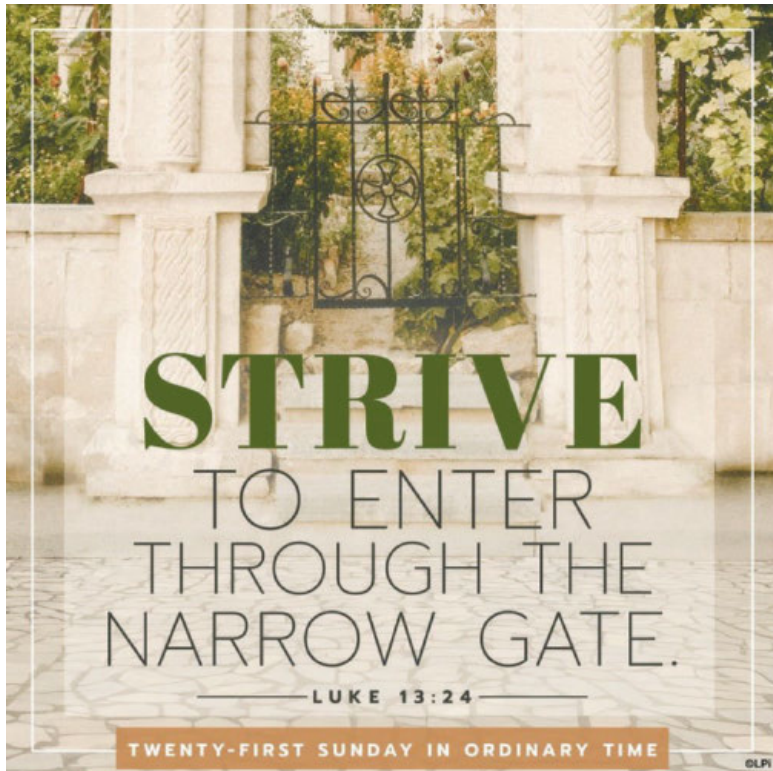




SAINT CATHERINE OF SIENA-SAINT LUCY AND SAINT GILES CATHOLIC PARISH



AUGUST 24, 2025

**21ST SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME**

"People will come from the east and the west and from the north and the south and will recline at table in the kingdom of God. For behold, some are last who will be first, and some are first who will be last." - Lk 13:39-30

SAINT CATHERINE OF SIENA- SAINT LUCY CAMPUS

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

SAINT GILES CAMPUS

1025 Columbian Avenue
Oak Park, Illinois 60302
708-383-3430
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
 Website: 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
 Website: 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
 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
 Matthew Brophy, *Director of Parish Operations* – Ext. 102
 Carol Coleman, *Business Manager* – Ext. 419
 LaVerne Johnson, *Parish Administrative Assistant* –
 Ext. 401, stgiles@stgilesparish.org
 Sue Kaszynski, *Director of Music & Liturgy* – Ext. 423
 Julius White, *Praise Choir*

Spirit & Light

Dr. Marci Madary, *Director of Spirit & Light* –
mmadary@spiritandlightcenter.org
 Rachel Faulman, *Catechesis of the Good Shepherd &*
Out-of-Grade Sacraments –
rfaulman@spiritandlightcenter.org
 Cooky Perez-Eraci, *Director of Youth Ministry* –
mperezeraci@spiritandlightcenter.org
 Tim Smyth, *Faith & Fellowship Program Director* –
tmsmyth@spiritandlightcenter.org
 Alex Ryan, *Evangelization & Sacraments*
Alexryan@spiritandlightcenter.org

Saint Giles School

1034 Linden Avenue, Oak Park, Illinois 60302
 Phone 708-383-6279 – Fax 708-383-9952
 E-mail: office@stgilesschool.org
 Website: stgilesschool.org
 Meg Bigane, *Principal* – mbigane@stgilesschool.org

Saint Catherine-Saint Lucy School

27 Washington Boulevard, Oak Park, Illinois 60302
 Phone 708-386-5286 – Fax 708-386-7328
 Website: catherinelucy.org
 Sharon Leamy, *Principal* – sleamy@catherinelucy.org

**FATHER CARL'S CORNER**

With the return of our school children on three of our

campus sites and the sounds of their chatter and excitement in the air all around, I could not help but think of these words of Jesus, "Let the children come to me, and do not prevent them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to these." Matthew 19:14

In this passage, however, the disciples wanted to push the children aside, thinking that Jesus must have more important things to do. But Jesus turns their thinking upside down. He tells them, and us, that the kingdom belongs to those with the openness, trust, and simplicity of children. My belief is that this is an important message for us all to consider as we see more children in and around the parish.

