me share some of the highlights of your generosity.

(Clockwise from top left)



#1 Ava and her fancy new blue wheelchair

#2 Bella and Jack creating stocking stuffers for 450+ shelter residents



#3 JC Halpin our Beloved staff member passed in April. He grilled for Outreach for many hundreds of folks over the years. In his memory, we purchased a new grill to feed the poor.

#4 Target West Loop provided personal shoppers because of Covid 19 for all of our gifts. Each item was hand-picked for our recipients and we couldn't have done it without their untiring energy and support!



Thanks Target!  
And what fun we had.  
You have no clue  
how many carts we filled...



# Christmas 2020 – The Giving Tree That Kept on Giving!!!

(Continued)

(Clockwise from top left)



#5 Kevin Coleman took it upon himself to provide backpacks full of necessary items and non-perishable food items for folks who find themselves without at the train and bus stations nearby OSP



#6 Foundations sorts the overwhelming amount of underwear that we purchased for our shelter friends. It truly takes a village.



#7 My German grandmother taught me to always include a kind note of gratitude. Family Ministry and FXWS have worked tirelessly all year round on them. In addition, Trinity Volunteer Corps placed loving labels on cutouts throughout the year too for our recipients.

#8 #9 Little Brothers – Friends of the Elderly HYBRID food drives were a smashing success!



#10 Lola and Pat sort school supplies for St. Agatha's and North Lawndale kids while Fr. Ken provides spiritual support.

#11 #12 More Target Personal Shopper Friends from my favorite folks at Target West Loop. They rock!



## Christmas 2020 – The Giving Tree That Kept on Giving!!!

*(Continued)*



#13 Old St Pats provides caramel apples (no nuts) for the kids at FXWS personally distributed by Captain America a.k.a Andre James in maintenance. He truly made their day.

#14 Support from the pulpit and a fabulous marketing job by Mark Buciak made for a highly successful 25th anniversary John Buciak - Old St. Pat's - American Red Cross Blood Drive.



So thanks soooo much from Outreach and all we serve for your generosity and joy. As I always say, sharing is caring. Moreover, in challenging times, Old St. Pat's – you outdid yourselves. And for that I personally thank each and every one of you from the bottom of my heart.

Beth Marek, Director of Outreach

## 2021 Old St. Pat's Giving Tree

Each year, the people of Old St. Pat's provide over 1,000 Christmas gifts for the people served by our outreach partner organizations, like The Boulevard, Franciscan Outreach, the University of Chicago Pediatric Department, and more.

This year, we are going 'hybrid' - so you have two options to contribute:

Link coming shortly to sign up for a specific gift which can be purchased and delivered to Old St. Pat's on December 5, 12, or 19. Make a monetary donation by visiting [pushpay.com/g/oldstpats](https://pushpay.com/g/oldstpats) and selecting "OSP Giving Tree" - all the money will be used to purchase items requested by these partner organizations so they can bring joy to their clients, guests, and patients. Visit [oldstpats.org/givingtree](https://oldstpats.org/givingtree) for direct links and updates!

We also plan to host a mini gift-wrapping gathering on December 19 (limited attendance, vaccinations & masks required) - more details forthcoming.

If you have questions, please contact Beth Marek at [elizabethm@oldstpats.org](mailto:elizabethm@oldstpats.org)



Sunday, December 5, 2021

Readings: Bar 5:1-9/Ps 126:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 6 [3]/Phil 1:4-6, 8-11/Lk 3:1-6

Mass Remembrances:

- 7:00 am Sandra Allegretti - Rice, John "Tony" Anthony Rice (t)
8:00 am Richard John Godschmeding (t), LaVerne Sisco (t)
10:00 am John Patrick Marlin (t), Catherine and Erwin Griffith (t), Daniel Edward Martin (t), Anne Schank (t), Marianne & Martin Timmins (t)
5:00 pm Tom Pedrosa (t), Jose Pangan (t)
8:00 pm Leon "Leo" Vincent Lehner (t), Dorothy Mazzina (t)

Book of Patrick: Frank J. Murnane, Sr, Anna J. Collins, Josephine T. Graf, Michael E. Finnegan, Helen M. Murphy, Nancy Rooney Klose, Don Miller, William R. Howland, Lawrence E. Dowd, Jr. Margaret Cheney, Mary Hage Szabo, Jacinto S. Romero, Colleen Burns, Charles W. Burke

