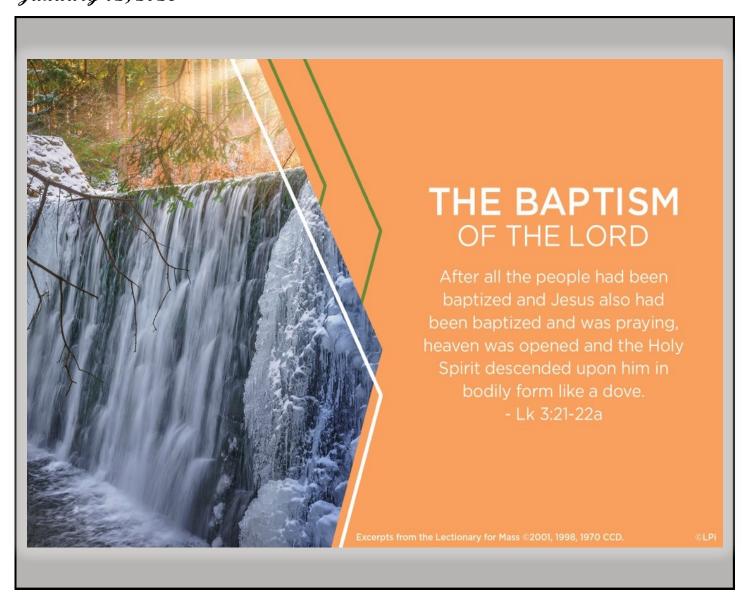
St. Alexander Church Baptism of the Lord January 12, 2025 The Palos Catholic



St. Alexander Parish Administration Directory

Parish Administrative Center

7025 W. 126th St., Palos Heights, IL 60463

Phone: 708-448-4861 Fax: 708-448-0039

Pastor: Rev. M	artin Michniewicz ext 227
Associate Pastor: Re	
Deacons: Jim Horton, Michael	Ciciura, Fran Pendergast
Director Parish Home & Health Mir	nistry: Jim Horton ext. 232
Operations Manager:	Paula Somers ext. 233
Director of Music:	Matthew Berardi ext. 224
Youth Minister:T	yler Ried—708- 448-6624
Athletic Director	Michael Kennedy
Parish E-Mail:	alchurch1@comcast.net
St. Alexander on the Web:	www.stalexanderpalos.org

St. Alexander School

7025 W. 126th St., Palos Heights, IL 60463 Phone: 708-448-0408 Fax: 708-448-5947

Principal: Sharon O'Toole
Administrative Assistant: Mary Ann Pellicore
School Web: www.stalexanderschool.com
School E-Mail: info@stalexanderschool.com

Religious Education Office

7025 W. 126th St. Palos Heights, IL 60463

Phone: 708-448-6624

Coordinator of Religious Education: Tyler Ried Religious Ed. E-Mail: tried@archchicago.org
Knights of Columbus: 708-448-4861 ext. 400
Knight of Columbus on the Web: www.kofc14057.org

Spreading the Holy Fire

Celebrating Christ Risen from the Dead through the 7 Sacraments

SACRAMENTS OF INITIATION

BAPTISM

Celebration of Entrance into Christ's Church

You should be a registered parishioner of St. Alexander, or willing to register and join our Faith Community. Relatives of St. Alexander parishioners are also welcome.

At least one Godparent must be a practicing Catholic. The other must be a Christian. Parents must register for a class on Baptism **BEFORE** your baby is baptized. Archdiocesan required classes are held once a month, usually on the first Tuesday of the month, and facilitated by trained parishioners.

Baptism contact Joan DeVito 448-4861 ext. 237

CONFIRMATION

Celebration of the Gifts of the Holy Spirit

This Sacrament is normally celebrated in 8th Grade and is a 2 year program of preparation.

Confirmation Contacts:

Tyler Ried - Religious Education 448-6624 Sharon O'Toole - School 448-0408

The Archdiocese also offers classes for adults wishing to receive Confirmation. Adult Confirmation Contact -

Fr. Martin Michniewicz 448-4861

OCIA Celebration of the Order of Christian Initiation of Adults

This process is for adults who would like to join the Roman Catholic Church and have never been Baptized, or were Baptized in another Christian denomination. There is also a process for children (OCIC) and teens (OCIT).

