



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



OCTOBER 19, 2025

**29TH SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME**

"Will not God then secure the rights of His chosen ones who call out to Him day and night? Will He be slow to answer them? I tell you, He will see to it that justice is done for them speedily. But when the Son of Man comes, will He find faith on earth?"
- Lk 18-7-8

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 Saint Giles School Gym

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

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, Madelyn McCreary & Magdalena Francisco
 Pascual, 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 (Marc) 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

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

Sister JoAnn Persch and Sister Pat Murphy are members of the Sisters of Mercy. For the past 40 years they have had a ministry of persistence. Their motto is, "We do things peacefully and respectfully. But we never take no for an answer." These sisters have allowed their lives to be inconvenienced by the concerns of others, especially immigrants. For 12 years they set up a sacred space in the library at the McHenry County Jail in Woodstock for detainees.

They cooperate with ICE officials and, with immigration attorneys, seek justice together. One of their former clients now works for an airline at O'Hare airport. Sister JoAnn spoke in an interview about how at first, the correctional officers were suspicious of them. They would patrol the jail library, walking around the edges of the room keeping an eye on them. Once the officers became accustomed to their homemade cookies and the wrapped candy canes that they would bring around the holidays, they eased up on them. And sometimes, the ICE agents would pray with the sisters who are now 90 and 95. The story of Sister JoAnn and Sister Pat challenges each of us to answer the question, what inspires and motivates you in faith?

Today, we hear three inspiring stories of people with limited resources or skills who persevere in their tasks. One is from the battlefield, the second from the Church, and

the third from the courtroom. Each story signifies persistent faith even when it is inconvenient. In these times of division, with the injustice we are seeing, along with the polarization in our country, and even in the Church, how do we remain persistent in faith and hope?

One way is to stay rooted in prayer and in community. Isolation breeds despair, but shared faith restores perspective. Staying connected to God and to others who share your values helps you remember that you're not alone in your longing for justice and peace.

Another important thing to do is live hope through action! Persistence in faith and hope are not passive; they grow when we embody them. Even small acts of kindness, compassion, service or advocacy are ways of declaring that light is stronger than darkness. Listening across divides, showing empathy to someone who disagrees with you, or welcoming a stranger are powerful acts of hope.

There is great fear and pain in many of our communities today for a variety of reasons. I encourage all to remember that faith and hope aren't about ignoring pain; they are about believing that love, truth, and justice still have power. May sharing in Eucharist help us to stay persistent in living as though that's true.

Have a blessed and safe week ahead.

With you a Christian. For you, a priest.

F. Carl

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

Manuel Aguilar, Patrick Ahearn, Coletta Ali, Mark Andersen, Antoine Ashley, Jane Baker, Phyllis Baker, Katie Barnicle, JoAnn Boyle, Eloise Brown, Melissa Brumund, Phil Calabrese, Timothy Carraher Carwinski, John Celarek, Lucille Dalbis, Nancy D'Agnolo, Carole DiCicco, Andrea Dickson, Paula Dote, Baby Margaret Mary Doyle, Katherine Fisher, George Fleming, Jim Fletcher, Kitti Foley, Mary Ellen Frank, Baby Ford Gallagher, Sr. Regina Gallo, Deacon John Henricks, Lois Henricks, Bill Holmes, 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, Geraldine Pedersen, Lorenzo Perez, Andrew Perricone, Patrick Pollard, Gia Rapacki, Hannah Rice, Peg Sabatino, Gregory Sherwood, Deborah Sobreira, Anita Spina, Eleanor "Elle" Taylor, Regina Thorpe, Shirley Venerable, Joshua Washington, 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 Paul Joseph Schleitwiler.



WEDDING BANNS

I Eileen Bustamante and Michael Brady
III John Samatas and Haley Hudler

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.



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.