In 2025, that message is urgent as childhood today is often hurried, and kids today face pressure from technology, violence, and fear that can rob them of innocence too soon. Jesus' words remind us that protecting, valuing, and learning from children is not optional – it is central to the Gospel.

It is also about us; Jesus calls us to recover a childlike spirit within ourselves – faith that trusts, hope that looks forward, and love that is freely given.

Here is a step that we can take this week; choose one

moment to really listen to a child or young person – at home, in school, in our parish. Ask about their hopes, worries, or dreams, and let their voices teach you. We all know that children can often try our patience but let us remember, especially as we welcome families at Mass, in welcoming them, we welcome Christ Himself.

Speaking of school ... learning ... Tom McGrath, a veteran Catholic publisher and author of *Raising Faith-Filled Kids*, I recently read something he wrote on life lessons. A guy in his men's group meets any new challenge in his life by asking, "where is the lesson to be learned here?" He will say this when things go poorly at work, when he struggles with members of his family, or even when something tragic happens. There are times he has said, "I just don't want any more life lessons," but they continue to come. The question is, what will we make of them? For example, if someone slanders you, the lesson may be that it is more important to be convinced on the inside that you are worthy than rely on the opinions of others.

So, when life's trials, difficulties, and disappointments come your way, ask yourself, "Where's the lesson?"

Have a blessed week ahead.

With you a Christian. For you, a priest.

F. Carl

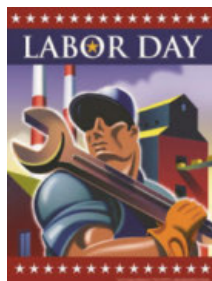
PLEASE PRAY FOR:

Those who are hospitalized or homebound, including: Manuel Aguilar, Patrick Ahearn, Mark Andersen, Jane Baker, Phyllis Baker, Katie Barnicle, JoAnn Boyle, Eloise Brown, Melissa Brumund, Phil Calabrese, Timothy Carraher Carwinski, Lucille Dalbis, Nancy D'Agnolo, Carole DiCicco, Andrea Dickson, Paula Dote, Baby Margaret Mary Doyle, Katherine Fisher, George Fleming, Jim Fletcher, Kitti Foley, Baby Ford Gallagher, Sr. Regina Gallo, 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, Patrick Pollard, 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 Jean Petrasek, Cecelia Menconi, and Catherine Kennedy Jacobs.

LABOR DAY MASS



On Monday, September 1, the Catholic Communities of Oak Park will celebrate Masses at Saint Giles Church at 8:30 AM and at Saint Edmund Church at 8:30 AM to ask God's favor upon all workers. Please join us as we thank God for human labor and celebrate the dignity of the worker.

There will not be a 6:30 AM Mass at Saint Giles on September 1.

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

SAINT GILES CHURCH

MONDAY, AUGUST 25

SAINT LOUIS, SAINT JOSEPH CALASANZ, PRIEST

6:30 AM The Deceased of the Parish

TUESDAY, AUGUST 26

6:30 AM All Parishioners & Benefactors

8:30 AM Stewart & Anna Daley Eagen
Tom Carraher

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 27

SAINT MONICA

6:30 AM Joey Cocco
Paul Lamb

8:30 AM All Parishioners & Benefactors

THURSDAY, AUGUST 28

SAINT AUGUSTINE, BISHOP & DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH

6:30 AM All Parishioners & Benefactors

8:30 AM Peter A. Arpaia
Gary Parker

FRIDAY, AUGUST 29

THE PASSION OF SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST

6:30 AM The Deceased of the Shaker Family
Owen Petrzelka
Dorinda Segebrecht

SATURDAY, AUGUST 30

8:00 AM Dorothy Gillian

2:30 PM Wedding: Bridget Eleanor Ritten &
Alex Anthony Hotovy

*4:30 PM Robert Sciaraffa
Victor Guarino
Mary Ann Bloom
Evelyn Key

SUNDAY, AUGUST 31

22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

8:00 AM Phillip Smith
The Deceased of the Abraham Family
The Deceased of the Shaker Family
Peggy Connolly
10:00 AM Family Mass in McDonough Hall
10:30 AM Richard J. Enderle
Czeslaw Szarkowski

*This Mass will be live-streamed from the new parish website www.catholiccommunitiesofoakpark.org.

