



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



**AUGUST 17, 2025**

**20TH SUNDAY IN  
ORDINARY TIME**

"There is a baptism with which I must be baptized, and how great is my anguish until it is accomplished! Do you think that I have come to establish peace on the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division. From now on a household of five will be divided, three against two and two against three." - Lk 12:50-52

## **SAINT CATHERINE OF SIENA- SAINT LUCY CAMPUS**

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

## **SAINT GILES CAMPUS**

1025 Columbian Avenue  
Oak Park, Illinois 60302  
708-383-3430  
[www.catholiccommunitiesofoakpark.org](http://www.catholiccommunitiesofoakpark.org)

## **MASS SCHEDULE AT SAINT GILES CHURCH**

### **Daily Masses**

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

### **Weekend Masses**

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

### **Family Mass Community**

Sunday at 10:00 AM in McDonough Hall

**Saint Giles Campus Parish Center Office**

1025 Columbian Avenue, Oak Park, Illinois 60302  
 Phone: 708-383-3430 - E-mail: [stgiles@stgilesparish.org](mailto:stgiles@stgilesparish.org)  
 Website: [www.catholiccommunitiesofoakpark.org](http://www.catholiccommunitiesofoakpark.org)

**Summer Business Hours:**

Monday - 9:00 AM - 8:00 PM  
 Tuesday - 9:00 AM - 8:00 PM  
 Wednesday - 9:00 AM - 6:00 PM  
 Thursday - 9:00 AM - 6:00 PM  
 Friday - 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM  
 The office will not be open on Saturday.

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

**Saint Catherine of Siena-Saint Lucy Campus**

38 North Austin Boulevard, Oak Park, Illinois 60302  
 Phone: 708-383-3430 - E-mail: [stgiles@stgilesparish.org](mailto:stgiles@stgilesparish.org)  
 Website: [www.catholiccommunitiesofoakpark.org](http://www.catholiccommunitiesofoakpark.org)

Rev. Carl Morello, *Pastor* - Ext. 422  
 Rev. Edward P. Salmon, *Resident* - Ext. 308  
 Rev. Thomas E. Unz, *Resident* - Ext. 313  
 Rev. Vittorio Bruscella, *Pastoral Assistant* - [vittoriocmf@libero.it](mailto:vittoriocmf@libero.it)  
 Mr. John (Lois) Henricks, *Deacon*  
 Mr. Loretto J. (Carlotta) Madonia, Jr., *Deacon (Retired)*  
 Mr. Kevin (Marci) Morgan, *Deacon*  
 Mr. William (Abbie) Pouncy, *Deacon*  
 Mr. John (Barbara) Walters, *Deacon*  
 Mary Boss, *Bulletin Editor* - [mboss@archchicago.org](mailto:mboss@archchicago.org)  
 Matthew Brophy, *Director of Parish Operations* - Ext. 102  
 Carol Coleman, *Business Manager* - Ext. 419  
 LaVerne Johnson, *Parish Administrative Assistant* -  
 Ext. 401, [stgiles@stgilesparish.org](mailto:stgiles@stgilesparish.org)  
 Sue Kaszynski, *Director of Music & Liturgy* - Ext. 423  
 Julius White, *Praise Choir*

**Spirit & Light**

Dr. Marci Madary, *Director of Spirit & Light* -  
[mmadary@spiritandlightcenter.org](mailto:mmadary@spiritandlightcenter.org)  
 Rachel Faulman, *Catechesis of the Good Shepherd &*  
*Out-of-Grade Sacraments* -  
[rfaulman@spiritandlightcenter.org](mailto:rfaulman@spiritandlightcenter.org)  
 Cooky Perez-Eraci, *Director of Youth Ministry* -  
[mperezeraci@spiritandlightcenter.org](mailto:mperezeraci@spiritandlightcenter.org)  
 Tim Smyth, *Faith & Fellowship Program Director* -  
[tmsmyth@spiritandlightcenter.org](mailto:tmsmyth@spiritandlightcenter.org)  
 Alex Ryan, *Evangelization & Sacraments*  
[Alexryan@spiritandlightcenter.org](mailto: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](mailto:office@stgilesschool.org)  
 Website: [stgilesschool.org](http://stgilesschool.org)  
 Meg Bigane, *Principal* - [mbigane@stgilesschool.org](mailto: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](http://catherinelucy.org)  
 Sharon Leamy, *Principal* - [sleamy@catherinelucy.org](mailto:sleamy@catherinelucy.org)