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

SAINT GILES CHURCH

MONDAY, OCTOBER 20

6:30 AM The Deceased of the Parish

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 21

6:30 AM All Parishioners & Benefactors

8:30 AM Dorothy Lane

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 22

6:30 AM Anthony Abraham
Paul Lamb
Joey Cocco

8:30 AM Doris DeVany

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 23

6:30 AM All Parishioners & Benefactors

8:30 AM Sheryl Govedarica
Miguela Garcia

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 24

6:30 AM Mark Anderson
Michael Bloch
Claire Archibald

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 25

8:00 AM Mary Ann Bloom

12:30 PM Wedding: Haley Hudler &
John Samatas

*4:30 PM Gerry Ernst
Robert Dreves
Dr. Harold & Carol Bonus
Claire Archibald

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 26

8:00 AM Mary Dunlavy
William J. Rodeck
Louis & Elizabeth Toth

10:00 AM Family Mass Community in
Saint Giles School Gym

10:30 AM Bridget O'Hara
Dawn Marotta
Alicia Lupita Hernandez
Shirley Wilkinson & Tom Brown

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

SAINT EDMUND CHURCH

SUNDAY, 26

5:00 PM Oak Park Catholic Parishes Mass



ALL SOULS' DAY - MASS OF REMEMBRANCE

On Saturday, November 1, our parish will celebrate All Souls' Day at the 4:30 PM Mass at Saint Giles Church. At Mass,

we will remember all of our parishioners who have been buried from both parish churches during the past year. This Mass is an occasion to honor those connected to the parish who have died since November 2024. All are invited, especially those who have lost a loved one who was either buried from our parish or who we prayed for at our weekend Masses throughout the previous year. We will read the list of names of the departed and light candles in their memory.

If someone close to you died during this time but was buried from another place, or if you wish to include their name in the list read at the Mass of Remembrance offered on November 1, please email the information to the Parish Center at stgiles@stgilesparish.org. or call the office at (708) 383-3430. Additions must be received by 9:00 AM, Wednesday, October 29.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 16 SAINT GILES ORGAN CONCERT



To celebrate the completion of the pipe organ project, the parish has scheduled an organ concert in Saint Giles Church on Sunday, November 16. Details will be coming soon so save the date!

Human Dignity and Solidarity

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO



IMMIGRANT ASSISTANT RESOURCES

Get connected to organizations that offer pastoral, humanitarian and legal advocacy support for immigrants, refugees and all in need.

Scan the QR code:

<https://pvm.archchicago.org/immigrant-assistance-resources>



The holidays are
challenging when you're
grieving a loss.

GriefShare

Surviving the Holidays

Provides encouragement, support,
and valuable tools to navigate the season.

Join us for this holiday seminar
Co-Hosted by Grace Lutheran Church, River Forest

Sunday, November 16
12:00 PM to 2:00 PM

Saint Giles Campus
1101 Columbian, Oak Park
McDonough Hall - 2nd Floor

For information, contact Geri Tapling
griefshare@stgilesparish.org

GriefShare

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
griefshare.org

SECOND COLLECTION - OCTOBER 18-19 WORLD MISSION SUNDAY

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO



Office of the Archbishop

October 19, 2025

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

On this World Mission Sunday, we are sent forth to be messengers and builders of the hope of Christ. As members of the family of God, united in mission, we celebrate with churches on every continent. Inspired by the Holy Spirit, let us open our arms to the world and offer our prayers and generosity.

We are especially blessed this year as our beloved Pope Francis chose our theme for the Jubilee Year: Missionaries of Hope Among All Peoples. He encouraged individual Christians and the entire Church to set out in the footsteps of the Lord Jesus and become artisans of hope for our troubled world. We have seen this hope that does not disappoint in the election of Pope Leo XIV. He is a missionary who was sent from Chicago to the Augustinian mission world, to the Diocese of Chiclayo, Peru and now to the Vatican where he leads the worldwide Catholic Church.

In addition to reflecting on the common evangelizing mission of the Church, on this day we take up a collection to support the Pontifical Mission Societies. Through our donations, we aid the Holy Father in providing for pastoral catechetical programs, building new churches, and providing healthcare and education in 1,124 dioceses that are too young, too poor or persecuted, and need our help. By supporting these missionary works, we help the hope of Christ to shine forth in every corner of the earth.

