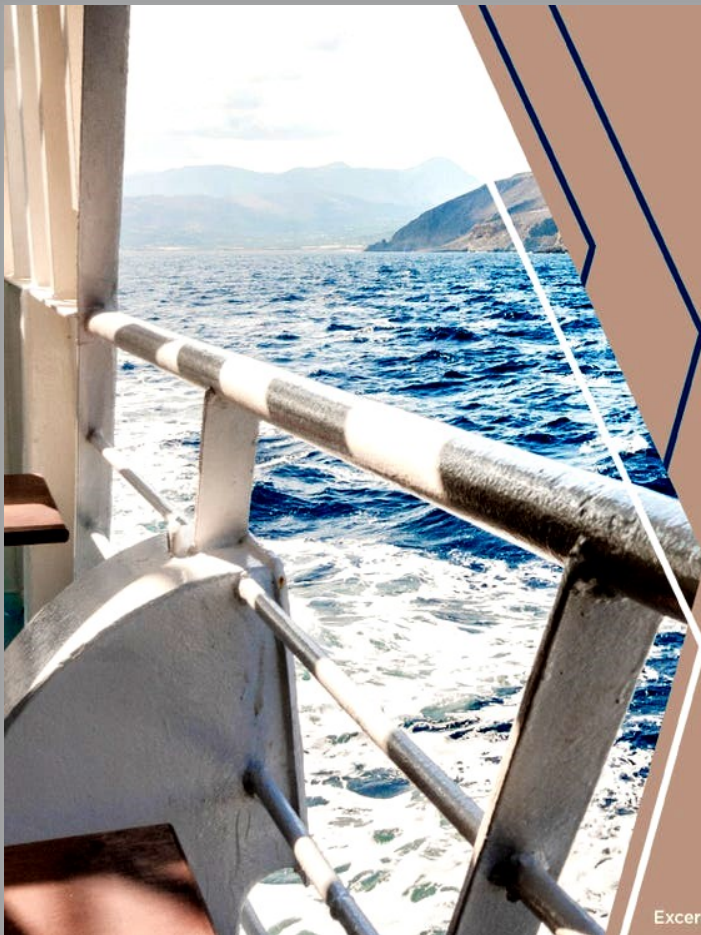


St. Alexander Church

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

February 9, 2025

The Palos Catholic



5th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching men." When they brought their boats to the shore, they left everything and followed him.

- Lk 5:10-11

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

©LPI

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. 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

EUCCHARIST

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,

Unfortunately, with the cold of winter, our snow birds, and the occasional “blahs” of winter months, Sunday Mass attendance does have a tendency to drop off a bit. Some of this is due to health reasons, which is perfectly fine in the eyes of myself and the Church, but some of this is also due to the attitude that one can take a “break” from Mass until Lent and the Easter season. Please remember, and remind your fellow parishioners, family members and friends, that we never take a vacation from church. Throughout the year we should all gather weekly as a community to worship our Lord, give thanks, and appreciate the fact that we are one unified community striving to live the life of the Gospel. If you are away for the weekend or on an extended vacation please worship at a local Catholic Church. The website www.masstimes.org lists Mass times and locations for churches all over the country. Also, I ask that even though you are out of town you please continue to send your Sunday envelopes either through the mail or drop them at the Parish Administrative Center when you return. Or even better, you can give electronically through the Faith Direct program. For more information please see page thirteen, visit our website, or call Paula Somers at 708-448-4861.

Once again I ask you to please purchase and return your tickets for this year’s annual raffle at the parish office, in the collection basket, or through the mail. Proceeds from this raffle will be of great assistance to our parish, school, R.E. program and other parish ministries. The raffle will be held the evening of Saturday, March 1st, the night of our Irish/St. Patrick’s Day party. Please know couples and singles, old and young (over 21), parishioners and non-parishioners, are all welcome to attend. The evening will be fun for all and will also be a great way to enjoy some time with friends and fellow parishioners. Please see page ten in this bulletin for more information.