**FATHER CARL'S CORNER**

It seems  
 crazy to  
 me ... but  
 here we  
 are, mid-

August, and our community is preparing to welcome students and teachers back to school at three parish schools: Saint Catherine of Siena-Saint Lucy, Saint Giles and Ascension. With the return of the students comes the energy and excitement of new beginnings, fresh supplies, new friendships, and a renewed sense of purpose. I ask everyone in the community to be especially aware and cautious when driving near the school sites. Children may be walking or biking, and families will be navigating busy streets in these areas while dropping students off. Help us to ensure a safe return to school for all.

I also ask our parish families to remember all students, teachers, and school staff in prayer. May this be a year filled with wisdom, patience, joy, and kindness. A family that prays together stays focused and becomes stronger in faith, love and living the values we profess as followers of Christ. I encourage all of our school families to remember that coming to Mass strengthens us as families and as a community. When our school families worship with the parish community, we witness

the beautiful fruits of supporting Catholic Education.

Saint Thomas Aquinas, the Patron Saint of schools, reminds us: "Wonder is the desire for knowledge." May that desire flourish in every classroom and home this year.

As we begin a new school year, may God bless all of our efforts, keep all of us safe, and strengthen the bond between our schools, parish, and families.

Food for thought:

At Masses around the world every day, millions of people, in the words of the gospel, "eat and drink" with the Lord. Would Jesus disown any of them the way the master does in the gospel story we hear? Maybe more than we would think! Jesus did not want followers who tagged along for a meal and a few pieces of wisdom; He wanted disciples to walk next to Him on the hard road to Jerusalem and beyond. Not people who "do" the ritual and say that's good enough, but those willing to embrace His Way, and His fate. Which one of those people are we?

Have a blessed week ahead.

With you a Christian, For you a priest.

*F. Carl*

## PLEASE PRAY FOR:

Those who are hospitalized or homebound, including: Manuel Aguilar, Patrick Ahearn, Mark Andersen, Jane Baker, Phyllis Baker, Katie Barnicle, JoAnn Boyle, Eloise Brown, Phil Calabrese, Timothy Carraher Carwinski, Lucille Dalbis, Nancy D'Agnolo, Carole DiCicco, Andrea Dickson, Paula Dote, Katherine Fisher, George Fleming, Jim Fletcher, Kitti Foley, Baby Ford Gallagher, Deacon John Henricks, Lois Henricks, Jennifer Hoyt, Joe Karas, Maureen Killacky, Hardie Kressler, Lynn Locke, Rossana Lopollo, Deacon Lorry Madonia, Linda Malloy, Marilyn Maggio, Lauren Marshall, Lynne Tallon Matassa, Chuck Mauter, John Megall, Paul Michael, Dave Mills, Joseph Musso, Sr., Jamie O'Reilly, Amelia Patterson, Lorenzo Perez, Jean Petrasek, Patrick Pollard, Sophia Portillo, Gia Rapacki, Hannah Rice, Peg Sabatino, Gregory Sherwood, Deborah Sobreira, Anita Spina, Regina Thorpe, Shirley Venerable, Nancy Wesclitz..

*Names will be removed from this listing in the bulletin after six months and from the intercessions spoken at the weekend Masses after four weeks. Also, some parishioners have received a Prayer Shawl to represent the prayers for healing by the Parish community. Please contact the Parish Office to include someone on this prayer list, or to request someone's inclusion in the intercessions at the weekend Masses, and/or to request a Prayer Shawl.*

And for those of our family members and parishioners who have died, especially Thomas K. Dawson.