In this time wounded by war, conflict and injustice, rather than retreating to what is comfortable, let us be inspired to transcend the confines of our individual parishes, dioceses and nations. May we be illuminated by the light of Christian hope and bear witness to the message of God's love in every part of the world. Wishing you every blessing, with kind regards, I remain,

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Archbishop of Chicago

OUR PARISH WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP

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

October 5, 2025

	Weekly Total	YTD Collection
Envelopes	\$ 8,976.00	\$ 188,184.23
Loose—Total included in YTD count	\$ 1,481.42	
Online Giving 9/30/2025–10/6/2025	\$ 11,424.72	\$ 157,121.63
Mail Collection	\$ 3,757.00	
Total Collections	\$ 25,639.14	\$ 345,305.86

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, October 4, 2025

4:30 PM - 133

Sunday, October 5, 2025

8:00 AM - 154, 10:30 AM - 254, Family Mass - 125

Total Mass Count - 666

PLANNED GIVING

What Will Your Legacy Be?

We hope you will consider including a gift to our parish in your will or trust to support the future of our faith community. 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 located in Oak Park, Illinois. However, if Saint Catherine of Siena-Saint Lucy and Saint Giles 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 or contact your parish business manager, Carol Coleman at 708-383-3430, Ext. 419 or ccoleman@stgilesparish.org, or contact, Deacon Greg Vogt, Philanthropy Officer, Archdiocese of Chicago at 312.995.0686 or gvogt@archchicago.org.



SENIOR CORNER

Pope Francis has declared 2025 as a Jubilee Year.

We are all invited to celebrate by making a pilgrimage to a designated "Jubilee Church."

Our Seniors will be journeying to Saint Francis Borgia Church on Tuesday, October 21, for a Jubilee visit and a tour of the church. We will carpool over to the church for our 11:30 AM visit.

Following our stay, we will venture over to Red Lobster (4401 N. Cumberland) for an optional lunch. Saint Francis Borgia Church is located at 8033 W. Addison St. Please plan on joining us for this spiritual visit and a delightful meal.

EXPERIENCING THE PSALMS

The Saint Catherine of Siena-Saint Lucy and Saint Giles Wednesday Night Bible Study has started 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 started on Wednesday, September 10. We meet at 7:00 PM on Wednesdays in the Parish Center Living Room on the Saint Giles Campus (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.



ST. GILES SCHOOL

Preschool OPEN HOUSE



OCTOBER 20
5:00 PM - 6:30 PM

- Learn the ins and outs of preschool at Saint Giles School.
- Tour our Early Childhood Center and classrooms.
- Meet our Preschool Director.
- Speak with current parents about their preschool experiences.

THE SGS DIFFERENCE

Why choose St. Giles School for preschool?

- Serves students in PreK 2, PreK 3, and PreK 4
- Guided physical activity, directed social time, music and art
- Learning centers for math, language arts, science, and social studies
- Daily faith formation exploring God's creation and love for us
- 8:1 student/teacher ratio for PreK 2
- 10:1 student/teacher ratio for PreK 3 and PreK 4
- Dedicated preschool playground
- Cross-grade learning opportunities with older buddies

For more information:

📧 office@stgilesschool.org

🌐 www.stgilesschool.org

📱 [@stgilesschoollookpark](https://www.instagram.com/stgilesschoollookpark)

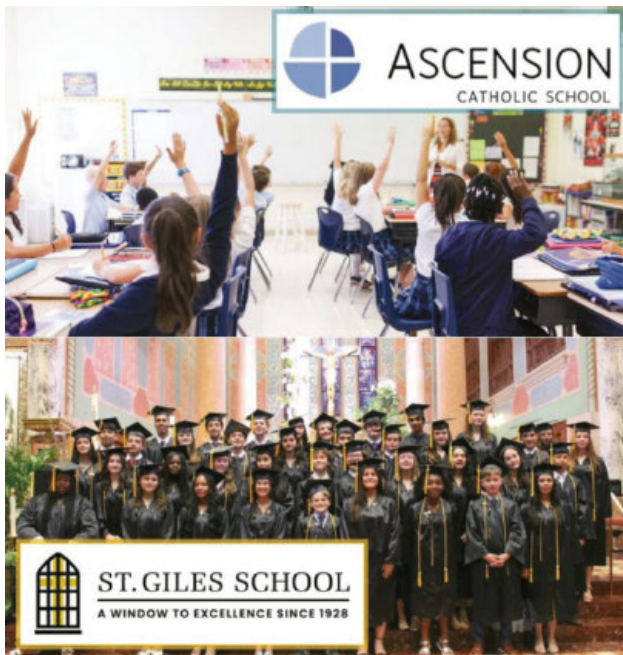
THE NEXT SPIRITUAL CLASSICS:

