



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

*In every age,*  
**LORD, YOU HAVE  
BEEN OUR REFUGE.**



PSALM 90

**SEPTEMBER 7, 2025**

**23RD SUNDAY IN  
ORDINARY TIME**

"Which of you wishing to construct a tower does not first sit down and calculate the cost to see if there is enough for its completion? -In the same way, anyone of you who does not renounce all his possessions cannot be my disciple." - Lk 14:33-35

## **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)**Business Hours:**

Monday - 9:00 AM - 8:00 PM

Tuesday - 9:00 AM - 8:00 PM

Wednesday - 9:00 AM - 8:00 PM

Thursday - 9:00 AM - 8:00 PM

Friday - 9:00 AM - 4:30 PM

Saturday - 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

**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* -  
[faulman@spiritandlightcenter.org](mailto:faulman@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**

Both the world  
and our  
country are  
filled with  
heartbreaking

news about hate and violence  
against innocent and  
defenseless children and  
families. Many of us may feel,  
how do we connect with God in  
all this mess?

Recently I am reminded of the  
saying "let go, let God." This  
reminds us that as people of  
faith we must move beyond our  
control and surrender our will to  
God. A "let God" life rejects a me  
centered life. A "let God" life  
surrenders control to God. In  
this context self-denial means  
trusting God's will over our own  
plans, ambitions and comfort.  
Proverbs 3:5-6 reminds us, "In all  
ways acknowledge God, and He  
will make straight your paths."

A "let God" life loves others  
sacrificially. This contrasts with  
a self-focused world that tells us  
to prioritize our own happiness.  
Jesus calls us to love even when  
it is inconvenient, costly or  
difficult. It can mean forgiving  
someone who is meaner than a  
nest of wasps. A "let God" life  
resists cultural pressures.  
Conventional thinking often  
dismisses absolute truth and  
promotes moral relativism. Self-  
denial means standing firm in  
biblical truth, even when it is  
unpopular.

Finally, a "let God" life includes a  
daily dying to self. Self-denial  
isn't just one big moment of  
sacrifice. It is a daily  
commitment. It means saying no  
to pride, selfishness, laziness or  
the desire for recognition.

Wearing a cross is easy. Living  
the cross is costly. The cross is  
not an accessory. It is a way of  
life that calls us to humility,  
sacrifice and unwavering  
faithfulness to Christ. Our  
readings this weekend reminds  
us of this truth. By living by this  
truth, we combat the heartbreak

in our country and in the world  
with the hope that, despite the  
crosses we carry or face, God is  
living and acting in and through us.

I offer this prayer for the week  
as you reflect on where you need  
to "let go, let God." Lord, open  
for me your love. Open for me  
your presence so that I may find  
courage for my fear, Open to me  
your presence so that there may  
be light for my darkness. Open  
to me your spirit so that I may  
know your peace amidst turmoil.  
Open me up to you, O God, so  
that I may know hope for my  
despair, peace for my soul, joy  
for my sorrow, health for my  
illness, strength for my  
weakness, wisdom for my  
confusion, forgiveness for my  
sin, love for my hate, praise for  
my doubt and insights for my  
troubles. Lord, open for me your  
cross and your love for my life,  
for my all. In the name of Jesus.  
Amen.

On Monday, September 8th, both  
parish councils will meet in  
McDonough Hall for a  
conversation about some  
common goals that the staff  
would like to share with them as  
we look toward the fall season  
and the new year ahead. While  
we are two councils serving the  
needs of our individual parishes,  
there are some things we would  
like to work on in common. For  
example, a discernment  
program for ministry and other  
parish leadership  
considerations, such as the  
financial council and the parish  
council. Sharing resources and  
formation is something we can  
work on together. We also will  
be looking at common goals like  
communication. More  
information will be shared after  
our meeting.

Have a safe and 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, Coletta Ali, 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, Kittie Foley,  
 Mary Ellen Frank, Baby Ford Gallagher, Sr. Regina Gallo, Deacon  
 John Henricks, Lois Henricks, Jennifer Hoyt, Joe Karas,  
 Maureen Killackey, 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, Eleanor "Elle" Taylor, 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, Linda Poe, sister of Carol Coleman.