Many times in our lives we pray to the Lord for things in our lives and our prayers are not always answered the way we want them to be answered. We cannot always depend on prayers to be answered the way we want them answered, but we can always depend on God. God, the loving Father, often denies us those things which in the end would prove harmful to us. Quite often when we were children we would ask our parents at a young age for something we wanted, but in the long run would be harmful to us. This was done to protect us and out of love. Why should we think God is less wise? Some day we will thank God not only for what He has given us, but also for that which he has refused.

God Bless,
Father Marty

St. Alexander Alumni News

Mother McAuley High School

First Honors

Madison Dabrowski
Mary DiVincenzo
Kelly Kane
Cayla Prohaska
Jayce Prohaska
Clare Stroner

Second Honors

Mary Sheerin
Margaret White

Keep Up The
Good Work!

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.



William John Eisses, son of Ann & Cole, was baptized by Fr. Patrick O’Neill on Sunday, February 2, 2025.
Dean Michael Henneberry, son of Quinn & Paige, was baptized by Fr. Martin Michniewicz on February 2, 2025.
We welcome them into the family of the church and offer their parents our prayers and good wishes.



PRAY FOR THOSE SOON TO BE MARRIED
I Mariclare Touhy & Michael Presbitero



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:
Joan Barry, mother of Laura Murphy
Dorothy Crane Jercich, mother of Carol Heffernan

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



Prayers of the Faithful for the Sick

Prayers FOR HEALING 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 Lisa Krisik
- Carole Holding Elaine Krisik
- Mike Belczak Mike Sweeney

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



My parents’ garage is full of old junk that no longer serves any purpose in my life. As a 46-year-old man, I admit that’s pretty lame. Either due to my sentimentality or laziness (or both, probably), I just couldn’t get myself to throw things away. But a few days ago, by a grace of God, I thought: “I’ll hire my nephew Ryan to throw a bunch of my stuff away — he couldn’t care less about my junk!” And you know what? It worked. In one day, Ryan chucked the majority of his uncle’s useless stuff. I feel so free, ready for a new junk-free chapter in my life.

This kind of thing happens in this Sunday’s Gospel. Peter’s net is full of useless junk. Luke says he and the others are cleaning their nets after catching no fish. Imagine them dejectedly and impatiently removing a nasty assortment of seaweed, sticks and muck. The Lord teaches and calls them once their nets are cleared out. So it goes with us. Spiritual life begins by removing that which is useless and merely taking up space in our hearts, minds and lives. Then Jesus teaches and acts in a marvelous way in our lives, too.

So what’s junking up your net? What habits, attachments, possessions, preoccupations? If, like me, you struggle to clean your nets by yourself, ask the Lord to send you someone like my nephew to be your “Peter” and help you clean it out. It is well worth it. Once Peter’s net is clean, he is free to make a wonderful catch.

— Father John Muir

Today’s Readings: Is 6:1-2a, 3-8/Ps 138:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 7-8 (1c)/1 Cor 15:1-11 or 15:3-8, 11/Lk 5:1-1



READINGS FOR THE WEEK February 10-16, 2025

- Monday: Gn 1:1-19/Ps 104:1-2a, 5-6, 10 and 12, 24 and 35c/Mk 6:53-56
- Tuesday: Gn 1:20—2:4a/Ps 8:4-5, 6-7, 8-9/ Mk 7:1-13
- Wednesday: Gn 2:4b-9, 15-17/Ps 104:1-2a, 27-28, 29bc-30/Mk 7:14-23
- Thursday: Gn 2:18-25/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5/Mk 7:24-30
- Friday: Gn 3:1-8/Ps 32:1-2, 5, 6, 7/Mk 7:31-37
- Saturday: Gn 3:9-24/Ps 90:2, 3-4abc, 5-6, 12-13/ Mk 8:1-10
- Sunday: Jer 17:5-8/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4, 6, (40:5a)/ 1 Cor 15:12, 16-20/Lk 6:17, 20-26



**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!

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.

WORD OF LIFE

“Married love differs from any other love in the world. By its nature, the love of husband and wife is so complete, so ordered to a lifetime of communion with God and each other, that it is open to creating a new human being they will love and care for together.”

