

St. Alexander Church

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

July 12, 2026

The Palos Catholic



15th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“The seed sown on rich soil
is the one who hears the
word and understands it,
who indeed bears fruit and
yields a hundred or sixty or
thirtyfold.” - Mt 13:23

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

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

ANOIDTING 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



Dominic James Larson, son of Eric & Allison, was baptized by Deacon Mike Ciciura on Sunday, June 28, 2026. We welcome him into the family of the church and offer his parents our prayers and good wishes.

No man discovers anything big unless he makes himself small.

—Bishop Fulton Sheen



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:

Virginia Eck, mother of Patty Witte

Thomas Englehart, brother of Barbara Gibbons

Siobhan Haran, mother of Roisin Morlock

Mary Jean Hosker, mother of Lorraine Callahan

Dorine Valan, wife of Bob



Prayers
FOR HEALING

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
Edward Weir	Barb Chwierut
Molly Flynn	Terry Horvath
Joe Cucio	Gloria Nitti
Nula Mossman	Rosemary Dziuba
John Tyro	

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



Sometimes I feel capable of absorbing almost anything except God's Word. My mind soaks up song lyrics, sports trivia, and endless online content. But what was the reading at Mass this morning? I struggle to recall. That realization discourages me, and it leads to an uncomfortable question. What is my heart really for? Is it shaped for constant information and distraction, or is it truly designed for God? Am I capable of deeply receiving His Word?

Jesus speaks directly to this today with a simple image. **"The seed sown on rich soil is the one who hears the word and understands it."** By comparing the Word of the Kingdom to a seed, Jesus reveals something hopeful about us. The human heart is made for that seed. Soil and seed belong together. No matter how compacted, rocky, or overgrown the ground has become, the Sower never stops sowing.

God loves our hearts. He sees them as a farmer sees his fields, full of potential. Human hearts can indeed "understand the Word." Understanding does not mean mastering information. It means letting the Word sink in, interacting with it, and giving it a home. It means trusting that, beneath the surface, God is at work in quiet and hidden ways.

When we allow the Holy Spirit to loosen the soil of our hearts through prayer, repentance, and simplicity, the same Word that created the universe begins to bear fruit in us, 30, 60, even a hundredfold.

Lord Jesus, Sower of life, soften the soil of my heart. Let Your Word take root in me again, and bring forth the fruit You desire. Amen.

— Father John Muir



READINGS FOR THE WEEK July 13-19, 2026

Monday: Is 1:10-17/Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21 and 23/
Mt 10:34-11:1

Tuesday: Is 7:1-9/Ps 48:2-3a, 3b-4, 5-6, 7-8/
Mt 11:20-24

Wednesday: Is 10:5-7, 13b-16/Ps 94:5-6, 7-8, 9-10,
14-15/Mt 11:25-27

Thursday: Is 26:7-9, 12, 16-19/Ps 102:13-14ab and
15, 16-18, 19-21/Mt 11:28-30

Friday: Is 38:1-6, 21-22, 7-8/Is 38:10, 12abcd, 16/
Mt 12:1-8

Saturday: Mi 2:1-5/Ps 10:1-2, 3-4, 7-8, 14/
Mt 12:14-21

Sunday: Wis 12:13, 16-19/Ps 86:5-6, 9-10, 15-16/
Rom 8:26-27/Mt 13:24-43 or 13:24-30

Today's Readings: Is 55:10-11/Ps 65:10, 11,
12-13, 14/Rom 8:18-23/Mt 13:1-23 or 13:1-9



**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!

St. Al's Over 50 Fellowship

**No Monthly Meeting in July.
See you in August for our
Ice Cream Social.**

**Enjoy the summer and
Happy 250th Birthday America!**

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.



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.

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!



Pray the Rosary

**THE ROSARY IS PRAYED EVERY DAY
MONDAY THRU FRIDAY AFTER 8:30AM MASS
SATURDAY AFTER THE 8:00AM MASS
Please join us and pray the Rosary**

COMMUNION MINISTERS

Saturday, July 18th

5:00 PM— Sharon Mundo, Linda Horton,
Maureen Balich

Sunday, July 19th

7:30 AM— Bob Straz, Karen McNeal, Susan Murphy

9:30 AM— Nancy Dougherty, Pat Karrasch,
Rich Cruz, Patti Hartig (LG)

11:30 AM— Jeff & Ofelia Foreman, Pat Klaus

6:00 PM— Mary Beth Partyka, Sharon Ayres,
Michael Collins



READERS

Saturday, July 18th

5:00 PM— Charlie Smith, Bill Rogers

Sunday, July 19th

7:30 AM— Mary Dombrowski

9:30 AM— Debbie Myron

11:30 AM— Joan DeVito

6:00 PM— Bob Ayres, James Clark



Faith is not a light which scatters all our darkness, but a lamp which guides our steps in the night and suffices for the journey.
—Pope Francis, The Light of Faith

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.