## WELCOMING MINISTRY

All are Welcome!

Do you feel that Saint Catherine of Siena-Saint Lucy and Saint Giles needs to be a place of belonging? Would you like

to find a way to bring a little hope and light into the parish?

Consider joining the Welcoming Ministry as a Greeter!

Greeters are parishioners who:

- Open doors, smile and greet all who come to Mass
- Work with the Ushers and Hospitality ministers to ensure that each person who enters feels a comfortable and at home as possible
- Have a loving heart and a welcoming spirit

If you are a greeter, usher or hospitality minister - or if you would LIKE to serve in one of these ministries, come to the Welcoming Ministry Gathering on Monday, September 22 at 6:00 PM in McDonough Hall. Dinner will be provided.

Contact Julie Denise, cdenisj@yahoo.com to be added to the ministry!

## WORSHIP SCHEDULE

### SAINT GILES CHURCH

#### MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

8:30 AM The Deceased of the Parish

#### TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

6:30 AM All Parishioners & Benefactors

8:30 AM Peter Arpaia

#### WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

6:30 AM Caesar Tabet

John Hubbuch

Joey Cocco

Valerie Gantner

8:30 AM All Parishioners & Benefactors

#### THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

6:30 AM All Parishioners & Benefactors

8:30 AM Margaret Cimoli

#### FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

6:30 AM Joseph and Helen Shaker

Owen Petrzalka

#### SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

8:00 AM Louis & Elizabeth Toth

2:30 PM Wedding: Lindsey Decosola & Louis Morello

4:30 PM Mary Alice Dixon

Eva P. Kunkel

Louis Heath

Joseph and Lillian Vavrina

#### SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

##### 23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

8:00 AM Martin Quinn

10:00 AM Family Mass in McDonough Hall

\*10:30 AM Louis and May DeLuca

Dan Denise

Dr. Chester Gruszka

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

### SAINT EDMUND CHURCH

#### SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

##### 23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

5:00 PM Oak Park Catholic Parishes Mass





## 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 17 - 11:00 AM to 7:00 PM  
Thursday, September 18 - 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!**



## 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**

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

## EXPERIENCING THE PSALMS

The Saint Catherine of Siena-Saint Lucy  
and Saint Giles Wednesday Night Bible  
Study is starting a new series on the  
Psalms!



The psalms display the full color of the  
human experience and relationship with God. By diving into  
selected psalms - examining the context, reflecting on our own  
experiences and what they mean for us today - we will deepen  
how we pray with the psalms and draw closer to God.

Bible Study will start this study on Wednesday, September  
10. We will meet on Wednesdays at 7:00 PM in the Saint Giles  
Campus - Parish Center Living Room (1025 Columbian Avenue)  
and over Zoom.

All are welcome from any parish or community - It is NOT  
necessary or required to attend each week. There is no need to  
have Bible Study experience... Come when you can!!

Please contact Maria Samatas (msamatas@me.com) or Alex  
Ryan (alexryan@stgilesparish.org) to get all the information.

## 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](https://stgilesparish.flocknote.com/ENews), and the  
information you need will be right in your inbox.





**"LITTLE ONES, THE CHRISTIAN  
COMMUNITY WELCOMES YOU  
WITH GREAT JOY INTO OUR  
FAMILY OF FAITH."**

James Esteban Gonzales,  
Son of John Gonzales & Aracely (Vasquez) Gonzales  
Bennett Renes Castor  
Son of Rony Castor & Lauren Platt  
Corina Audelia Cincan  
Daughter of Bryan & Audelia (Duron) Cincan  
Eleanor Murphy Wholey  
Daughter of Matthew & Bridget (Murphy) Wholey  
Maisie Sophia Navarrete  
Daughter of Christian & Christine (Friel) Navarrete  
Liam Joseph Mau  
Son of Joseph & Kathleen (Planek) Mau  
Roman Andrew Herald  
Son of Fischer & Paula (Gawedzki) Herald