—USCCB, *Married Love and the Gift of Life*

COMMUNION MINISTERS

Saturday, February 15th

5:00 PM— Mary Ceebin, Sharon Mundo, Steve Lukasik

Sunday, February 16th

7:30 AM— Nancy Foster, Susan Murphy, Betty Chwierut

9:30 AM— John Kelbowski, Wendy Loftus, Dave Heide, Mary Beth Flynn (LG)

11:30 AM— Joan Obiala, Jim & Pat Fisher

6:00 PM— Merrill Jurgens

READERS

Saturday, February 15th

5:00 PM— Joan DeVito

Sunday, February 16th

7:30 AM— Mark Foster

9:30 AM— Linda Buchanan

11:30 AM— Ryan Alberts

6:00 PM— James Clark, Johanna Jurgens



**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
ST. THEODORE GUERIN
COUNCIL #14057**

**Meeting: Wednesday, February 12th
7:00 PM - Parish Lounge**

If you are interested in helping those in need, serving your parish, and growing in your faith, then the Knights of Columbus is the organization for you. For membership information please call Deacon Fran Pendergast at 708-448-4861 or visit kofc14057.org for membership info.

**SAVE THE DATE!
PARISH LENTEN
MISSION**

March 25th 7:00 PM



Low-Gluten Hosts

At the 9:30AM Mass an Extraordinary Minister of Communion will be available with low-gluten hosts. The Extraordinary Minister will be located at the entrance of the ramp which leads to the sanctuary on the side where the statue of our Blessed Virgin is presented.

St. Al's Over 50 Fellowship

**Monthly Meeting
Thursday, February 20th
Parish Lounge — 11:30AM**

(use lounge doors on the south end of building)

**Join us for Bingo
and a little lunch!**

Membership dues of \$25 will be accepted

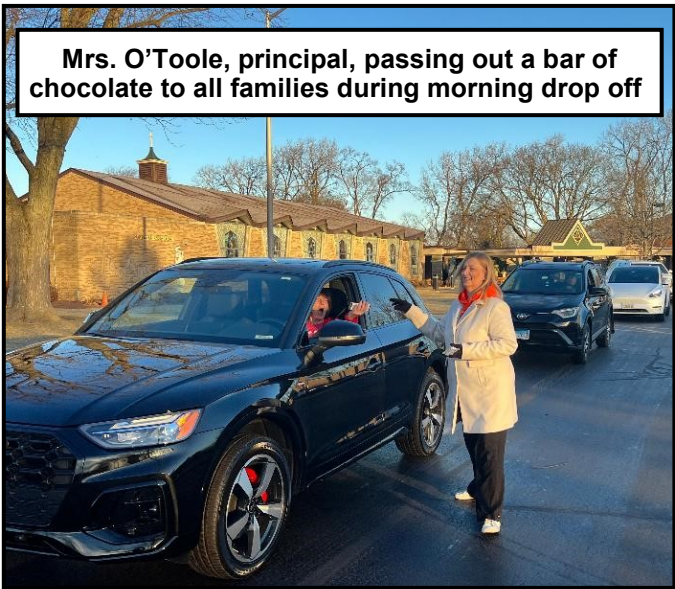


Membership is open to all, you don't have to be a parishioner. Hope to see returning members and new members!

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK ACTIVITIES



Spelling Bee



Mrs. O'Toole, principal, passing out a bar of chocolate to all families during morning drop off



Pep Rally



8th grade boys vs girls volleyball game




ST. ALEXANDER SCHOOL HAPPENINGS

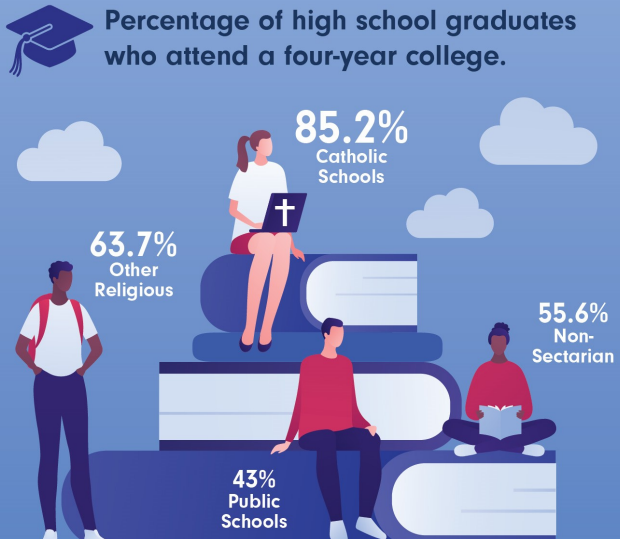


Number of Schools

There are 5,905 Catholic schools in the United States; 4,731 are elementary/middle schools and 1,174 are secondary schools.



