

St. Alexander Church

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time
January 25, 2026

The Palos Catholic



3rd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“Come after me,
and I will make you
fishers of men.”
- Mt 4:19

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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St. Alexander Parish Administration Directory

Parish Administrative Center

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

Phone: 708-448-4861

Pastor: Rev. Martin Michniewicz ext. 227
Associate Pastor: Rev. Colm Mitchell ext. 223
Deacons: Jim Horton, Michael Ciciura, Fran Pendergast
Director Parish Home & Health Ministry: Jim Horton ext. 232
Operations Manager: Paula Somers ext. 233
Director of Music: Matthew Berardi ext. 224
Youth Minister: Tyler 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

EUCARIST

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,

Just a reminder that I ask you to please purchase and return your tickets for this year's annual raffle at the parish office, in the offering baskets, or through the mail. Proceeds from this raffle will be of great assistance to our parish, school, R.E. program and other parish ministries. Tickets will be drawn on Saturday, March 7th at or St. Patrick's/Irish Party and the winners will be posted in the bulletin and on our website.

On Monday, January 26th we begin our celebration of Catholic Schools Week. We, at St. Alexander Parish are blessed in many ways and one of our greatest gifts is St. Alexander School. Many of your children began their education at our parish school. The children in our school receive a high quality education, learn and socialize in great facilities and are blessed with the help and support of many people. I thank the priests, deacons, principals, teachers, aides, volunteers, the administration, parish staff and all those who have dedicated themselves to help St. Alexander School provide a fine Catholic education. I thank all those who have supported us financially and spiritually. Thank you St. Alexander parishioners, for over 60 years of your faith and support that have kept St. Alexander School alive and thriving.

I thank all those parents who make the financial investment enabling their children to experience a strong Catholic upbringing by having them attend our school. St. Alexander School is a strong beacon of light in the Southwest suburbs because of your dedication, generosity, service and prayers. May God continue to bless and share His graces upon our children, parents, staff, parish and school.

Remember if you would like a statement of your donations to St. Alexander for tax purposes please call our parish office and ask for Mrs. Paula Somers. We will be more than pleased to send you your statement in the mail.

Finally, once again please be careful during this season of snow, sleet, and whatever other weather comes down upon us. Whether you are on parish grounds, out shopping, or on your own driveway be aware of icy patches that are not visible. That newspaper at the end of the driveway can always be read the next day, it's not worth the risk of falling and hurting oneself.

God Bless,
Father Marty

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

Assisted Listening Systems for Church Sound

Our church is equipped with a hearing "loop" system which will allow those with a tele-coil (T-coil) in their hearing aid to hear more clearly. Some hearing aids will automatically switch to our "loop" system. Other hearing aids must be *manually* switched to the T-coil mode.

If you do not think your hearing aid is functioning properly with our "loop" system it may be because: A) Your hearing aid does not have a built-in T-coil OR B) You have to *manually* switch your hearing aid to the T-coil mode.

T-Coil Switches: If your hearing aid has a switch labeled **M-T-O** the switch should be set to the **T** position. If your hearing aid has switch labeled **M-MT** the switch should be set to the **MT** position.

Please consult your Audiologist with any questions, and to be sure that your hearing aid is equipped with a T-coil and is working properly.

If you do not have a hearing aid with tele-coil (T-coil), we have purchased four individual hearing devices, specifically programmed for our system, that can be used during our liturgies on Sunday. They will be placed in a box on the bench outside the school office. We do ask that you please clean the hearing device after Mass, with the alcohol wipes that are on the bench, before returning them to the box. Thank you and we hope this will help to enhance your liturgical experience.



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:

| | |
|-----------------|-------------------------|
| Lisa Krisik | Elizabeth Hannan Hurley |
| Molly Flynn | Jerry Lynn McCall |
| Joseph Viliunas | Susan Gildea |
| Joseph Maloney | |

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



I was 22 years old, lying in bed one night while on a pilgrimage, when I suddenly sensed an idea in my mind: "Go to the seminary." There was no voice, no vision, but a gentle and unmistakable clarity. I simply prayed, "Lord, if that's from you, let me find great joy in it." Three days later, my heart was bursting with joy. I dropped everything and entered the seminary. The older I get, the stranger my rather careless and hasty departure seems to me. I followed not because it made sense, or because I was especially brave. I went because the Lord called me.