**WE ARE PLEASED TO  
WELCOME THE FOLLOWING  
NEW PARISHIONERS.**

Jean and Daniel Lupiani  
Brigitte and Nico Ranieri  
Chelsea & John Donoghue  
Jessica & Ferdinand Velez  
Genevieve & Michael Spina



### WEDDING BANNS

III Lindsey Decosola & Louis Morello

### 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.



## OUR PARISH WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP

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

August 24, 2025

	Weekly Total	YTD Collection
Envelopes	\$ 7,012.00	\$ 103,807.25
Loose—Total included in YTD count	\$ 1,246.00	
Online Giving 8/19/2025—8/25/2025	\$ 10,576.50	\$ 88,864.98
Mail Collection	\$ 4,662.00	
<b>Total Collections</b>	<b>\$ 23,496.50</b>	<b>\$ 192,672.23</b>
<b>Summer Mission Collection</b>	<b>\$ 7,293.00</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 23, 2025**

4:30 PM - 167

**Sunday, August 24, 2025**

8:00 AM - 174, 10:30 AM - 238, Family Mass - 135

**Total Mass Count - 714**

## PLANNED GIVING

**Please Remember Saint Catherine of Siena-Saint Lucy and Saint Giles in Your Will or Trust**

When considering which charities to include in your will or trust, we hope you will remember Saint Catherine of Siena-Saint Lucy and Saint Giles. A bequest can be made to our parish using the following language:

"I give [insert specific dollar amount, or percentage of net or residuary] to The Catholic Bishop of Chicago, Tax ID #36-2170826, a corporation sole located in Chicago, Illinois, to be used for the benefit of Saint Catherine of Siena-Saint Lucy and Saint Giles Parish located in Oak Park, Illinois. However, if Saint Catherine of Siena-Saint Lucy and Saint Giles Parish ceases to exist in its current form, then to the new parish or parishes erected in its stead."

Please consult an attorney and financial advisor when drafting your will or trust. For more information, please visit [giving.archchicago.org/bequest](http://giving.archchicago.org/bequest) or contact Carol Coleman at [ccoleman@stgilesparish.org](mailto:ccoleman@stgilesparish.org) 708-383-3430, Ext. 419 or contact, Deacon Greg Vogt, Philanthropy Officer, Archdiocese of Chicago at 312-995-0686 or [gvogt@archchicago.org](mailto:gvogt@archchicago.org).

## ATTENTION ALL WOMEN OF SAINT CATHERINE OF SIENA— SAINT LUCY AND SAINT GILES – CHANGE IS GOOD!

Since the early 1990's, CCW (Council of Catholic Women) has been bringing the women of our parishes together through social and spiritual gatherings and fundraising efforts. We made friends while connecting to our faith community.

Over the past few years, attendance at CCW events and participation at the leadership level has decreased. Women of both Saint Giles and Saint Catherine of Siena-Saint Lucy have met to discuss how to address this change. After much discussion the following themes came out:

1. Women want to continue to gather for faith and fellowship.
2. The current structure of CCW does not work today.
3. We feel more women of all ages will participate if we do away with the Board, Committees, etc. model and rely on different women working on events on their own time.

We will call ourselves The Women of Saint Catherine of Siena-Saint Lucy and Saint Giles. Our first gathering will take place on Friday, September 19 prior to the courtyard concert. Look for details in the bulletin and online.

Other events planned include the following:

1. An annual coat drive
2. Christmas party on Thursday, December 11, 2025.
3. Barefoot Contessa on Saturday, January 31, 2026
4. A Springtime Social and Service Day

This is an exciting time for the women of our community as we adapt to the changing demands of women's time. If you are interested in helping with any events or have ideas or suggestions, please reach out to Elsa DePalma at [Elsadepalma@gmail.com](mailto:Elsadepalma@gmail.com).



## 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.



## SAINT CATHERINE OF SIENA-SAINT LUCY AND SAINT GILES WOMEN'S GATHERING

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 19 - 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM

In the Saint Giles Courtyard Before the Concert

Wine, Beer and Light Bites Provided.

Welcome New Parishioners!

Make New Friends!

Catch up with Old Friends!