Percentage of high school graduates who attend a four-year college.



Category	Percentage
Catholic Schools	85.2%
Other Religious	63.7%
Non-Sectarian	55.6%
Public Schools	43%

**OPEN REGISTRATION
FOR NEW FAMILIES
FOR THE 2025-2026 SCHOOL YEAR
BEGINS FEBRUARY 3**



PRE-K 3 THROUGH GRADE 8

**PROUD TO BE RECOGNIZED BY THE ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO
AS THE NUMBER ONE SCHOOL IN SUBURBAN COOK COUNTY
FOR CATHOLIC IDENTITY**



**CALL TO SCHEDULE YOUR PERSONAL TOUR OR
TO REGISTER TO BE A RAIDER - 708-448-0408**



ST. ALEXANDER SCHOOL HAPPENINGS



At our Catholic Schools Week Mass, Stacy Sheerin was presented with the Parent Volunteer Award for 2025.

Part of the FSA over the years, as a Room Parent forever oftentimes stepping up to chaperone at a moments notice, running fundraisers for the school, and taking part often with her family in community outreach making sandwiches for the homeless. And no matter how busy she is, anytime we call her or see her in the school to ask for help, her reply is always we will figure it out...and she does!

Mrs. Sheerin has run the parish St. Patrick's Day party for the past four years, but perhaps her greatest contribution is her dedication to the St. Baldrick's event she has run since 2017 here at the school raising thus far over \$81,000 to benefit children living with pediatric cancer. With a goal to raise \$100,000 by year ten.



PreK 4 celebrating 100 days of school by dressing up. Displayed behind us is an all school kindness tree.



ST. ALEXANDER PARISH
INVITES YOU TO CELEBRATE

P Saint PATRICK'S DAY



SATURDAY
MARCH

1

IN ST. AL'S
GYM

6:00 PM-11:00PM

*Tickets are \$35 each
Dinner will be served and Cash Bar
will be available*

Featuring music from
THE PONYBOYS

*Tickets will be sold after masses or
checks/money can be sent to
the school office.
Grand raffle winners will be announced!*



DADDY DAUGHTER DANCE
SATURDAY APRIL 5TH 2025



Princess Ball

Save the Date
Princess/Formal Dress Attire Suggested

SAVE THE DATE

THURSDAY, MAY 8, 2025

5K
ANNUAL ST. ALEXANDER RAIDER
RUN

Running to raise funds
for new school technology

ST. ALEXANDER ANNUAL PARISH & SCHOOL

GRAND RAFFLE

\$20 RAFFLE TICKET

GRAND PRIZE \$5,000
1ST PRIZE \$2,500
2ND PRIZE \$ 500

\$50 RAFFLE TICKET

GRAND PRIZE \$15,000
1ST PRIZE \$ 7,500
2ND PRIZE \$ 1,500

TICKETS WILL BE DRAWN ON MARCH 1st
WINNERS WILL BE POSTED ON OUR WEBSITE

HOW TO HELP A FRIEND EXPERIENCING DATING ABUSE

- Believe them
- Listen without judging
- Encourage them to tell a trusted adult
- Tell them that the abuse is never ok or acceptable

www.domesticviolenceoutreach.org

TEEN DATING VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE OUTREACH
AWARENESS • SERVICES • PREVENTION

SEEKING MORE GOOD NEWS?

relevant radio

Listen now on air, online and on the FREE app!
RelevantRadio.com

Local station frequencies listed online.