MR. BLUE, A NOVEL ABOUT A MODERN SAINT FRANCIS

Come to the next Spiritual Classics gathering on Tuesday, November 4 at 7:00 PM in the Ascension Parish Center Dining Room, when we will discuss Myles Connolly's intriguing novel, *Mr. Blue*. Donna Ioppolo will lead the discussion. All Oak Park parishes are welcome.

Have you ever wondered what it would be like if Saint Francis of Assisi lived today? What would he think about today's large cities, the sight of poor and homeless people, the unimaginable riches of the wealthy, and the tech gadgets that fill our lives? Myles Connolly envisioned a modern-day Saint Francis when he wrote *Mr. Blue*, a novel about a young man who decides to take Christianity seriously.

In the novel, the mysterious Mr. Blue lives in a packing box on a New York City rooftop, embraces the poor as his wisest companions, and distrusts modern technology's promise. He foregoes money and power and serves the poor. The novel explores how self-giving is possible and still inspires readers today, almost a century after it was first published in 1928.



**NATIONAL BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL OF
EXCELLENCE PROGRAM
SEPTEMBER 30, 2025**

Today, I am delighted to congratulate two of our schools – Ascension School and Saint Giles School – on their individual achievements in the National Blue Ribbon School of Excellence program.

As you may know, the Blue Ribbon program has long been regarded as a prestigious honor given to select schools nationwide that demonstrate outstanding academic achievement and exceptional teaching and learning. Earlier this year, the Council for American Private Education nominated both Ascension School and Saint Giles School to the Blue Ribbon program as part of a rigorous evaluation process of schools nationwide. Being nominated is a notable achievement and schools must meet a set of criteria to even be considered for the award.

On Wednesday, September 24, Greg Richmond, Archdiocese of Chicago Catholic Schools Superintendent, recognized the Chicago-area schools that were awarded the Blue Ribbon for 2025. I am thrilled to share that Saint Giles was among the 10 schools in the Archdiocese to receive the Blue Ribbon, placing it among the top 15% of schools nationwide. This prestigious recognition is one that every student, parent and teacher should be proud of.

As a faith community, we are blessed to have three vibrant Catholic schools that each deliver a nurturing, faith-filled educational experience to its students. Being recognized as a National Blue Ribbon School nominee or award winner reflects Ascension and Saint Giles' shared commitment to academic excellence, strong student outcomes, and faith.

Congratulations to both schools on their nomination and to Saint Giles on its award. Your parish community is proud of you!

Father Carl Morello
Pastor

Ascension and Saint Edmund Parish
Saint Catherine of Siena-Saint Lucy and Saint Giles Parish



THIS WEEK AT SAINT GILES SCHOOL

In school this week...

4th Grade Math and 7th Grade STEM

Mr. Mullen's 2nd Period 7th Grade STEM class joined Mrs. Voss' 4th Grade class for Mrs. Jones' Engineering Friday during Math! The goal was to utilize the student's understanding of structure, balance, height, limitation of material and dimension to create a straw tower that not only was tall but could stand on its own. The 7th Grade was there to offer guidance and promote collaboration amongst the grades in order to complete the projects.

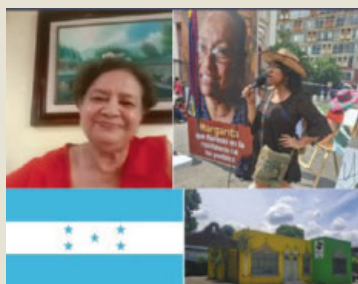


Upcoming Events

Blue Ribbon Week!

We're excited to announce Blue Ribbon Celebration Week, which will be taking place October 20-24! We will be celebrating Saint Giles receiving the award of a National Blue Ribbon School of Excellence! Throughout the week the students have some fun activities ahead; including a buddy breakfast and a pep rally.