Stay to enjoy the band: The Island of Misfit Toys

Questions?

Want to Help?

Contact Jeanne Gallo at 312-882-2087



## YOUTH MINISTRY STARTS SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

6:30 - 8:00 PM

Saint Edmund - Murphy Hall  
188 South Oak Park Ave., Oak Park

We are excited to invite you to be part of something special - help us build a Youth Ministry where teens can come together to grow in faith, friendship and service. This is your chance to share your ideas, bring your energy, and create a space that truly reflects who you are and what you believe.

Together, we can make a difference, support one another, and discover how God is calling us to live out our faith in fun, meaningful ways. Come be part of the foundation of a ministry built by teens, for teens!

Contact Maria (Cooky) Perez-Eraci,  
mperezeraci@spiritandlightcenter.org



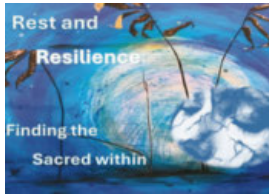
## LATE: A LOVE STORY

Saturday, September 13  
9:00 AM to 12:00 PM -  
Doors open at 8:30 AM  
Saint Edmund Church,

188 S. Oak Park Ave., Oak Park

Performed by Rachelle Zola a year after her 825-mile Pilgrimage from Chicago to Montgomery. LATE: A Love Story is not just a performance - it's a raw and honest exploration of truths discovered late in life, weaving together narratives of love, loss and healing.

Rachelle's powerful performance will leave you captivated, while her journey towards understanding and reconciliation will prompt you to reconsider the world around you. Join us in creating a world where 'equity for all' is honored, lived by and celebrated. Connect with the community at late.love. Register with qR code or go to LATE.LOVE.



## REST AND RESILIENCE FINDING THE SACRED WITHIN

Take time to rest and restore your resilience.

Experience the grace of healing moments.  
Encounter the sacred that is always within you.  
Connect with a friendly community of women.  
All women of the parish are welcome.

Family Mass Community's Annual Women's Retreat  
LaSalle Manor Retreat Center, Plano, Illinois

September 26 to September 28

Friday to Sunday: 2 nights, 4 meals - \$240

Saturday and Sunday: 1 night, 3 meals - \$210

Saturday only: 2 meals - \$115

Registration:

Online at: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/womensretreat2025>

Or contact: Kathy Flanagan at [kathymflan@aol.com](mailto:kathymflan@aol.com) or 312-659-2789



## 81ST ANNUAL MEN'S SOCIETY GOLF OUTING

Monday, September 15  
The Preserve at Oak Meadows  
Register today at [StGilesGolf.com](http://StGilesGolf.com).



## SENIOR CORNER

Our first meeting has been rescheduled, so our year will start on Tuesday, September 30, 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 (iced 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!



## A CHANGE IN TUESDAY NIGHT RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

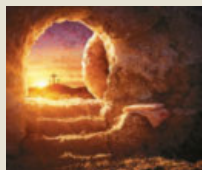
In response to changing trends, there no longer will be Traditional Religious Education on Tuesday nights on the Ascension campus. Rather, there will be Family Religious Education and a new opportunity for faith formation for 7th and 8th grade students. To acknowledge the transition, the following is a reflection from Paul Rubio,

*"Nearly 20 years ago, I was a student in the RE program and attended weekly classes on Tuesday evenings at Ascension.*

*"After college, I returned to the RE program to be a catechist-teacher. For 12 years I taught on Tuesday evenings. With great joy, I have handed on the faith to the students in my classes. We learned so much in those classes, including the liturgical seasons of the year and what they mean for us, the Sacred Tradition of the Church, the holy words of God in the Bible, the saints, the sacraments, the Creed, and what it means to put our faith into action. The students offered thoughtful responses to questions I posed to get them thinking about topics of faith and also were creative and thoughtful in activities like writing notes of affirmation to family and people who serve them, and even collages of the Euxletet.*

*"I am so grateful to God for all I have experienced during all those Tuesday evenings over the course of 12 years.*