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

Together we bring hope

2025 Annual Catholic Appeal

Please Make Your Gift to the 2025 Annual Catholic Appeal

Together we bring hope

Many families in our parish should have received the Annual Catholic Appeal mailing from Cardinal Cupich. On behalf of those served by the ministries of the parishes and schools that receive funding from the Appeal, we thank you for your gifts. Please return your response as soon as possible. The Annual Catholic Appeal offers us an opportunity to join with others and affirm that “together we bring hope” in addition to providing for ministries and services throughout the archdiocese, the Appeal also funds services that are of great help here in our parish. As we consider God’s many gifts to us, we should also reflect on our gratitude in using and sharing those gifts. Your financial support for the work of our parish, or archdiocese, and the Church throughout the world is one way to express this gratitude. Please give what you can to the 2025 Annual Catholic Appeal.



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.

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!



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



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!



VERSÒ L'ALTO!

YOUNG ADULT FRASSATI FELLOWSHIP

MEET BL. PIER GIORGIO

FEBRUARY 26TH 6:30-8PM
FATHER GUBBINS CENTER
16651 94TH AVE. ORLAND HILLS

Learn about Bl. Pier Giorgio Frassati and read scripture connected to his life!
Scan the QR code for more info



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

Mass Intentions For The Week



FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME FEBRUARY 9, 2025

Saturday, February 8th

5:00 PM— Claire Narel
Lori Czech
Jimmy Pasque
John Joseph O'Connell
Henrietta Ceebin
Loretta & Chuck Klimkiewicz—
59th Wedding Anniversary Blessing

Sunday, February 9th

7:30 AM— Aggie Palmer
Joe Macey
Colleen J. Nix
Thomas Chwierut
Catherine Hoban
Chet Chwierut
9:30 AM— Raymond & Marion Hunt
Kevin Reynolds
Brian Cadore
Jim Foskett
Rocco Carioto
Mario deVilla
11:30 AM— For the Parishioners
Bill Lewis

Monday, February 10th (*St. Scholastica*)

8:30 AM— Michael Hanley
Dolores Regan
Colleen J. Nix

Tuesday, February 11th (*Our Lady of Lourdes*)

8:30 AM— Eleanor Lynch
Joseph Rathnau
Colleen J. Nix
Chet Chwierut
Tom Chwierut
Marie Kelbowski
Lorraine Wittbrodt
Walter, Valerie & Walter Jr. Tadda

Wednesday, February 12th

8:30 AM— Lori Czech
Elizabeth Musgrave
Colleen J. Nix
Helen J. Brett
Brock Mavity

Thursday, February 13th

8:30 AM— Walter Wloszek
Joseph Rathnau
Colleen J. Nix
Evelyn Mary Dorsch—14th Anniversary
Joseph Conroy
William Hawkinson

Friday, February 14th (*Sts. Cyril and Methodius*)

8:30 AM— Chet Chwierut
Colleen J. Nix
Margaret Corbett
Thomas Chwierut

Saturday, February 15th

8:00 AM— Evelyn Hurley
Chet Chwierut
Thomas Chwierut
Colleen J. Nix
Gladys Doolan
Gregory Lentini

SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME FEBRUARY 16, 2025

Saturday, February 15th

5:00 PM— Tony Romeo
Joseph Rathnau
Jim Foskett
Mickey Havel
Eileen Mitchell

Sunday, February 16th

7:30 AM— Susan Carroll
Aggie Palmer
Thomas Chwierut
Johanna Hoban
Chet Chwierut
Colleen J. Nix
9:30 AM— Dorothy Janik
Raymond & Marion Hunt
Kevin Reynolds Sr.
Pat Stanton
Dan Stanton
Mary Foskett—Special Intention
Dan & Joan Bagniewski
Dolores Compton
Ed Wollenberg
11:30 AM— Bronislawa & Stanislaw Kopee
Anelia & Ludwik Karwaczka
Josephina & Wally Bartyzol
Stanley Mulica
Helen Brett
Ed Amberg—4th Anniversary
Brian McGinnis
Dr. Terry Wall
6:00 PM— For the Parishioners

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.



Sacrament
of Communion

MASS INTENTIONS

Contact the parish office if you would like to have a Mass intention for 2025 or 2026. Please note that Mass intentions are not just for the deceased but for anyone you would like to include in prayer.