OCIA/OCIC/OCIT contact - Fr. Martin Michniewicz 448-4861

EUCHARIST

Celebration of Sharing Fully at Christ's Altar of Sacrifice & Communion with Jesus and His Church

Eucharistic Liturgy (Mass)

Sunday Vigil: 5:00 PM (Saturday) Sunday: 7:30, 9:30, 11:30 AM, & 6:00 PM Monday through Friday: 8:30 AM Saturday Morning: 8:00 AM First Saturday Devotions after 8:00 AM Mass

Holy Day: 8:30 AM & 7:00 PM

Holy Hour with Exposition and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament

On the 1st Wednesday of the month 6:00-7:00PM in the Church

SACRAMENTS OF HEALING

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Celebration of God's Restorative Love & Forgiveness

Sacrament offers strength to the living. If someone becomes seriously ill, please call the Parish Administrative Center. Ministers of Care are available to bring Holy Communion and/or visit with the sick and homebound.

Also every 1st Saturday after the 5:00 PM Mass

RECONCILIATION

Celebration of God's Forgiveness through Personal Confession

Saturday Morning: 8:30 AM (until all are heard) Saturday Evening: after the 5:00 PM Mass Other Times by Appointment

SACRAMENTS OF COMMITMENT

MATRIMONY

Celebration of God's Blessings on the Loving Union between Man and Woman

Please call the Parish Administration Center at least 4 months in advance of your wedding. Pre-Cana for engaged couples is required by the Archdiocese.

Matrimony Contact:

Fr. Martin Michniewicz or Fr Colm Mitchell 708-448-4861

HOLY ORDERS

Celebration of Ordained Service to the Church

The three offices of the Sacrament of Holy Orders are bishop, priest and deacon. All three are conferred by the sacramental act called "ordination."

Priesthood Contact - Fr. Michniewicz 448-4861 ext. 227 Fr. Colm Mitchell 448-4861 ext. 223

Archdiocese of Chicago Vocation Director: Rev. Timothy Monahan 312-534-8298



FROM OUR PASTOR

Dear Parishioners,

As we celebrate the feast of the Baptism of Jesus, we are invited to reflect upon the significance of our own Baptisms. Do I really believe that I have died to one form of life so that I might live in Christ? What does it mean for me to be a child of God? Do I renew my Baptismal promises every time I sign myself with the Sign of the Cross with holy water whenever I enter or leave St. Alexander church? Do I fulfill my responsibilities to the children of whom I am a godparent?

As the winter months progress, I remind everyone to be careful as they walk on our parish grounds. Many times there are patches of black ice that you cannot see and then you may unfortunately fall. We, at St. Alexander, try to do our best to remove snow and ice from our sidewalks and parking lots but sometimes it is difficult due to weather conditions. Once again, take caution and walk slowly in icy weather.

Please remember that January is the month where we pray for the lives of the unborn. As we live our lives we remember that many children are lost through abortion. Many mothers have lost their lives during abortions and others continue to suffer emotional and physical scars.

Project Rachel reaches out to those mothers who have suffered so much. Project Rachel is a sensitive, private, free and confidential post-abortion reconciliation program sponsored by the Respect Life Office of the Archdiocese of Chicago. When a person has been involved in an abortion which calls for healing, they are referred for counseling to one of the seventy-five specially trained priests or counselors in the Chicago Archdiocese. The meeting with the priest or counselor will generally include counseling, prayer, and scripture. Project Rachel provides post-abortion healing for mothers, fathers, grandparents and siblings of aborted children, as well as abortion providers and those in the abortion industry.

Through this program the Catholic Church reaches out to those broken by the sin of abortion with the power of Jesus' death and resurrection. It is Jesus who heals and forgives through the sacraments, especially the Sacrament of Reconciliation. If you, a family member, or friend needs assistance or would like more information about Project Rachel, please call 312-337-1962. In the meantime, let us all say a prayer for an end to all abortions and a prayer for all who have either died or been hurt through this process.

Parishioners will soon be receiving raffle tickets for this year's Annual Parish Raffle, which supports our school and religious education program. The raffle drawing will take place on March 1st.

God Bless, Father Marty

GET OUR WEEKLY BULLETIN EMAILED TO YOU!

Subscribe to ParishesOnline.com
to get a link to our weekly parish bulletin
delivered straight to your inbox!
Visit parishesonline.com and search
for our parish to get started today.
It's fast, easy and free!

LEGACY PLANNING

Please prayerfully consider remembering our parish when you update your estate plans. These gifts help us to build a solid foundation for the Catholic formation of future generations.