Are you curious about the Catholic Faith?

If any of these reasons apply, OCIA might be exactly what you're looking for!

(OCIA means The Order of Christian Initiation for Adults)

1. You're marrying a Catholic. *(Sharing and practicing your faith together is a great foundation for married life.)*
2. You're already married to a Catholic and your children are being raised Catholic. *(It's natural to want to feel a closer bond by sharing in the sacraments with family.)*
3. Your children are learning about the Catholic faith. *(You'd like to learn more about this faith tradition, still unsure if you'd like to become a Catholic..)*
4. You've lived in a "Catholic world" all your life, so people assume you are already Catholic. *(You'd like to find out if you are closer than you think in mind and heart.)*
5. You don't know much about Catholicism, but a friend or neighbor has inspired you to learn more. **(With no strings attached, this is a wonderful way to check things out.)**
6. You have experienced personal loss or family struggles. *(You are seeking ways to deepen your spiritual life by exploring the Catholic faith tradition.)*

You don't know why, but you feel something urging you to the Catholic Church. *(It's probably the Holy Spirit.)*

Our OCIA sessions begin in September. If you are interested in joining us, contact Fr. Marty at the parish office (708) 448-4861 or Deacon Mike at mciciura@archchicago.org

PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY

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 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
 Andrew Cleland - U.S. Army
 John Hoban III - U.S. Army
 A. Amanda Cleland - U.S. Air Force
 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 Ridsen - U.S. Navy
 Kevin Lewis - U.S. Navy
 Michael Lindstrom - U.S. Army
 Ryan Graeber - U.S. Marines
 Mary Kate Wetzels - U.S. Marines
 Cody Goldman - National Guard
 Isaac & Veronika Baines - U.S. Navy
 Michael D. Faloona - National Guard

Robert Brennan - U.S. Army
 Scott Milcarek - U.S. Army
 Charles Berglund - U.S. Marines
 Patrick Pratl - U.S. Navy
 Alan Filipiak - U.S. Navy
 Mark Filipiak - U.S. Marines
 Joshua Bramlett U.S. Navy
 Matthew Bramlett - U.S. Navy
 David Lindstrom - National Guard
 Daniel Weakley - U.S. Navy
 Conor Knapp - U.S. Army
 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
 Cameron Smentek - U.S. Army
 Judith Hite - U.S. Army
 Jake Soukup - U.S. Army

Fourth of July Parade





SAVE THE DATE!

2026 St. Alexander Golf Outing
George Dunne National Golf Course
Oak Forest
Friday, September 11th
1:00 PM Shotgun Start
Details to follow...

**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.

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.

ParishSOFT

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

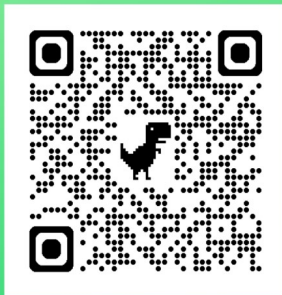


SCAN THE QR CODE FOR
 INFORMATION ABOUT

-Religious Ed

-Youth Ministry
{JR High/ High School}

-Stay and Play



WWW.TRIED-YM.COM

ParishSOFT®

Connecting People and the Church



ParishSOFT Managed Giving 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. Donors can give based on preferred schedule, with support for weekly contributions rather than once-a-month processing.

- Giving options include Apple Pay, Google Pay, Venmo, PayPal
- Anonymous Giving
- Text "Give" to 708-401-6404

ParishSOFT Managed Giving will make your giving experience more convenient. Thank you for continuing to support St. Alexander Parish.

If you have any questions please contact Paula Somers, Business Manager, at 708-448-4861.

Low-Gluten Hosts

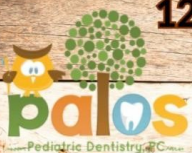
At the 9:30AM Mass an Extraordinary Minister of Communion will be available with low-gluten hosts. The Extraordinary Minister will be located at the entrance of the ramp which leads to the sanctuary on the side where the statue of our Blessed Virgin is presented.

Please support
Our Advertisers

Palos Heights Farmers Market
Wednesdays 8am-1pm

May 13 - October 14

12217 S. Harlem Ave



M Northwestern
Medicine

SAVE THE DATE: PRAY FOR OUR NATION FRIDAY, AUGUST 7TH

Annual summer highlight held at the Grotto of Our Lady of Sorrows on the property of the Benedictine Sisters 5900 W. 147th Street, Oak Forest. (Just east of Gaelic Park). Friday August 7th from 5pm to 7pm. Speakers, prayer, patriotic meditations and more.