SAINT EDMUND CHURCH

SUNDAY, AUGUST 24

22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

5:00 PM Catholic Communities of Oak Park



Holy Spirit ACTIVATE

High School Confirmation
Registration is Open!



Scan me!



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 slreligious@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 - slreligious@spiritandlightcenter.org



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.



OCIA COMPANION SPONSOR

A Companion Sponsor for OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation for Adults) is a parishioner who would like to accompany a person who is preparing to receive the

sacraments. While the individual will have a formal sponsor who they choose, a Companion Sponsor plays a vital role in helping the person understand what it means to live as a Catholic and assist in integrating the individual into the life of the Catholic community.

A Companion Sponsor is expected to connect with the person one or two times each month. Activities may include (but aren't limited to) the following:

- Attend mass together
- Share a meal
- Go to speakers or other events in the Oak Park Catholic parishes
- Go to a Catholic baptism, funeral, or wedding
- Take a walk
- Talk about faith
- Participate in volunteer service

Companion Sponsors will receive training prior to being paired with an individual and will continue to be supported while they work with a person.

If you are interested or have questions, please contact Marci Madary at mmadary@spiritandlightcenter.org.



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.



TRADITIONAL RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PARENT MEETING

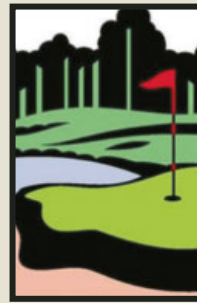
Sunday, August 24th - 9:30 AM

Ascension School, Lower Level, Pine Room

Please come to hear all about "Finding God, Our Response to God's Gifts" curriculum, meet other families and your children's Catechist.

Books and the children's folders will be available with class room assignments. There should be time for questions and open discussions.

Contact Terri Monaco at 708-406-2715 or tmonaco@spiritandlightcenter.org with any inquiries.



81ST ANNUAL MEN'S SOCIETY GOLF OUTING

Monday, September 15

**The Preserve at Oak
Meadows**

We are looking for a few new committee members to help plan and run the event. If you are interested in helping out, please send a note to mike@bibbey.com.

Get ready to tee off and have a swinging good time at the most divine golf event of the year! Not only is your participation in this awesome event likely to leave you rolling on the fairway with laughter, but it will also 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

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

PLANNED GIVING

Please consider making a gift from your individual retirement plan (IRA) that benefits you and our parish. A qualified charitable distribution (QCD) allows individuals age 70½ or older to authorize their IRA administrator to make a direct transfer of funds from their IRA to qualified charities, tax-free.

There are three main benefits of giving with a QCD:

If you are 73 years old or older, the amount you transfer can satisfy all or part of your required minimum distribution.

The amount transferred directly to charity does not generate taxable income, which may reduce your annual income level. This may help lower your Medicare premiums and decrease the amount of Social Security that is subject to tax.

Your gift will be immediately used, allowing you to see the impact of your gift now.

If you would like more information on how to make a QCD gift to Saint Catherine of Siena-Saint Lucy and Saint Giles Parish, please contact Carol Coleman at ccoleman@stgilesparish.org or 708-383-3430, Ext. 419 or or contact, Deacon Greg Vogt, Philanthropy Officer, Archdiocese of Chicago at 312-995-0686 or gvogt@archchicago.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.



WEDDING BANNS

- I Lindsey Decosola and Louis Morello
- II Jacquelyn Neel and Jeffrey Chase Dickinson
- III Bridget Eleanor Ritten and Alex Anthony Hotovy

OUR PARISH WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP

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

	August 10, 2025	
	Weekly Total	YTD Collection
Envelopes	\$ 8,344.00	\$ 75,848.15
Loose—Total included in YTD count	\$ 1,506.00	
Online Giving 8/5/2025–8/11/2025	\$ 11,082.22	\$ 66,942.10
Mail Collection	\$ 2,620.00	
Total Collections	\$ 23,552.22	\$ 142,790.25

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

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 9, 2025

4:30 PM - 141

Sunday, August 10, 2025

8:00 AM - 134, 10:30 AM - 256, Family Mass - 100

Total Mass Count - 631

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.





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

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 or contact your parish office with questions. To register online, please visit pvm.archchicago.org/events/golden-wedding.

We hope to see you there!