Prepare or update your will or trust today by contacting an attorney. For sample bequest language, contact Fr. Marty at 708-448-4861.

WORD OF LIFE

"When we encounter Christ, experience his love, and deepen our relationship with him, we become more aware of our own worth and that of others. His love for each person is cause for great joy, and growing understanding of this priceless treasure motivates us to share his love with others. Our lives are often changed by the witness of others; so too, others' lives may be changed by our witness and authentic friendship with them."

—USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities "A Prayer for Pregnant Mothers"



We ask you to remember and pray for the souls of the faithful departed. May they forever rest in the Lord's peace. We especially pray for:

Maureen McDonald, sister of Meg Karolczak
Matthew O'Brien, father of Jim

Contact the parish office at 708-448-4861 if you would like a Mass intention for 2025.



READINGS FOR THE WEEK January 13-19, 2025

Monday: Heb 1:1-6/Ps 97:1 and 2b, 6 and 7c, 9/

Mk 1:14-20

Tuesday: Heb 2:5-12/Ps 8:2ab and 5, 6-7, 8-9/

Mk 1:21-28

Wednesday: Heb 2:14-18/Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8-9/

Mk 1:29-39

Thursday: Heb 3:7-14/Ps 95:6-7c, 8-9, 10-11/

Mk 1:40-45

Friday: Heb 4:1-5, 11/Ps 78:3 and 4bc, 6c-7, 8/

Mk 2:1-12

Saturday: Heb 4:12-16/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 15/

Mk 2:13-17

Sunday: Is 62:1-5/Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 7-8, 9-10 (3)/

1 Cor 12:4-11/Jn 2:1-1



Prayers of the Faithful for the Sick

As the faith family of St. Alexander, we unite with one another to pray for those who need healing of their body, mind or spirit. Confident that God hears the voices of those who trust in the Lord Jesus, we join in prayer for:

Dale Yukich
Fr. John Noga
Jennifer Aparo
Elaine Krisik
Mike Sweenev

Lisa Krisik
Carole Holding
Loretta Gwin
Mike Belczak

If you or anyone in your family would like to be added to our *Prayers of the Faithful for the Sick* please contact the Parish Administrative Office by noon on Friday.

SCRIPTURE REFLECTION



In my second year of theology studies, I went to confession to a priest visiting the seminary for a three-day retreat. My heart wasn't in it. I was going through the motions. I confessed my sins and waited for his response. The priest said, "For your penance, I'd like you to go into the chapel and repeat the words 'You are my beloved Son, with you I am well pleased' (Luke 3:22) until they mean something to you." Easy penance, I thought.

But to my surprise, I struggled to say those words. I sensed a strong interior resistance blocking them. How could God be well-pleased with me? He couldn't be, I thought. A battle within me ensued. Two hours later, the resistance vanished, and I found myself able to speak, and claim as my own, those marvelous words. I emerged from the chapel with a new, deep, peaceful conviction that I was indeed God's beloved son.

Those words are a precious gift from heaven to all of us. Jesus' baptism, which we celebrate this week, offers them to us. Are we willing to receive these words anew? Many things can block this deepening of our baptismal identity: failings, sins, disappointments, traumas, problems, and so on. Yet God's love is always greater. This week I challenge you to prayerfully repeat these words over yourself — or perhaps over someone you're struggling to love — until those words find a home in your heart.

— Father John Muir

Today's Readings: Is 40:1-5, 9-11/Ps 104:1b-2, 3-4, 24-25, 27-28, 29-30 (1)/Ti 2:11-14; 3:4-7/ Lk 3:15-16, 21-22



& Knights of Columbus FOOD COLLECTION

Please donate to our ongoing food collection for St. Blase. Donations should be placed on the bench across from the SAVE room. Thank you for your generosity!

NO EXPIRED FOOD PLEASE!

MERCY HOME SUNDAY MASS 9:30am on WGN-TV Channel 9



ST. ALEXANDER PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

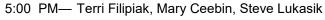
Do you know someone who needs to be remembered? Do you have a relative, friend or neighbor who

needs to know someone is praying for them?