HONDURAN WOMEN'S STRUGGLE AGAINST VIOLENCE - SUNDAY, OCTOBER 26

Join Mercy Associates from Honduras to learn about The Women's Forum (Foro de Mujeres) - "Safety for Those Who Stay: Honduran

Women's Struggle Against Violence" The forum will take place on Sunday, October 26, from 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM, in McDonough Hall on the Saint Giles Campus - 1101 Columbian Avenue, Oak Park, Illinois.

Why do people migrate? One reason is the threat of violence to themselves and their children. The women in Honduras face extremely high levels of domestic violence and femicide.

We are asking for your support to purchase a national headquarters for The Women's Forum (Foro de Mujeres) that focuses on solutions to this problem.

Our speakers, Martha Isabel Sandoval and Noemí Dubón, will share their stories and successes in supporting and caring for Honduran woman.

Donations should go to: The SHARE Foundation, 2425 College Avenue, Berkeley, CA 94704 - Attn. Honduras Women's Forum Building

For more information, please contact Dr. Marci Madary, Director of Spirit and Light, at mmadary@spiritandlightcenter.org.



FALL SESSIONS FOR FIRST COMMUNION PREPARATION FOR OLDER CHILDREN IN 4TH THROUGH 8TH GRADE

Children who are in 4th Grade through 8th Grade and have not yet received their First Communion are welcome to join with their peers to prepare for celebrating the sacraments of Reconciliation and First Communion during the Fall.

Sessions begin on Monday, October 20, and will continue on Mondays through mid-December. All sessions will meet at 4:30 PM in the Parish Center on the Saint Giles Campus, 1025 Columbian Avenue.

Children who attend all preparation sessions and celebrate their first Reconciliation during the course of the sessions will be able to celebrate their First Communion at any of the weekend Masses in the churches in our two parishes of Ascension and Saint Edmund or Saint Catherine of Siena-Saint Lucy and Saint Giles.

For more information, please contact Rachel Faulman at rfaulman@spiritandlightcenter.org, or at 708-383-3430, ext. 421.



BECOME AN ADVOCATE AT THE NEIGHBORHOOD BRIDGE

We are 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 next Bridge Breakfast on Saturday, November 1, at 8:30 AM in the Tutoring Center at Maguire Hall. Learn more at theneighborhoodbridge.org/volunteer or contact Jeanne Gallo at jeanne.gallo@theneighborhoodbridge.org

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 NEEDS YOU!



Housing Forward provides year round emergency overnight shelter for those experiencing

homelessness in two locations in our community. The parishes of Oak Park support this effort in several ways.

In October, Housing Forward will be expanding its shelter options with the opening of a new 40-bed shelter at 112 S. Humphrey in Oak Park. They are once again asking the women of Saint Catherine of Siena-Saint Lucy and Saint Giles to help by providing a continental breakfast for Housing Forward clients on the first Monday of each month, starting in October. This is a great service opportunity for teens and families, and can be shared between households.

Sign up for the monthly dates online by using the SignUpGenius Form below!

Housing Forward Breakfast Sign-Up ([https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0944AAAE2EA2FA7-58142351-stgiles#/\)](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0944AAAE2EA2FA7-58142351-stgiles#/)

To learn more about the shelter program, and volunteer opportunities, contact Theresa Lipo at 708- 692-4404 or tglico@sbcglobal.net.



REGISTRATION IS OPEN
FOR THE 2026
SAINT CATHERINE OF SIENA
-SAINT LUCY AND SAINT
GILES ASP MISSION TRIP!



Trip Dates: July 18 to July 25, 2026

**Kickoff Meeting: November 2, 2025 6:30 PM at
McDonough Hall**

Saint Giles' ASP Service Project has been around for over 20 years. ASP is more than a trip to Appalachia to repair buildings—it is a service project built on relationships with the following benefits:

- Meaningful interactions with the families we serve
- Teamwork among our crews
- Getting to know and work with ASP Staffers
- Meeting others and learning about the culture in the county we serve

This trip would not be possible without the generosity of our **Adult Leaders'** time and talent, who co-partner to lead work crews. If your teen is planning to attend, this is a wonderful opportunity to have a truly memorable **shared service experience** with them as an adult participant. (Please note that parents and their teen will reside at the same county center but will be assigned to separate work crews.) Adult volunteers don't have to have a child on the trip to participate! Adults need to be 21 and older – if you participated as a teen, **please consider coming back as an adult volunteer!**