## WEDDING BANNS

- I Jacqueline Neel & Jeffrey Chase Dickinson
- II Bridget Eleanor Ritten & Alex Anthony Hotovy
- III Allison Claire Upchurch & Alex Junhee Yom
- III Grace Lipo & Henry Melville

## SAINT CATHERINE OF SIENA-SAINT LUCY AND SAINT GILES PARISH . SUMMER OFFICE HOURS JUNE 9 - AUGUST 22

Monday - 9:00 AM-8:00 PM  
Tuesday - 9:00 AM - 8:00 PM  
Wednesday - 9:00 AM - 6:00 PM  
Thursday - 9:00 AM - 6:00 PM  
Friday - 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

The office will not be open on Saturday.

## WORSHIP SCHEDULE

### SAINT GILES CHURCH

#### MONDAY, AUGUST 18

6:30 AM The Deceased of the Parish

#### TUESDAY, AUGUST 19

##### SAINT JOHN EUDES, PRIEST

6:30 AM All Parishioners & Benefactors

8:30 AM Rose Figueroa  
Emilio Messina  
Carol Le Beau

#### WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 20

##### SAINT BERNARD, ABBOT & DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH

6:30 AM The Daniel Whiston Family  
Joseph and Helen Shaker

8:30 AM Harold Huebner, Jr.

#### THURSDAY, AUGUST 21

##### SAINT PIUS X, POPE

6:30 AM All Parishioners & Benefactors

8:30 AM John Cahill (for healing)

#### FRIDAY, AUGUST 22

##### THE QUEENSHIP OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

6:30 AM Rita & Larry Atwood  
Joey Cocco  
Dorinda Segebrecht

#### SATURDAY, AUGUST 23

##### SAINT ROSE OF LIMA, VIRGIN

8:00 AM Joseph Abraham  
Carol Mazzone

12:00 PM Wedding: Grace Lipo & Henry Melville

2:30 PM Wedding: Allison Claire Upchurch &  
Alex Junhee Yom

\*4:30 PM Charlotte Moreth  
Sr. Rosemary Connelly  
William Fritz

#### SUNDAY, AUGUST 24

##### 21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

8:00, AM Mitchell Shaker  
Elizabeth and Sam Jantelezio  
Laverne Andrews

10:00 AM Family Mass in McDonough Hall

10:30 AM Luisa Raspanti  
Alicia Lupita Hernandez  
Richard Enderle

\*This Mass will be live-streamed from the new parish website [www.catholiccommunitiesofoakpark.org](http://www.catholiccommunitiesofoakpark.org).

### SAINT EDMUND CHURCH

#### SUNDAY, AUGUST 24

##### 20TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

5:00 PM Catholic Communities of Oak Park

## 16th Annual Parish Rummage Sale September 15-20, 2025

Location: Gleeson Building (2nd level- McDonough Hall)  
1101 Columbian Ave, Oak Park



**Come help us make this the BEST RUMMAGE SALE EVER!**

**We need your help! We are seeking volunteers for the Parish Rummage Sale!**

**September 15, 16, 17, and 18**

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

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

**September 19 and 20**

Can you help with the sale? Assistance is needed with refreshing tables and shelves, helping to load items into the elevator, and helping with the sale as needed.

### Drop-Off Dates and Set-Up Hours:

Monday, September 15 - 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM  
Tuesday, September 16 - 11:00 AM to 7:00 PM  
Wednesday, September 25 - 11:00 AM to 7:00 PM  
Thursday, September 26 - 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM  
McDonough Hall - Second Floor of Gleeson Building

*REMINDER: We cannot accept cribs, expired car seats, recalled baby items, large furniture or exercise equipment, construction materials, non-working electronics, TVs, or household paint/chemicals.*

### Sale Dates and Times:

Friday, September 19 - 2:00 PM to 6:00 PM  
Saturday, September 20 - 10:00 AM to 1:30 PM  
with a bag sale from 2:00 PM to 3:00 PM

Questions or to Volunteer, Contact the Coordinators:  
Marlene Panebianco at 708-431-8115 or Marlene117@att.net  
Carol Rossi at 773-237-5804 or cg12345b@yahoo.com

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

## SENIOR CORNER



Our year will start on Tuesday, September 9 with a special 11:30 AM Mass celebrated by Father Tom at Saint Giles Church.