We have a gift for you. St. Alexander's Prayer Shawl Ministry has handmade shawls and blankets that have been blessed, and are available to anyone who needs them. You just need to pick them up. They are available to all parishioners at the Parish Administrative Center during normal business hours

COMMUNION MINISTERS

Saturday, January 18th



Sunday, January 19th

7:30 AM— Bob Straz, Susan Chillmon, Nancy Foster

9:30 AM— Wendy Loftus, John Kelbowski,

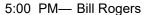
Mary Beth Flynn, Nancy Dougherty (LG)

11:30 AM— Jim & Pat Fisher, Patricia Klaus

6:00 PM— Merrill Jurgens

READERS

Saturday, January 18th



Sunday, January 19th

7:30 AM— Mark Foster

9:30 AM— Rich Cruz

11:30 AM— Briana Knight

6:00 PM— James Clark, Johanna Jurgens

St. Al's Over 50 Fellowship

Just a reminder there is no Over 50
Fellowship meeting in January.
Our next meeting is February 20th.
Since we did not play Bingo in November, we will play in February with a light lunch.

Dues of \$25 will also be collected. You do not have to be a Parishioner to belong, all are welcome.

Hope your Christmas was Merry and you have a Happy and Holy New Year.

WELCOME TO ST. ALEXANDER!

We extend a warm welcome to all our guests and visitors who have graced us with their presence at today's liturgy. We hope that you feel at home here; please let us know if we can be of any assistance while you are with us.

A Prayer for "Renew My Church"

Lord Jesus, you speak to us today, as you spoke to holy men and women who have gone before us. In every age and in our own time, you call to us and say: Renew My Church.

Pour out the gift of your Holy Spirit upon us, and so enable us

to hear you clearly

to listen to each other attentively

to imagine our future boldly

to discern your direction wisely

to persevere in your holy will courageously

to stay together in charity

to surrender our own plans readily

to embrace the greater good

to hand on your gifts to future generations

May we remain in the holy company of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the apostles, and all the saints. May their example and presence inspire us with patient confidence in the work of your grace.

We ask this of you who live and reign with the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen



🗊 ST. ALEXANDER SCHOOL HAPPENINGS 🌐









ST. ALEXANDER SCHOOL HAPPENINGS



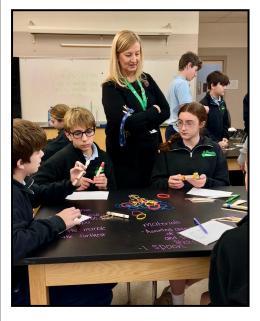
St. Alexander School ranked #1 out of 50 schools in Suburban Cook County in the area of Catholic Identity. The Superintendent of Catholic Schools for the Archdiocese of Chicago, Greg Richmond, visited our school and presented the award at the all school mass in December.















ST. ALEXANDER CATHOLIC SCHOOL

7025 West 126th Street, Palos Heights, Illinois 60463
P 708-448-0408 • F 708-448-5947
StAlexanderSchool.com
@StAlexanderSchool

Dear St. Alexander Parishioners and Donors,

As a loyal supporter of our parish and school, you understand the importance and benefit of a Catholic education in the lives of our children.

We need your help in continuing to meet the challenge of assisting our students at St. Alexander School who are receiving scholarships. The Catholic Schools Scholarship Program, a fund that will provide need-based financial assistance to families who are committed to a Catholic school education, has been established to provide donors a way to make a monetary gift and still receive a 100% tax deduction (as allowable by law).

Gifts can be made online at: www.archchicago.org/scholarships

It is important to note that **your gift should be directed to St. Alexander School**. All monies directed to St. Alexander School is guaranteed by the Archdiocese of Chicago to support only St. Alexander students.

We hope everyone who knows and loves our school will consider joining us in this effort around scholarships. Please help make a Catholic school education a reality for a deserving student.

You have faith in St. Alexander School and we have faith in your support. Together we will ensure that our Catholic school is available and accessible for years to come.

With gratitude,

Rev. Martin E. Michniewicz, Pastor

Mrs. Sharon O'Toole, Principal





24/7 HOTLINE: 708-429-SAFE WE SUPPORT VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE



9 DAYS FOR LIFE JANUARY 16-24

Pray to protect human life!

Join Catholics nationwide in prayer for the protection of human life! You can download the novena or get the daily prayers and reflections by email or text message.

9DAYSFORLIFE.COM



SUNDAY 10:15-11:30AM SAVE orders may also be brought to

SAVE orders may also be brought to the Parish Administrative Center.

Orders dropped off by 5:00PM on Wednesday are available for pick-up Thursday after Noon at the PAC. They may also be picked up during sale hours in the SAVE room on Sunday.



E-Giving Made Easy

If you would like to make a one-time electronic donation, please scan this bar code.