MERCY HOME SUNDAY MASS
9:00AM on WGN-TV Channel 9

—SAVE THE DATE—

ST. ALEXANDER PARISH BLOOD DRIVE

Sunday, September 20th 8:30 AM—1:30 PM

Visit <https://tinyurl.com/St-AlexLifePalosLifeSavers> or scan the QR code

More information to follow in August



SAVE THE DATE

**ST. ALEXANDER ANNUAL
PARISH PICNIC**
SUNDAY, AUGUST 30TH



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

40th Annual SOUTHSIDE SUMMER FESTIVAL
Presented by Marist
generously sponsored by **BARRACO'S**

FEATURING: BIG HEAD TODD AND THE MONSTERS

THE SOUTH SIDE EVENT OF THE SUMMER

Advance Admission - \$45
General Admission - \$50
VIP Admission - \$165

Marist High School
4200 W 115th St.
Chicago, IL

WITH PERFORMANCES BY: **EDDIE 9V** **BACK COUNTRY BOYS**

7.18.26 TICKETS ON SALE NOW **MARIST.NET**

Mass Intentions For The Week

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME JULY 12, 2026

Saturday, July 11th

5:00 PM— Joseph & Cathy Morrissey & Family
Dale Yukich
Norbert Kuksta
Kimberley Waltry
Maria DeVenuto
Jerry Lawler
Tom Donovan

Sunday, July 12th

7:30 AM— Nancy Lukasik
Colleen J. Nix
Steven P. Follenweider
Catherine Hoban
Tom & Chet Chwierut
Rose Diorio
Martha Richards
Keith Jensen
9:30 AM— Fr, George McKenna
Helen Wann
Mary Foscett
Robert Cruz
Jennie Buhs
Liz Lonergan
Susan Vander Heiden—Healing Intention
Don & Mary Tadda
11:30 AM— Rosa Greenwald
Rose Svabek—Birthday Blessing
Helen Carroll
Wilson Family
Emily & John Opiela
Tom Scanlon
6:00 PM— For the Parishioners

Monday, July 13th (St. Henry)

8:30 AM— Macey Family
Irene Pajda
Colleen J. Nix

Tuesday, July 14th (St. Kateri Tekakwitha)

8:30 AM— Colleen J. Nix
Betty Jean Conroy
Jennifer Aparo
Walter, Valerie & Walter Tadda

Wednesday, July 15th (St. Bonaventure)

8:30 AM— Patrick Murphy
Colleen J. Nix
Kathleen "Kitty" O'Donnell
Mike—Healing Intention

Thursday, July 16th (Our Lady of Mount Carmel)

8:30 AM— Colleen J. Nix
Dorothy Janik
James Grisolano
Don & Mary Tadda
Kenneth Royer II—Special Intention

Friday, July 17th

8:30 AM— Irene Foster
Colleen J. Nix
Mary McCarthy
Teasie Hanly

Saturday, July 18th (St. Camillus de Lellis)

8:00 AM— Colleen J. Nix
Art & Lorraine Wittbrodt
Joseph T. and Virginia M. Feldner
Chet & Tom Chwierut
Brian Mitchell
Jack Quinn

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME JULY 19, 2026

Saturday, July 18th

5:00 PM— Kazimierz Kubinski
Dale Yukich
Henry Gonzales
Hugh Doyle
David Carlig
Grazyna Sarga
Tom Donovan

Sunday, July 19th

7:30 AM— Judy McCarthy
Bill Somers
Brian Cadore
Joan Cadore
Colleen J. Nix
Mary Foscett
Johanna Hoban
Nancy Lukasik
Tom & Chet Chwierut
Adele Cadore
Robert Barth
Irene Brajner & Family
9:30 AM— Catherine Greaney
Lottie Borowski—20th Anniversary
Jack LaRoy
William R. Sims
Don & Mary Tadda
11:30 AM— Tom Scanlon
Nancy Lukasik
Bob Singer
Jack LaRoy
Thomas Donovan
6:00 PM— For the Parishioners

WORD OF LIFE

"I greet you with affection, dear parents and children!...To adopt a child is a great work of love. When it is done, much is given, but much is also received. It is a true exchange of gifts....you have put yourselves with Christ on the side of children. May the Lord fill you with every consolation and sustain you in the difficulties of your journey."

—Pope John Paul II, Address to the Meeting of Adoptive Families, September 5, 2000