After Mass, a light lunch will be provided in McDonough Hall. If you would like to bring a dessert to share, please feel free to do so. Beverages (ice tea, coffee and soda) will be provided.

We will have time to share stories, laughter, conversation and renew friendships. We will also be collecting our membership dues (\$25) for this new season. We hope to see all of you after our summer break. Bring a friend! All are welcome!

Please RSVP to Joan Wojcik at 708-771-4783.



**JOIN US-  
ONE IN LOVE  
LGBTQ+  
MINISTRY**

**Saturday, September 13 from 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM at 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 the Catholic Communities of Oak Park and our Neighbors, where we welcome LGBTQ+ individuals, their partners, families and allies to share through deep listening circles.

If you have questions, please contact: Kathie Nash at kathienash1023@att.net



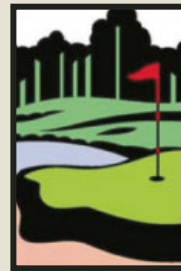


## COURTYARD CONCERTS AT SAINT GILES!

Summer Concerts in the courtyard at Saint Giles Church are back! Our very own "Minivinia" season is in full swing with some of our favorite musicians from our parish community.

The final concert of the season will take place on Friday, September 19 at 7:00 PM and will feature the Island of Misfit Toys with Jay Harris. The Island of Misfit Toys is an Oak Park-based band playing your favorite hits from the 70s to today.

Bring your chairs, blankets, and refreshments to enjoy on the lawn of the Saint Giles Courtyard. Admission is free.



## 81ST ANNUAL MEN'S SOCIETY GOLF OUTING

Monday, September 15  
The Preserve at Oak Meadows

Register today at  
[StGilesGolf.com](http://StGilesGolf.com).

Get ready to tee off and have a swinging good time at the most divine golf event of the year! The event will support the Saint Giles School general scholarship fund which helps families in need provide a Catholic education. So bring your clubs, your witty repartee, and most importantly - lots of cash for the raffle tickets!

This is an event steeped in traditions including:

- On-course contests with fabulous prizes
- Delicious lunches and dinners with members of the parish community
- Famous and infamous raffle prizes
- Grown men bemoaning the putt that "should have gone in"
- Bartenders that turn green paper and plastic cards into beer and cocktails
- Telling your spouse you have to go because it's "for the children"

Or you could suffer through another Monday status meeting at work...yeah, thought you might want to come!

The main event is a 4-man scramble, let the best crew win! This event is NOT exclusive to Saint Catherine of Siena-Saint Lucy and Saint Giles parishioners. Please bring your friends, neighbors, associates, and clients for a fun-filled day on the golf course.

Register today at [StGilesGolf.com](http://StGilesGolf.com)



## SAINT GILES SCHOOL CLASS OF 1965 60TH ANNIVERSARY

The Saint Giles Class of 1965 will be celebrating their 60-year reunion on September 6, 2025!

The committee is trying to locate as many classmates as possible. The event will begin with Mass on Saturday, September 6 at 4:30 PM at Saint Giles followed by dinner at a casual restaurant (TBD), with cash bar and food.

Here is a link to a short Google poll <https://forms.gle/FPQ12dtRLNjB6UWv6> Please let us know if you are interested.

The 60 years have flown by! We look forward to hearing from you. Please feel free to share this email and poll link with OTHER Saint Giles classmates. Looking forward to a great 60th reunion in September.



## HELP US BUILD A BRIDGE TO SUPPORT THE AUSTIN COMMUNITY

**Pantry Volunteers Needed:** We are launching a volunteer-staffed Essentials Pantry in the former rectory at St. Catherine-St. Lucy in mid-August. Families from our 5 partner schools in Austin will be able to receive household necessities, such as cleaning supplies, toiletries, and baby products. Volunteers are needed to receive, stock, and deliver items to the schools. The commitment is fewer than 4 hours per week. To volunteer, contact Pantry Coordinator Christine Wedekind at [christine.wedekind@aol.com](mailto:christine.wedekind@aol.com).