Scroll down to "One –Time Gifts" and enter the amount and type of payment. It's that simple!



FAITH DIRECT®

inspiring secure giving ®

Many of you may take advantage of the convenience of electronic giving to our parish and we are grateful for that. For those of you who have yet to join us in giving online, we strongly encourage you to do so. Here's why:

Faith Direct enables parishioners to make your Church contributions through either direct debit from your checking/savings account or through your credit/debit card. No more writing checks or searching for envelopes on the way out the door. Now you can apply the convenience of direct debit to your parish offerings in much the same way as you may now use it to make your mortgage, car or tuition payments.

Faith Direct also offers you personalized offertory cards to replace your envelopes for the collection basket. To cancel your monthly envelopes, please notify the parish office at 708-448-4861. This is not done automatically when signing up for electronic giving.

Please visit <u>www.faithdirect.net</u> to enroll securely online. Or, download the Faith Direct app onto your smartphone. Our parish code is **IL910**.



PRAY FOR OUR

St. Alexander Parish lists the names of

active military of parishioners and their family members in our weekly bulletin. We keep them in our thoughts and prayers as they protect our country and freedom.

If you have a relative who is an active member in the United States Military and would like them listed in the bulletin, contact Nancy at the Parish Office, 448-4861. Please inform us if the service person listed is no longer active in the military at home or abroad.

Our Knights of Columbus Council #14057 would like to offer military families Blue Star Banners. If you would like to receive a Blue Star Banner, please call the Parish Office at 708-448-4861.

Our Members in the Military

Scott Golich - U.S. Navy Stephen LaPiana - U.S. Army Matthew Brennan - U.S. Air Force Andrew Nissen - U.S. Marines Shannon Lungaro - U.S. Navy Alan Filipiak - U.S. Navy A. Amanda Cleland - U.S. Air Force Joshua Bramlett U.S. Navy Amanda Brennan - U.S. Army Kyle Hite - U.S. Army Gino Albergo - U.S. Army James M. Bilder - U.S. Army Nicholas Wineman - U.S. Marines Kate Risden - U.S. Navy Kevin Lewis - U.S. Navv Michael Lindstrom - U.S. Army Ryan Graeber - U.S. Marines Mary Kate Wetzel - U.S. Marines Chloe Van Witzenburg - U.S. Army Hanna Van Witzenburg - U.S. Army Isaac & Veronika Baines - U.S. Navy Michael D. Faloona - National Guard Jake Soukup - U.S. Army Conor Knapp - U.S. Army

Robert Brennan - U.S. Army Scott Milcarek - U.S. Army Charles Berglund - U.S. Marines Patrick Pratl - U.S. Navy Andrew Cleland - U.S. Army John Hoban III - U.S. Army Mark Filipiak - U.S. Marines Steven Lungaro - U.S. Navy Matthew Bramlett - U.S. Navy David Lindstrom - National Guard Daniel Weakley - U.S. Navy Stephen Vossler - U.S. Navy Vito Barraco - U.S. Army Ryan Grant - U.S. Army Nicholas Crot - U.S. Marines Jose Sanchez - U.S. Army Ben St. Aubin - U. S. Navy Hunter Leschman - U.S. Navy Cody Goldman - National Guard Cameron Smentek - U.S. Army Judith Hite - U.S. Army

St. Alexander's Athletic Board/Booster Club Presents



Championship Game Raffle Pools

Sunday, January 26, 2025

Super Square \$125

Pays Out Every Score Change AND 1st Quarter, Halftime, 3rd Quarter and Final Score (\$125 Square Purchase Includes Entry, Food and Drink) \$60 general event tickets also available in advance or at the door.

Squares can be purchased from:

Jim Hughes 773-680-3832 | Joe LiVigni 708-296-2175 Tom Hardiman 312-617-9214



CHWC 2025! KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE JUNE 21ST-28TH

I CAN TAKE UP TO 16 TEENS!!! INCOMING FRESHMEN-OUTGOING SENIORS

Thank you for all your support in the past, if anyone would like to continue to support our mission trip, any donations would be greatly appreciated! For more information
Contact
Tyler Ried
(309)826-2049 (Cell)
Tried@archchicago.org



Please support **Our Advertisers**

Home Bound or III?

If you, or someone you know, are unable to attend Mass and would like to receive communion in their home, please call either Deacon Jim Horton or Deacon Fran Pendergast at 708-448-4861.



