

St. Alexander Church

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

July 19, 2026

The Palos Catholic



16th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“The righteous will
shine like the sun in the
kingdom of their Father.”
- Mt 13:43a

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

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

ANOIDING 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



The following children were baptized by Fr. Colm Mitchell on Sunday, June 12, 2026.

Annabell Grace Anderson,
daughter of Richard & Sarah

Marlowe Ruby Pomichowski, son of Adrian & Alexis
We welcome them into the family of the church and offer their parents our prayers and good wishes.



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:

James Boyle
Marilyn Horalek

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.



READINGS FOR THE WEEK June 20-26, 2026

Monday: Mi 6:1-4, 6-8/Ps 50:5-6, 8-9, 16bc-17, 21 and 23/Mt 12:38-42
Tuesday: Mi 7:14-15, 18-20/Ps 85:2-4, 5-6, 7-8/Mt 12:46-50
Wednesday: Sg 3:1-4b or 2 Cor 5:14-17/Ps 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9/Jn 20:1-2, 11-18
Thursday: Jer 2:1-3, 7-8, 12-13/Ps 36:6-7ab, 8-9, 10-11/Mt 13:10-17
Friday: Jer 3:14-17/Jer 31:10, 11-12ab, 13/Mt 13:18-23
Saturday: 2 Cor 4:7-15/Ps 126:1bc-2ab, 2cd-3, 4-5, 6/Mt 20:20-28
Sunday: 1 Kgs 3:5, 7-12/Ps 119:57, 72, 76-77, 127-128, 129-130/Rom 8:28-30/Mt 13:44-52 or 13:44-46

SCRIPTURE REFLECTION



A man recently told me he was losing patience with the Church. **"It's supposed to be God's Kingdom on earth,"** he said, **"but it's full of contradictions and hypocrisy. Why can't the Church just be better?"** That last word landed with a judgmental thud. It hurt. Because at times the Church can look painfully ordinary, even disappointing.

But Jesus' parables in today's Gospel meet that frustration head-on. He says, **"The kingdom of heaven may be likened to a man who sowed good seed in his field,"** yet the weeds grow up with the wheat, and the master allows both to grow together until harvest. To his listeners, this sounded strange, even offensive. They expected God's reign to be pure, powerful, and glorious, anything but mixed up, hidden, or small.

Jesus is showing us something essential. The Kingdom always begins small and grows amid imperfection. Grace and weakness exist side by side until the harvest. That is why the Church often looks messy. Yet within that mess, God's quiet work continues. The weeds do not stop the wheat from growing.

When we see the Church's flaws or our own, it helps to remember that this is exactly the field in which Christ chose to plant. The miracle is not that everything looks perfect, but that his Word keeps taking root anyway.

Lord, give me patience with Your field, the Church. Help me see Your hidden life growing even among the weeds. Amen.

— Father John Muir

Today's Readings: 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



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:

Lisa Krisik
Edward Weir
Joe Cucio
Nula Mossman
John Tyro

Elizabeth Hannan Hurley
Terry Horvath
Gloria Nitti
Rosemary Dziuba

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.



**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!

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.”

—United States Conference of Catholic Bishops
“Married Love and the Gift of Life”

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.

COMMUNION MINISTERS

Saturday, July 25th

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

Sunday, July 26th

7:30 AM— Steve Lukasik, Susan Chillmon,
Ed Sobczak

9:30 AM— Dorothy McCloskey, John & Caroline
Kelbowski, MB Flynn (LG)

11:30 AM— Pat Klaus, Paul Sullivan,
Catherine Alberts

6:00 PM— Michael Collins

READERS

Saturday, July 25th

5:00 PM— Bill Rogers, Charlie Smith

Sunday, July 26th

7:30 AM— Paula Somers

9:30 AM— Rich Cruz, Linda Buchanan

11:30 AM— Ryan Alberts

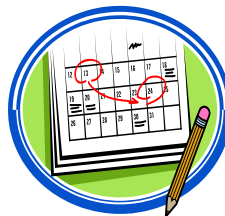
6:00 PM— James Clark



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.