**Become an Advocate:** We are also recruiting volunteers to serve as Advocates—trained companions who walk alongside families as they navigate services and pursue their goals. This unique role provides meaningful one-on-one support and connection. To learn more, we invite you to attend our Bridge Breakfast on September 6 or contact Jeanne Gallo at [jeanne.gallo@theneighborhoodbridge.org](mailto:jeanne.gallo@theneighborhoodbridge.org)

**You're Invited: Bridge Breakfast on September 6:** Join us at our next Bridge Breakfast on Saturday, September 6 at 8:30 AM in the Tutoring Center at Maguire Hall. There you'll learn more about our programs and how you can get involved. Sign up at [theneighborhoodbridge.org/volunteer](http://theneighborhoodbridge.org/volunteer).

The Neighborhood Bridge, born out of the Renew My Church initiative, is dedicated to connecting Austin families with the services they need to thrive. Learn more at: [www.catholiccommunitiesofoakpark.org/the-neighborhood-bridge](http://www.catholiccommunitiesofoakpark.org/the-neighborhood-bridge).

## housing FORWARD ending homelessness HOUSING FORWARD NEEDS YOU!

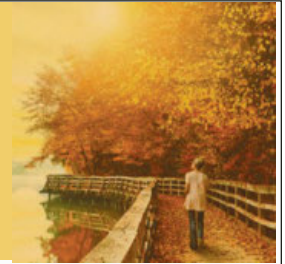
In case you didn't know, Housing Forward is scheduled to open a new emergency overnight shelter with 40 beds in September at 112 S. Humphrey Avenue in Oak Park. This is twice as many beds as have been available at the Saint Catherine-Saint Lucy Rectory.

The new facility will offer additional space for clients to receive wraparound services, updated bathrooms and showers, and an industrial kitchen on-site with a communal eating area. This means additional volunteer opportunities to not only provide meals, but serve and interact with guests, similar to the prior PADS model, but without the distraction of traveling locations!

Interested in volunteering or learning more? Contact Cherrell Jackson at 708-338-1724 X 201 or [cjackson@housingforward.org](mailto:cjackson@housingforward.org).

## Grieving the death of a spouse?

*Or do you know  
someone who is?*



Your life has changed forever.  
The daily emotions and challenges can seem  
too hard to bear.

**We are here to help.**

At this seminar you will hear

- Practical advice from others who've been there
- What to expect in your grief
- How to cope with life without your spouse
- Why it won't always hurt this much

## LOSS OF A SPOUSE

**Saturday, September 13, 2025 - 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM**

**Grace Lutheran Church**

**7300 W. Division St. - River Forest**

Light refreshments will be served.



To register, call 708-366-6900 or email [gracechurch@gracriverforest.org](mailto:gracechurch@gracriverforest.org)

Co-sponsored by Grace Lutheran Church and St. Catherine of Siena-St. Lucy and St. Giles Catholic Church



## Grief Support Group

*Help and encouragement  
after the death of a loved one.*

At a Grief Share group, you'll find understanding, guidance, relief, and a safe place to navigate the challenges of grief. Come join us!

**Tuesdays**  
**September 16 to December 6, 2025**  
**6:00 PM to 8:00 PM**

**Saint Giles Campus, McDonough Hall**  
**1101 Columbian Ave., Oak Park**  
**708-223-4912**  
[griefshare@stgilesparish.org](mailto:griefshare@stgilesparish.org)

[griefshare.org](http://griefshare.org)



Join us on September 6 at the 4:30 PM Mass at Saint Giles Church as we bless the mission of Solidarity Bridge and meet their team members.

For patients in Bolivia and Paraguay, untreated health issues can seriously limit their ability to work, care for their families, and pursue their dreams. Rooted in the principles of Catholic Social Teaching, for over 25 years, Solidarity Bridge has worked in partnership with the medical communities in these countries to increase access to safe, essential, and timely surgical care.