Monday, December 6, 2021

Readings: Is 35:1-10/Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14 [cf. Is 35:4f]/Lk 5:17-26

Book of Patrick: Rose and Dave Demartini, Joseph V. Leonard, Shanan Avery McKeane, John M. O'Connor, Carolyn B. Priest, Louis S. Rosen, Thomas Salt, June Weinrauch, Raymond P. Niro, Mary Ann Van Petten

Tuesday, December 7, 2021

Readings: Is 40:1-11/Ps 96:1-2, 3 and 10ac, 11-12, 13 [cf. Is 40:10ab]/Mt 18:12-14

Book of Patrick: Martin Cain, Patrick Thomas McNamara, Alva & Catherine O'Toole, Julie Rouzan Pellettiere

Wednesday, December 8, 2021

Readings: Gn 3:9-15, 20/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4 [1]/Eph 1:3-6, 11-12/Lk 1:26-38

Mass Remembrances: William "Chip" O' Brien (t), Mary Ann Van Petten, Lisa Skrobanski (t)

Book of Patrick: Judy Anderer, Josephine R. Stoffregen, Larry Barr, Marie Callan, Gene Fanning, The Hamilton Family, Sinead Eavan Buchanan Hanlon, Alexis Hawkins, Mary Jean Healey, Robert H. Huffman, III, Flanagan & Hurley Families, Mary Kelleher, Joseph Edward Kulpa, Dr. Douglas Loberg, Sr. Hortense Marie, Michael R. Malec McKenna, Barbara Ryan, William Cooke

Thursday, December 9, 2021

Readings: Is 41:13-20/Ps 145:1 and 9, 10-11, 12-13ab [8]/Mt 11:11-15

Book of Patrick: Patricia Erwin, James Houlihan, Sr., Dan Kutansky, Mary F. O'Farrell S.H., Frank Sepanski, James & Lena Spagna, Mary Kay O'Neil, Emily Nykl, Dr. Carl E. Northcutt

Friday, December 10, 2021

Readings: Is 48:17-19/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6 [cf. Jn 8:12]/Mt 11:16-19

Book of Patrick: Baby A Galante, Thomas Brehm, Kara Marie Crist, Gus G. Gianaras, John A. Graf, Miriam Komie, Peter Muscato, Thomas O'Donnell, Virginia Philbin, Judith McMahon Swibes, Lucille Szura, Ted & Mary Weisbruch, Sr., Mr. John Young

Saturday, December 11, 2021

Readings: Sir 48:1-4, 9-11/Ps 80:2ac and 3b, 15-16, 18-19 [4]/Mt 17:9a, 10-13

Book of Patrick: Michael and Samantha Bauman, Bernadette Bloomfield, Jeanine Budach, D. Lloyd Casey, Jack Kiley, Joseph J. Jureck, Lee McCann, John McIntire, Kenneth T. Schmidt, Jr., Patrick Edward Scott, Bridget O'Keefe & James Patrick Sepich, James & Marian C. Shannon, Rev. Huey T. Thomas, Sr., Shirley and Robert Widner

Sunday, December 12, 2021

Readings: Zep 3:14-18a/Is 12:2-3, 4, 5-6 [6]/Phil 4:4-7/Lk 3:10-18

Mass Remembrances: Maria Elsa Doromal (t), Tom Rothwell (t), Stephanie Cullum (t), Richard John Godschmeding (t), Thomas DeFranco (t), Anthony Joseph Zack (t), Myron Cline (t), Michael Nicholson (t), Bill Wester (Lori's Dad) (t), Inaki Bascaran (t)

Book of Patrick: Mary Ann Butler, Charlie Donovan, Mary M. Dowd, Andrew E. Ferretti, Cateleen Kahn Healey, Dallas N. Johnson, Louis & Judith Murdock, Julie Rouzan Pellettiere, Linda Potaniec, John Hinchey Sullivan Sr., June Weinrauch, Helen Wardzala Anderson

Prayer Requests

For Those Who Are Sick

Joseph Ray Godina, Debra Godfrey, Christopher Wiseman, Ralph Wiseman, Davis Garcia, Ed Moore, Diana Burns, Sandra Curry

For Those Who Have Died

JoAnn M. Jackson, Marguerite Thompson, Keith Freeman, Chip O'Brien, Fred Rautenberg

Please contact Bernadette Moore Gibson at 312-798-2389 for Pastoral Care Services.