Something like this happens in today's Gospel. Jesus walks by Simon, Andrew, James, and John and says, "Come after me" (Matthew 4:19). And immediately they leave their nets and follow. There's no explanation, no hesitation ... just movement. Why? As St. John says, "In this is love: not that we have loved God, but that he loved us" (1 John 4:10). They do not leave their nets because his call made perfect, calculable sense. They left them because they were called. And Jesus' call is powerful.

Take a moment this week to remember when Christ first called you. However small or quiet it was, recall it, and give thanks. The more we marvel that Christ has called us personally, the more passionately and freely we will follow him.

— Father John Muir

Today's Readings: Is 8:23-9:3/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14/
1 Cor 1:10-13, 17/Mt 4:12-23 or 4:12-17



READINGS FOR THE WEEK

January 26-February 1, 2026

- | | |
|------------|--|
| Monday: | 2 Tm 1:1-8 or Ti 1:1-5 (520)/ Ps 89:20, 21-22, 25-26/Mk 3:22-30 |
| Tuesday: | 2 Sm 6:12b-15, 17-19/Ps 24:7, 8, 9, 10/ Mk 3:31-35 |
| Wednesday: | 2 Sm 7:4-17/Ps 89:4-5, 27-28, 29-30/ Mk 4:1-20 |
| Thursday: | 2 Sm 7:18-19, 24-29/Ps 132:1-2, 3-5, 11, 12, 13-14/Mk 4:21-25 |
| Friday: | 2 Sm 11:1-4a, 5-10a, 13-17/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6a, 6bcd-7, 10-11/Mk 4:26-34 |
| Saturday: | 2 Sm 12:1-7a, 10-17/Ps 51:12-13, 14-15, 16-17/Mk 4:35-41 |
| Sunday: | Zep 2:3; 3:12-13/Ps 146:6c-7, 8-9a, 9b-10/1 Cor 1:26-31/Mt 5:1-12a |



**Society of St. Vincent de Paul
& 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!

**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!

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.

COMMUNION MINISTERS

Saturday, January 31st

5:00 PM— Joan DeVito, Mary Ceebin,
Sharon Mundo

Sunday, February 1st

7:30 AM— Susan Murphy, Bob Straz, Karen McNeal
9:30 AM— Caroline Kelbowski, Melissa Duckett,
John Kelbowski, MB Flynn (LG)
11:30 AM— Catholic School Mass
6:00 PM— Sharon Ayres, Merrill Jurgens,
Mike Collins



READERS

Saturday, January 31st

5:00 PM— Bill Rogers

Sunday, February 1st

7:30 AM— Mary Dombrowski
9:30 AM— Debbie Myron, Linda Buchanan
11:30 AM— Catholic School Mass
6:00 PM— Bob Ayres, James Clark



Home Bound or Ill?

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.



OFFERTORY GIFTS



Anyone interested in bringing up the Offertory Gifts at a Mass, please let the ushers know a week in advance or you can ask when you arrive if they have someone.

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.



Intercessory Prayer Experience

Call on the Holy Spirit and expect Him to show up! The Father has promised Him to us.

“Jesus said: And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised, so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.” Luke 24:49

Come join us after Mass at 5:45PM on the first Saturday of each month.

Deacon Mike will offer time to pray with anyone for the intercession of the Holy Spirit regarding individual prayer intentions.

After Mass the Sacrament of Confession and the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick will also be available.

GENERATION TO GENERATION: ANSWER THE CALL CAMPAIGN AT ST. ALEXANDER!

Today we kick off the Generation to Generation: Answer the Call campaign. Our parish's participation in the campaign, along with all parishes in the Archdiocese of Chicago, will meet needs of our parish and support Catholic ministries in Cook and Lake counties.

Our goal at St. Alexander is to raise \$1,615,000 in pledges payable over five (5) years from our parish families. Fifty percent of the funds from these pledges will go toward the parish needs listed below. The remaining fifty percent will go towards spiritually renewing our church, supporting our priests, and assisting vulnerable communities.

When you receive your invitation to participate in this historic effort, please pray and discern a multi-year sacrificial pledge that is right for your family. Today, join us in praying for the success of the Generation to Generation campaign.



CAMPAIGN PRAYER

God of abundant and generous mercy, we gratefully acknowledge the many gifts you have given us across the years from the sacrifice of generations before us.

And so, we confidently trust that you will walk with us into the future.

We echo the words of the Blessed Virgin Mary: truly, your mercy is from generation to generation.

Help us now to respond generously to your gifts, as we support our Church in the Archdiocese of Chicago

and work to bring faith forward for the generations that follow us.

By your grace and help, let our gifts be a blessing for our children, our grandchildren, and those who follow them.