Learn more about Solidarity Bridge at: [SolidarityBridge.org](https://SolidarityBridge.org)

## MIGRANT MINISTRY— TRANSFORMED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT

When the Migrant Ministry team began nearly three years ago and we prepared to resettle our first migrant family, little did we know how much the effort would transform us. Jorge Borraro's funeral held at Saint Edmund Church on August 5 revealed to us how broad and profound that transformation has been. The 25-year old Guatemalan migrant who volunteered with us at Centro San Edmundo was killed in a car accident. He had received his work permit a few days before and was excited about moving forward to build a life in America.



The bilingual, intercultural, interdenominational service brought together volunteers, migrants, immigrants, various faith centers, and a rural community in Guatemala with a suburb of Chicago. Jorge was raised Catholic, but his best friend, Hector was Evangelical. In Chicago, they found a spiritual home at Grace Episcopal in the Loop, near the

shelter where they were placed on arrival. Hector also attended a Seventh Day Adventist church. The different denominations were present and played a role in the service, with Reverend Amity Carrubba reading the Gospel and sharing a short homily in English. Father Vittorio Bruscella, CMF gave a homily in Spanish.

An image of the patroness of Escuintla, Guatemala, La Inmaculada Concepción, was placed near the altar to connect Saint Edmund with the cultural and spiritual traditions of Jorge's hometown. Bilingual hymns united the voices of the nearly-packed church. The service was videotaped and will be uploaded on YouTube to share with Jorge's family.

Clearly, the transformation that we have experienced in the Migrant Ministry is not the result of our human efforts. It is the Holy Spirit dwelling among us that has brought such diverse communities together in praise, worship, and service.

Pivoting has been our hallmark in the Migrant Ministry. Services in the Saint Edmund school building will end on October 9 and will move to another space. The last day for donations will be Monday, September 15.

Our work would not be possible without the volunteers and your generous donations. Here is our updated AMAZON WISH LIST (<https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/3VKSYQWISEBOM>) and QR code. WE ARE NOW COLLECTING BOTH SUMMER AND WINTER CLOTHING. 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 of Siena-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>).

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO



## MARRIED IN 1975?

HAVE YOU REGISTERED FOR THE ANNUAL GOLDEN WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS?

Couples celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary from across the Archdiocese of Chicago are invited to gather together for the Golden Wedding Anniversary Mass that will be celebrated by Cardinal Cupich on Sunday, September 14, 2025 at 2:30 PM. The Mass will be held at Holy Name Cathedral in Chicago, Illinois.

Please email [gwa@archchicago.org](mailto:gwa@archchicago.org) or contact your parish office with questions. To register online, please visit [pvm.archchicago.org/events/golden-wedding](https://pvm.archchicago.org/events/golden-wedding).

We hope to see you there!



Hosted by Spirit and Light



## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION FUN FEST

Supported by the Knights of Columbus at  
Ascension and the Saint Catherine of Siena-  
Saint Lucy and Saint Giles Men's Society

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 23**  
**6:00 PM – 8:00 PM**

**Spoke Café - Coffee and Root Beer Floats**

**Food, Games and Prizes**

**Balloon Artist and Facepainting**

**Kona Shaved Ice**

Saint Edmund Campus  
188 S. Oak Park Avenue, Oak Park, IL  
Located at parish green south of church  
Meet catechists and learn about religious  
education opportunities

Food: Spoke Café and Kona Ice accept  
credit cards and cash.



## SPIRIT AND LIGHT - RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

We are excited to announce that registration is now open! Sessions begin the week of September 7! For more information about our programs and calendars, please visit our website.

### How to receive an Electronic Registration Form

On August 6, 2025, we sent an email with an electronic registration form to all families who had a child registered in our program during the 2024-2025 school year. The email was sent through our Flocknote platform from our "Spirit and Light" Religious Education Office. If you did not receive an email on August 6, please contact us at [sreligious@spiritandlightcenter.org](mailto:sreligious@spiritandlightcenter.org).

If you are a new family to the program, please visit <https://re.stgilesparish.org/PasswordCreationNewFamily.php>, and follow the prompts.

We look forward to seeing familiar faces and new ones this Fall!