For blue of stream and blue of sky, Father, we thank Thee.
For the pleasant shade of branches high, Father, we thank Thee.
For fragrant air and cooling breeze, for beauty of the blooming trees, Father in heaven, we thank Thee.

For this new morning with its light, Father, we thank Thee.
For rest and shelter of the night, Father, we thank Thee
For health and food, for love and friends, for everything Thy goodness sends, Father in heaven, we thank Thee.
—Ralph Waldo Emerson

Women and Men of Faith



Saint Sabas

Saint of the Day for December 5

Born in Cappadocia, Sabas is one of the most highly regarded patriarchs among the monks of Palestine, and is considered one of the founders of Eastern monasticism.

After an unhappy childhood in which he was abused and ran away several times, Sabas finally sought refuge in a monastery. While family members tried to persuade him to return home, the young boy felt drawn to monastic life. Although the youngest monk in the house, he excelled in virtue.

At age 18 he traveled to Jerusalem, seeking to learn more about living in solitude. Soon he asked to be accepted as a disciple of a well-known local solitary, though initially he was regarded as too young to live completely as a hermit. Initially, Sabas lived in a monastery, where he worked during the day and spent much of the night in prayer. At the age of 30 he was given permission to spend five days each week in a nearby remote cave, engaging in prayer and manual labor in the form of weaving baskets. Following the death of his mentor, Saint Euthymius, Sabas moved farther into the desert near Jericho. There he lived for several years in a cave near the brook Cedron. A rope was his means of access. Wild herbs among the rocks were his food. Occasionally men brought him other food and items, while he had to go a distance for his water.

Some of these men came to him desiring to join him in his solitude. At first he refused. But not long after relenting, his followers swelled to more than 150, all of them living in individual huts grouped around a church, called a laura.

The bishop persuaded a reluctant Sabas, then in his early 50s, to prepare for the priesthood so that he could better serve his monastic community in leadership. While functioning as abbot among a large community of monks, he felt ever called to live the life of a hermit. Throughout each year—consistently in Lent—he left his monks for long periods of time, often to their distress. A group of 60 men left the monastery, settling at a nearby ruined facility. When Sabas learned of the difficulties they were facing, he generously gave them supplies and assisted in the repair of their church.

Over the years Sabas traveled throughout Palestine, preaching the true faith and successfully bringing back many to the Church. At the age of 91, in response to a plea from the Patriarch of Jerusalem, Sabas undertook a journey to Constantinople in conjunction with the Samaritan revolt and its violent repression. He fell ill and soon after his return, died at the monastery at Mar Saba. Today the monastery is still inhabited by monks of the Eastern Orthodox Church, and Saint Sabas is regarded as one of the most noteworthy figures of early monasticism.

Parish Counselor: If you or someone you know is in need of counseling services, please contact Old St. Patrick's Parish Counselor, Sarah Thompson at saraht@oldstpats.org or 773-234-9630.

(t) = Deceased



## Accounting

**Janette Nunez**  
312-798-2305  
janetten@oldstpats.org

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## Baptisms

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**Skye Darke** - Administrative Assistant  
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## Visiting Clergy

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Fr. Edward Foley, OFM Cap.  
Fr. Pat McGrath, SJ  
Fr. Paul Novak, OSM  
Fr. William O'Shea  
Fr. Ed Shea, OFM  
Msgr. Kenneth Velo  
Fr. John J. Wall

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## Little Brothers - Friends of the Elderly

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benacka.gregory@district205.net

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## U of I Hospital Pediatrics

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## Family Ministry

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## FXW (Frances Xavier Warde School)

## Head of School

**Michael Kennedy**  
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312-466-0700

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## Jewish Catholic Ministry

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- Rite of Christian  
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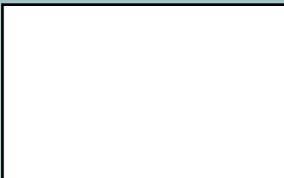
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