MASS ANNOUNCEMENTS

If any parish ministry or organization would like to have an announcement made at Mass we ask that you please have the information to the office by noon on Friday. This allows us to compile the books we need for weekend liturgies by the end of Friday. Also, please limit announcements to one or two sentences.

SW Suburban Young Adults Welcome!

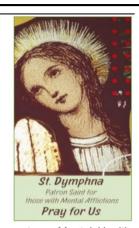
For info. scan the QR Code or visit linktr.ee/yafrassatifellowship Email: yafrassatifellowship@gmail.com

YOUNG ADULT FRASSATI FELLOWSHIP

Join Local Catholic Young Adults in Fellowship Scan the QR code for meeting times and more info



St. Michael
Mental Health
Awareness Ministry
JANUARY
PRAYER
GATHERING
Wednesday,
Jan. 22
7:00pm in the Chapel



All are welcome to come and pray at our Mental Health Awareness Ministry's monthly gathering on **Wednesday**, **Jan. 22 at 7:00 p.m.** We will meet in the Chapel to pray and offer petitions for those in need. Following prayer, those present can choose to participate in respectful and confidential sharing with one another.

For more information, visit https://saintmike.com/mental-health-ministry/.

Prayer for Those Affected by Domestic Violence

www.beliefnet.com

"God of peace, there are many places and many people who do not experience your peace.

Right now there are women and children who live under the dark weight of the fear of violence right in their own homes.

We pray for their protection, and for wisdom for friends and officials to help bring that protection to them.

We pray for the many men who themselves feel powerless and confused about their relationships.

We ask that you help them find healthy ways to work out their frustrations and to find hope without resorting to destructive impulses.

God, work in our country to stem this epidemic.

In Jesus' name. Amen."



Mass Intentions For The Week

BAPTISM OF THE LORD JANUARY 12, 2025

Saturday, January 11th

5:00 PM— Richard Campin—1st Anniversary

Joseph Rathnau Madeline Marie Boyle Joseph Burnett James Orr

Sunday, January 12th

7:30 AM— Poor Souls in Purgatory

Noel Lynch Aggie Palmer

Meghan Cawood & Phillip Harter—Blessing

Joe Macey

Dorothy Kavanaugh Thomas Chwierut Robert Barth

John & Mary McAleer Josephine Data Robert McQuiston Chet Chwierut William & Mary Barth

Mary LeFebre Catherine Hoban Colleen J. Nix

Jean Burke

9:30 AM— Raymond & Marion Hunt

Nell Hanley Dan Stanton Kevin Reynolds Jim Foskett Michael Kanalas Barbara J. Wolfe

Special Intention

11:30 AM— Michael Walsh

Steve Horvath—20th Anniversary

6:00 PM— Special Intention Monday, January 13th (St. Hilary)

8:30 AM— Jolene Lones—1st Anniversary

Colleen J. Nix Francis J. Nugent

Tuesday, January 14th

8:30 AM— Joseph Rathnau Colleen J. Nix

Laney Edwards—Healing Intention

Wednesday, January 15th

8:30 AM— Chet Chwierut Colleen J. Nix

Irene Pajda

Thursday, January 16th

8:30 AM— Dorothy Janik

Josephine & Anthony Rathnau

Colleen J. Nix Father John Crosby

Friday, January 17th (St. Anthony)

8:30 AM— Joseph Rathnau

Colleen J. Nix Steve Weber

Saturday, January 18th

8:00 AM— Chet Chwierut Thomas Chwierut Colleen J. Nix

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME **JANUARY 19, 2025**

Saturday, January 18th

5:00 PM— Collette Lattyak Mark Larson

Michael Joseph Kelly Sr. Ken & Eleanor Reilly Joseph Burnett James Orr

Dorothy & Raymond Majdecki

Sunday, January 19th

7:30 AM— Aggie Palmer Thomas Chwierut

> Mary K. Laski James J. Laski Sr. Chet Chwierut Johanna Hoban Colleen J. Nix Robert Barth

Rose Diorio—Healing Intention

9:30 AM— Joseph Wloszek

Raymond & Marion Hunt Julian P. Jastrzebowski Jr.

Kevin Reynolds

Mary Foskett—Special Intention

Patrick Stanton Jim Sullivan Mary Beatty

Anna & Jack Markward Patrick Michael Loftus Dan & Joan Bagniewski

AM— Bronislawa & Stanislaw Kopec 11:30 Anelia & Ludwik Karwaczka

PM— Healing Intention 6:00