Thank you,

The Faith Formation Team

Email - [sreligious@spiritandlightcenter.org](mailto:sreligious@spiritandlightcenter.org)



## PARISH E-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.



## POPE LEO XIV @ PONTIFEX



Wherever we are, let us try not to miss any opportunity to love. This is the vigilance that Jesus asks of us: to get used to being attentive, available, and sensitive to one another, as He is with us at every moment.



## PARISH WEBSITE

[HTTPS://WWW.CATHOLICCOMMUNITIESOFOAKPARK.ORG](https://www.catholiccommunitiesofOakPark.org)

The new website launched on July 1 and replaces the two previous websites. Each legacy website has a landing page that will notify visitors of the change. The new website is a work-in-progress as we continue to add content and updates. Administrators, Hugo Lugo and Marybeth Granholm, will remain as primary contacts for each parish.



As you begin to explore the website, please share your feedback with us. We hope the website reflects the vibrant, welcoming spirit of our Catholic community.





## 2025 MISSIONARY COOPERATION PLAN SECOND COLLECTION - THIS WEEKEND

Each summer, parishes host a missionary representative who speaks and seeks contributions in support of their cause. On August 16-17, our parish will welcome Reverend Boniface Agbata who will share information on the Catholic Diocese of Aguleri located in southeastern Nigeria. It covers an area of 8 square kilometers (536 square miles) and was established by Pope Francis on February 12, 2023. The diocese encompasses 26 communities across four Local Government Areas, all within Anambra State, Nigeria. It serves a population of over 1.8 million people, of whom approximately 357,000 are Catholics.

Their Mission Appeal focuses on support for basic education for their children specifically the urgent need to educate women, particularly young girls. A pressing challenge is the prevalence of early marriages among girls; many who are married as young as 12 years old, often to older men. These girls begin to give birth as early as 13, before they are physically and mentally mature enough to care for themselves or their families, often marrying into impoverished households. Child marriage infringes upon the fundamental rights and freedoms of young girls and poses a critical issue that affects their development and well-being.

Their diocese is deeply committed to addressing this situation. They are working hard to build Catholic schools and provide educational sponsorship for these girls. The aim is to establish modest boarding schools to protect and educate them until they reach a more mature age for marriage. However, this endeavor presents significant financial challenges as building schools and hiring teachers are costly. However, educating women ultimately uplifts the entire society; by preparing these girls for a better future, and contributing to building a more livable community.

The cost to keep a girl in school for one year, including basic needs, is approximately \$500. Their goal is to support 600 girls from the "peripheries" of their diocese and raise about \$300,000.

Our support will enhance the quality of life in their society and strengthen the work of evangelization in their young Diocese. A second collection will be taken this weekend. Your generosity is appreciated.

## OUR PARISH WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP

For Fiscal Year July 1, 2025 - June 30, 2026

	August 3, 2025	
	Weekly Total	YTD Collection
Envelopes	\$ 12,675.00	\$ 63,378.15
Loose—Total included in YTD count	\$ 1,398.65	
Online Giving 7/29/2025—8/4/2025	\$ 9,834.50	\$ 55,859.88
Mail Collection	\$ 3,318.50	
<b>Total Collections</b>	<b>\$ 27,226.65</b>	<b>\$ 119,238.03</b>

Those wishing to make their donations online through GiveCentral can find the link and easy-to-follow instructions on the church website:

[www.catholiccommunitiesofoakpark.org/giving](http://www.catholiccommunitiesofoakpark.org/giving)

Contact Carol Coleman at the Parish Center, 708-383-3430, Ext. 419 with any questions or for assistance. We could not be here without you!

### MASS COUNT

**Saturday, August 2, 2025**

4:30 PM - 159

**Sunday, August 3, 2025**

8:00 AM - 156, 10:30 AM - 250, Family Mass - 125

**Total Mass Count - 690**

## PLANNED GIVING

Many of us have diligently worked to accumulate the wealth that God has bestowed upon us. Now, let's consider giving back to our parish community. Have you thought about making a gift through your individual retirement account (IRA)? By naming our beloved Saint Catherine of Siena-Saint Lucy and Saint Giles Parish as a beneficiary, you'll provide vital financial support. The entire value of your gift will be transferred to us, free from federal estate and income tax. Best of all, changing the beneficiary on your retirement plan costs nothing but holds immeasurable value for our future parish community.