MIGRANT MINISTRY— RESETTLING OF MIGRANT FAMILIES UPDATE



We have been slowing the resettling of families for a few weeks primarily because the future is so unknown. Questions include:

- How will new families and our current families respond to the changes in our immigration system?
- How do we handle a lease if the family is deported or decides to self-deport?
- How do we continue to maintain a good relationship with our landlords?
- Several of our families are coming to the end of their 1-year lease. Although our financial support is ending, how can we continue to support them?

Also, our fundraising has slowed and our mentors have grown weary.

For the families coming to the end of the 1-year lease, many are looking for less expensive apartments. That often means moving farther from Oak Park, unfamiliar neighborhoods, and changes of schools for the children. We could use your help in finding apartments. Many of them have work permits and could apply for an apartment on their own. If you have any suggestions on local available apartments, please contact us at immigrantministry@gmail.com.

The need for job skills, mastery of the English language and mental health services are services that are needed. And of course the support of the Legal Defense Fund is needed as they are going to court to defend their asylum applications.

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.

To donate online through GiveCentral use the link below OR send donations to Saint Catherine-Saint Lucy and Saint Giles Parish, 1025 Columbian, Oak Park, IL 60302. Include a note that the donation is for the "Migrant Ministry". Thank you for your generous hearts! (<https://www.givecentral.org/customizable-online-giving/444/event/36149>).

the Neighborhood



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 Saint Catherine of Siena-Saint Lucy in mid-August. Families from our five 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 four hours per week. To volunteer, contact Pantry Coordinator Christine Wedekind at 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

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.

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.

HOUSING FORWARD

HOUSING FORWARD NEEDS YOU!

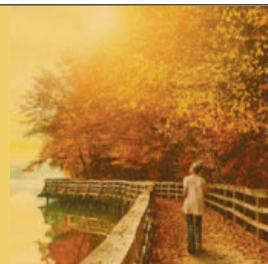
In case you didn't know, Housing Forward is scheduled to open a new emergency overnight shelter with 40 beds in September at 112 S. Humphrey Avenue in Oak Park. This is twice as many beds as have been available at the Saint Catherine of Siena-Saint Lucy Rectory.

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.

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

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

GriefShare

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 9, 2025
6:00 PM to 8:00 PM

Saint Giles Campus, McDonough Hall
1101 Columbian Ave., Oak Park
708-223-4912
griefshare@stgilesparish.org

griefshare.org



ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO



SOLEMN VESPERS FOR THE WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR THE CARE OF CREATION

Sunday, August 31 - 7:00 PM
Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish
1775 Grove Street, Glenview, Illinois

All are invited as the Catholic and Greek Orthodox communities of greater Chicagoland join together for an ecumenical service to give thanks for God's gift of creation and to recognize the conservation efforts of His disciples.

Bishop Mark Bartosic, Archdiocese of Chicago, will preside at this service and is honored to be joined by His Grace Bishop Timothy of Hexamilion, Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Chicago.

The event will be live streamed as well at vimeo.com/event/3581003.

Vespers will be followed by a reception and lecture by Dr. Apostolis Sambanis entitled, "Water as Sacred Stewardship in the Catholic and Greek Orthodox Churches."

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. We need YOU!!

CREATION CARE CORNER

LAST CALL for Energy Efficiency/Clean Energy Tax Credits

Recent legislation has cut short the timeline of federal energy efficiency and renewable energy tax credits. Improving energy efficiency and electrification reduces carbon pollution, while also saving money on bills.

Homes: Available tax credits include up to \$3,200 per year for qualified improvements on your home until December 31, 2025. The credit is 30% of certain qualified expenses for certain energy efficient appliances and weatherizing your home: including \$150 for home energy audits; \$250 for an exterior door (\$500 total for all exterior doors); \$600 for exterior windows and skylights; central air conditioners; electric panels and certain related equipment; \$2,000 for select highly efficient electric heat pump water heaters and electric heat pumps.

Vehicles: The federal tax credit for new and used EVs ends after September 30, 2025. To claim up to \$7,500 for a new EV or \$4,000 for a used vehicle, you must purchase and take delivery before the deadline. Eligibility rules still apply and income limits remain in effect.

Home energy: The credit is worth 30% of the cost to install qualifying systems that use solar, wind, geothermal, biomass, or fuel cell power to produce electricity until December 31, 2025.

For more info: <https://tinyurl.com/CCCornerTaxCredits> and www.energystar.gov/about/federal-tax-credits.

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 from 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 to let us know what you have to donate and to schedule pickup/drop-off.

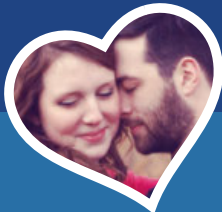


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