Through Christ our Lord.

PARISH GOAL: \$1,615,000

OUR PRIORITIES

Accessible & Welcoming Entrance

By replacing the canopy and expanding the entryway, we will provide shelter from the elements and ensure that all parishioners and visitors, regardless of mobility, can enter our church with dignity and ease.

Strengthening School Safety

Planned security upgrades will protect our children and provide peace of mind for families, ensuring that our school remains a safe place to learn, grow, and live out our faith.

GENERATION
TO GENERATION:
ANSWER THE CALL

Hospitality Ministry

Join us for **Hospitality** after the 7:30 AM and 9:30 AM Mass on the first Sunday of each month
We hope to see you there!

Don't try to shine so that others will see you. Shine so that through you, others will see Christ.

—Pope Francis



SUNDAY 10:15-11:30AM

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.

SCAN THE QR CODE FOR INFORMATION ABOUT

**-Religious Ed
-Youth Ministry
(JR High/ High School)
-Stay and Play**



WWW.TRIED-YM.COM

WORD OF LIFE

Many people are unaware that someone they know personally is silently suffering from participation in abortion. If a friend confided in you tomorrow that she had an abortion, would you be able to respond in a way that brings her closer to healing? Learn how in "How to Talk to a Friend Who's Had an Abortion": <http://bit.ly/friend-had-abortion>

—USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities

ParishSOFT

If you would like to make a one-time electronic donation or sign up for recurring gifts please scan this bar code.



ParishSOFT®

Connecting People and the Church



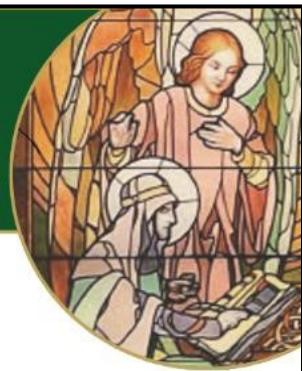
Faith Direct has joined forces with ParishSOFT Managed Giving. You will see some changes to your giving portfolio and can still sign on to your account as you did before. ParishSOFT Giving offers all the same reliable features you've come to know – recurring gifts, online giving, and donor support – plus new enhancements to better serve you:

- Modern giving options: including Apple Pay, Google Pay, Venmo, PayPal, stock, and crypto.
- Anonymous Giving.
- Mobile-friendly experience: give online, through the app, or by text.

Donors can give based on preferred schedule, with support for weekly contributions rather than once-a-month processing. ParishSOFT Managed Giving will make your giving experience more convenient and meaningful. All your existing information, recurring gifts, and donation history will transfer automatically – no action is needed unless otherwise notified.

BRIGID 2026

Welcome that Heals. Hope That Empowers.



Celebrate St. Brigid's Day with Us!

Most events are free, but donations are appreciated!

St. Brigid's Cross-Weaving Workshop

**Saturday, January 24, 9 am - 12 pm, Irish American Heritage Center,
4626 N Knox Ave, Chicago**

Learn to weave a traditional St. Brigid's cross to take home, and help weave others to raise money for Foundations Youth Ministry Worktours.

St. Brigid's Cross Sales at Foundations Pancake Breakfast

**Sunday, January 25, 7:30 am - 1 pm, Hughes Hall,
Old St. Patrick's Church**

After breakfast, choose a handmade St. Brigid's Cross to bless your home. Suggested donation: \$10 to support Foundations teens' Worktours.

Third Annual St. Brigid's Day Lecture

"Catholic Resources for Mitigating Trauma"

Tuesday, January 27, 7 pm - 8:15 pm via Zoom webinar

Join online to hear Dr. Heather DuBois discuss how we can foster trauma-informed communities and how such efforts relate to Catholic Social Teaching and spirituality.

Dr. Dubois is a professor of theology and peace studies at the Boston College Clough School of Theology and Ministry.

St. Brigid's Day at Old St. Patrick's Church

Sunday, February 1, Mass 11 am

Welcome to Sunday Mass with prayers and music celebrating St. Brigid.

Pause for Peace 12 pm local time

Pause for one minute during Mass or alone (wherever you are) as part of a rolling prayer for world peace inspired by St. Brigid.

**Festival of Service & Stories 12:15 pm - 3 pm,
Fellowship Hall, 625 W. Adams**

Join us for a community service project, with food, music, cross weaving, and crafts. Share stories of those who embody St. Brigid's legacy of healing hospitality.