**TEENS, DON'T DELAY!
LAST YEAR WE HAD A WAITING LIST
AS EARLY AS THE NIGHT OF THE KICKOFF MEETING!**

Go to the ASP page on the parish website: <https://www.catholiccommunitiesofoakpark.org/scsl-sg-asp/>

or go to the home page and click on **Serve & Support** and **ASP – Appalachia Service Project**. Registration links can be found at the bottom of the page. Please read the page before registering. Any questions can be sent to asp@stgilesparish.org.



PEACE, POWER, AND PASSION AFTER YOUR DIVORCE

Surviving Divorce was created to bring hope and healing to those who have experienced the pain and loneliness of a broken marriage. It is for the newly separated and divorced and those still struggling with issues many years later. It will help them find answers to their questions, restore hope, and begin authentic healing. It includes personal testimonies of Catholic men and women who have experienced the breakdown of their families. As they witness to their pain and the healing power of Christ in their lives, participants will laugh, cry, and identify with their journeys from heartache to healing.

Surviving Divorce will help you:

- Work through the emotional upheaval of separation and divorce.
- Find personal healing and hope.
- Discover a deeper understanding of God's love for you.
- Gain wisdom and comfort from experts and others who share your experiences.
- Navigate new concerns like custody, court hearings and finances.

Meeting Twice Monthly on

Thursdays at 7:30 PM

Starting November 13

Saint Giles Campus

Dore Parish Center Living Room

1025 Columbian Avenue, Oak Park

**Join us on this powerful journey to
hope and healing!**

Registration is not required,
but appreciated.

For more information, please contact:
Chris Malagoli, cvmalagoli@yahoo.com
708-912-4378

Tobin Counts, atlantacounts@att.net
678-571-5220



OCTOBER IS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

LIVE PEACE...

If someone confides that they've been abused, turning to you for assistance:

- DO believe them. The description of violence is most likely understated.
- DO remove fault. Abuse is the responsibility of the abuser.
- DO affirm their worth and dignity. No one deserves to be hurt. No one should live in fear.
- DO encourage a safety plan. Do not minimize danger.
- DO give referral information and suggest resources available. Provide options. Empower.
- DO respect their choices and decisions. The individual must decide what is best for her/him.
- DO offer to maintain contact. Victims of abuse are often isolated.
- DO NOT suggest couples counseling. (Not appropriate for DV; Can further endanger the abused.)
- DO NOT do nothing. You have been trusted.

What you can say:

- I believe you. Everyone deserves to be safe.
- I will encourage you and support you, but you are the one who knows best when and how to act.
- If you just need someone to listen to you, I will do that.
- Everything you tell me will be treated confidentially.
- If you need practical help, I will help you find it.
- If you need time to think about choices or what you need, I will give you all the time you need. I will not become impatient, no matter how much time you need.
- I will not lose hope for you. You deserve a life without fear. Our God is a God of life and hope. God doesn't hate you or want you to live this way.



"We strive to live the example of Jesus."

If you are a victim or survivor of domestic abuse seeking help:

National Hotline: 1-800-799 SAFE (7233); 1-800-7873224 (TDD)
State of Illinois Helpline: 1-877-863-6338 (1-877 - TO END DV)

LOCAL:

Sarah's Inn 24 Hour Crisis Line: 708-386-4225
Between Friends 24-Hour Crisis Hotline: 1-800-603-HELP (4357)
Connections for Abused Women and their Children (CAWC) 24-Hour Hotline: 773-278-4566
W.I.N.G.S. 24-Hour Hotline: 1-847-221-7725
Crisis Center For South Suburbia 24/7 Hotline: 708-429-7723
Catholic Charities Counseling 1-312-655-7725

Learn about the mission and resources of the Domestic Violence Outreach program by logging onto www.domesticviolenceoutreach.org

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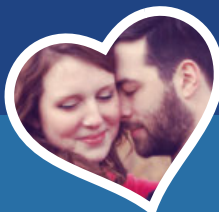
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