Please contact your IRA administrator for more information, or contact Carol Coleman at 708-383-3430, Ext. 419 or [ccoleman@stgilesparish.org](mailto:ccoleman@stgilesparish.org), or contact, Deacon Greg Vogt, Philanthropy Officer, Archdiocese of Chicago at 312.995.0686 or [gvogt@archchicago.org](mailto:gvogt@archchicago.org)

## VINE AND BRANCHES IS WAITING FOR YOU!

Vine and Branches is the climate crisis committee of Saint Catherine of Siena-Saint Lucy, and Saint Giles Parish. We responded to the call from Pope Francis' Laudato Si encyclical to care for and to heal Earth through education, awareness, advocacy, spirituality, and action. Just these past months, we've collected batteries for recycling and, in collaboration with Ascension and Saint Edmund H.O.M.E. climate care group, we continue to collect plastic toward the TREX bench. We celebrated Earth Day with a Creation Liturgy. Our goals include coordinating a Sustainability Fair on April 19, 2026 at Saint Giles McDonough Hall. (We need more vendors!) Our Saint Giles Community Garden is looking for more volunteers and will participate in the Open Gardens Walk on Sunday, September 14. Our Spirituality goals include a Creation Liturgy and a Day of Reflection that is in the works for the coming year.

One Home One Future is comprised of faith-based organizations and congregations across the country united in caring for Earth. Vine and Branches is a member. We receive monthly resources to support our mission to educate, advocate and act.

Our next meeting will take place on Sunday, September 7 at 1:30 PM on Zoom. Contact Sister Sue to join Vine and Branches at [spaweski@spsmw.org](mailto:spaweski@spsmw.org).

## CREATION CARE CORNER



"...the related 'greenhouse effect' has now reached crisis proportions as a consequence of industrial growth, massive urban concentrations and vastly increased energy needs." — Pope John Paul II

### Calculate your carbon footprint.

Popes Francis, Benedict XVI and John Paul II have all spoken of the need to address climate change. It's influenced by the amount of heat trapping CO2 and other greenhouse gases (GHGs) in the atmosphere. Small atmospheric GHG % increases can have a significant impact on Earth's temperature rise. Every day, across everything we do and buy, we contribute to GHG emissions. Calculators can help us better understand how much carbon is produced by different activities. Then, if you decide to reduce your emissions, you'll know where you can generate the biggest impact. Start with this easy to use calculator: <https://www3.epa.gov/carbon-footprint-calculator/>

(This EPA calculator does not include air travel, which often is a major contributor to household emissions, but can still help you ID great savings opportunities).

## DID YOU KNOW?

THE SAINT GILES COMMUNITY GARDEN HAS GROWN 900 POUNDS OF PRODUCE TO DONATE TO LOCAL FOOD PANTRIES?



Curious to see what is growing?

The garden is located behind the parish center.

Or join us at the OPEN GARDENS WALK  
Sunday, September 14  
11:00 AM to 1:00 PM

## HELP US CONTINUE TO GROW OUR IMPACT IN THE COMMUNITY!

We are looking for the following:

- seeds (fruit, vegetables, herbs)
- native plant divisions
- pots and planters (new or used)
- volunteers



Have something else? Email us!

Email Trista Allgood - [tbakale@gmail.com](mailto:tbakale@gmail.com) to let us know what you have to donate and to schedule pickup/drop-off.

## TREX PLASTIC BAG CHALLENGE

THANK YOU for supporting the plastic collection! The response has been encouraging and we've been asked to continue the collection during the summer. We are making a difference for the greater good!



"Let's give 'em a good start with some holy water!"



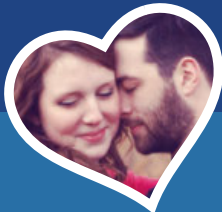


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