"To Heal Our Wounds and Green the Earth Again"

**A Day of Reflection hosted by Still Point community with
speakers from Solas Bhríde Christian Spirituality Center, Ireland**

Saturday, March 7, 8:15 am - 4 pm, Brookfield Zoo

Grand Vista Room Inside the James & Elizabeth Bramsen

Tropical Forests Building

Explore how St. Brigid models Pope Francis's call for an ecological conversion of heart and mind (Laudato Si). Through reflection, prayer, animal encounters, and woodland walks, embrace the interconnectedness of all living beings and opportunities to care for our common home.

Support Needed!

Volunteer to extend a welcome to all or become a Brigid 2026 program sponsor by reaching out at www.oldstpats.org/friendsofstbrigid.html or email friendsofstbrigid@oldstpats.org.



Hosted by
the Friends
of St. Brigid

CATHOLIC HEART WORKCAMP



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!

All donations help keep the cost down for those who want to join!

CHWC 2026! WATERLOO, IOWA JULY 12TH-18TH

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

For more information

Contact
Tyler Ried
(309)826-2049 (Cell)
Tried@archchicago.org



Mass Intentions For The Week



THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME JANUARY 25, 2026

Saturday, January 24th

5:00 PM— Walter Chmielewski—1st Anniversary

Dale Yukich

Paul Pendergast

Paul Lunter

Chuck Siemiawski

Conal Gillespie—2nd Anniversary

Sunday, January 25th

7:30 AM— Irene Brajner

Colleen J. Nix

Nancy Lukasik

Chet & Tom Chwierut

9:30 AM— Ray Blevins

Raymond & Marion Hunt

Fr. George McKenna—7th Anniversary

Virginia Huguelet

James Lawrence Guerino

Don & Mary Tadda

Bill Poytinger

Sharon Eve Kelly

Joan & Dan Bagniewski

11:30 AM— Tom Scanlon

Tom Stuchly

6:00 PM— For the Parishioners

Michael J. Murphy

Monday, January 26th (Sts. Timothy and Titus)

8:30 AM— Bill Somers—8th Anniversary

Mr. & Mrs. Nicholas Weisgerber—6 Month
Wedding Anniversary

Fr. Thomas McKiernan—21st Anniversary

Colleen J. Nix

Tuesday, January 27th (St. Angela Merici)

8:30 AM— Robert Corbett

Colleen J. Nix

Peggy, Leonard, & Lillian Bodach

Chester J. Shure

Trish Hickey

Janie O'Brien

Mike—Healing Intention

Jennifer Aparo

Wednesday, January 28th (St. Thomas Aquinas)

8:30 AM— James Grzeczka

Sandra Ides

John "Jack" Coyne

Margaret Corbett

Colleen J. Nix

Diane & Ray Martinez & Family—Sp. Int.

Thursday, January 29th

8:30 AM— Colleen J. Nix

Mary Tadda—Special Intention

Florence Jastrzebowski

Mike—Healing Intention

Friday, January 30th

8:30 AM— William Gibbons

Colleen J. Nix

Saturday, January 31st (St. John Bosco)

8:00 AM— Colleen J. Nix

Chet & Tom Chwierut

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME FEBRUARY 1, 2026

Saturday, January 31st

5:00 PM— Joseph Sloyan

Catherine Wells

Jimmy Mackey

Dale Yukich

Carolyn Lowery

Sunday, February 1st

7:30 AM— Irene Brajner

Vincent & Mary Hoban

Colleen J. Nix

Chet & Tom Chwierut

9:30 AM— Dorothy Jercich

Raymond & Marion Hunt

Fr. Thomas Mescall—4th Anniversary

Michael Quinn

Carol A. Stefan

11:30 AM— Catholic Schools Week

Madison Czurylo

Tom Scanlon

Christine Fus

Muriel Rooney

6:00 PM— For the Parishioners

Thanksgiving after Mass

Prayer to the Blessed Virgin Mary

O Mary, Virgin and Mother most holy,
behold, I have received your most dear Son,
whom you conceived in your immaculate
womb, brought forth, nursed and
embraced most tenderly.

Behold him at whose sight you used to
rejoice and be filled with all delight:
him, whom, humbly and lovingly,
once again I present and offer him to you
to be clasped in your arms, to be loved
by your heart, and to be offered up
to the Most Holy Trinity

as the supreme worship of adoration,
for your own honor and glory and
for my needs and for those of the whole world.

I ask you therefore, most loving Mother:
entreat for me the forgiveness of all my sin
and, in abundant measure, the grace
of serving him in the future more faithfully,
and at last, final grace,
so that with you I may praise him
for all the ages of ages.

Amen.