*"Now I look ahead to a new opportunity on Tuesday evenings as I lead special sessions called "Tuesdays with Paul". Similar to what has happened for the past 12 years, I will lead a time of learning once a month for 7th and 8th graders, touching upon many of the aforementioned topics I listed. During our time, we will learn about faith so that we encounter God in a transformative way."*



### TUESDAYS WITH PAUL FUN FAITH FORMATION FOR 7TH AND 8TH GRADE STUDENTS

Ursaline Center, Ascension School  
Tuesdays, 6:45 PM to 8:00 PM

Spirit and Light is offering a new opportunity this year! Once a month Paul Rubio, a dedicated catechist and faith-filled person, will hold a special session for 7th and 8th grade students. It will be a time to learn about faith to encounter God in a transformative way!

- September 16, Sacred Tradition
- October 21, Theology of the Body
- November 11, The Eucharist
- January 6, The Christmas Season and the Incarnation
- February 24, Champions of Faith documentary
- March 24, Lent
- April 21, Easter Season and Alive in Christ



## 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](mailto:mmadary@spiritandlightcenter.org).

## HIGH SCHOOL CONFIRMATION PARENT AND CANDIDATE MEETING



Tuesday, September 9 - 7:00 PM to 8:15 PM  
Saint Edmund - Murphy Hall  
188 South Oak Park Ave., Oak Park

We are excited to invite you to our High School Confirmation Parent information night. This evening is an important first step in beginning the Confirmation journey together. Both parents and candidates are asked to attend, as we will share details about the preparation process, requirements, and upcoming events. More importantly, it will be a chance to reflect on what this sacrament means and how we can support one another along the way. We look forward to seeing you there and beginning this journey as a community!





## 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,  
- 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM  
Grace Lutheran Church  
7300 W. Division St. - River**



**2025**



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

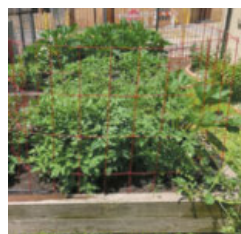
Co-sponsored by Grace Lutheran Church and St. Catherine of Siena-St. Lucy and St. Giles Catholic Church

## OPEN GARDEN WALK



Come visit us at our community congregational gardens where we grow fresh produce to support our local food pantries. The Open Garden Walk will take place on Sunday, September 14 from

11:00 AM to 1:00 PM at the Oak Park Catholic parishes, Temple Har Zion and Oak Park Temple B'nai Abraham Zion. Meet the gardeners who will be happy to answer questions about this ministry.



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



## GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

HELP AND ENCOURAGEMENT AFTER THE DEATH OF A LOVED ONE.

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

**Tuesdays, September 16 to December 9  
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)

## LIVE THE LITURGY

Today, Jesus tells us the cost of true discipleship – and it turns out, it's everything. We must reject the world in order to love God. What attachments are holding us back from the relationship we could have – we should have – with our Lord?

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AFP via Getty Images

## MIGRANT MINISTRY UPDATE IMMIGRATION SUPPORT SERVICE



Our Immigration Support Services (ISS) works with migrants to help them complete many applications including those for asylum and work permits, and also translates documents which need to

accompany those applications. ISS will be moving from Centro San Edmundo across the street to Murphy Hall the first week of September and will continue operation after the school building closes.

We have an amazing group of volunteers who handle the applications and translations but need help from other volunteers to make copies, check in new people and to entertain children. Many of our current volunteers will move with us but there are many slots available. Please contact the email listed below if you are interested in this ministry.

The last day Migrant Ministry will receive clothing and other donations (except financial) will be Monday, September 15. After that the center will be closed on Mondays. **FOR NOW WE ARE COLLECTING WINTER CLOTHING.** For more information, email [immigrantministry@gmail.com](mailto:immigrantministry@gmail.com).

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](mailto:christine.wedekind@aol.com).

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.catholiccommunitiesofaokpark.org/the-neighborhood-bridge](http://www.catholiccommunitiesofaokpark.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](mailto:cjackson@housingforward.org).



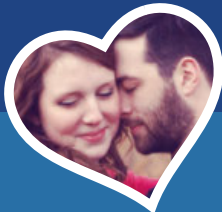


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