SAVE THE DATE

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

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.

Our Knights of Columbus Break Another Milestone

The Knights of Columbus marked a joyful milestone at their Annual Picnic, celebrating with a classic outdoor cookout featuring hamburgers, cheeseburgers, hotdogs, and brats—complete with all the favorite accompaniments and beverages. This year's gathering welcomed **50 attendees**, the largest turnout yet, adding to the festive spirit of a beautiful summer afternoon.

The strong participation, shared fellowship, and simple pleasure of a meal enjoyed together made the occasion especially memorable for the council and their families.



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...

**GET OUR WEEKLY BULLETIN EMAILED TO YOU!**

Subscribe to [ParishesOnline.com](https://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!

—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



Order of Christian Initiation for Adults

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 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

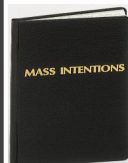


SUNDAY SALE HOURS **10:15-11:30AM**

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.

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.



Contact the parish office if you would like to have a Mass intention for 2026 or 2027. Please note that Mass intentions are not just for the deceased but for anyone you would like to include in prayer.

ParishSOFT

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

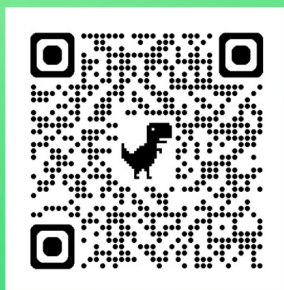


SCAN THE QR CODE FOR
INFORMATION ABOUT

-Religious Ed

**-Youth Ministry
(JR High/ High School)**

-Stay and Play



WWW.TRIED-YM.COM



ParishSOFT 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.

Earn Money for St. Al's and Save on Your Tuition While Shopping Almost Everywhere!

Saving is As Easy as 1, 2, 3!

- STEP 01** Download the RaiseRight App and **e-mail Mrs. Somers for the activation code.**
- STEP 02** Add a payment source — your credit/debit card or bank account.
- STEP 03** Buy eGift Cards when shopping to cover your total at tons of brick-and-mortar and online retailers. Each retailer offers a cash-back percentage which you split **50/50 between St. Al's and your child's tuition!!**



Feel Free to Contact Program Coordinator **Paula Somers** at psomers1115@aol.com or **708.448.4861**, or **Lloyd Metcalf** at Lloyd.Metcalf@gmail.com with questions!

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.

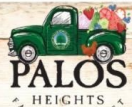
Our Members in the Military

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 Wetzel - 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

Please support
Our Advertisers

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

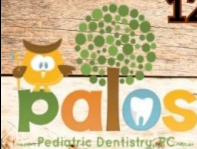




Palos Heights Farmers Market
Wednesdays 8am-1pm

May 13 - October 14

12217 S. Harlem Ave




Pediatric Dentistry, LLC
Richard Facke, DDS, MS

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.

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.

We have been created for greater things.
Not just to be a number in the world,
not just to go for diplomas and degrees.
This work and that work. We have been
created to love and to be loved.

Thanksgiving after Mass

Prayer to the Blessed Virgin Mary

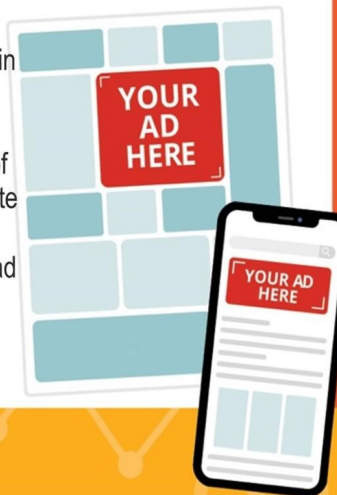
O Mary, Virgin and Mother most holy,
behold, I have received your most dear Son,
whom you conceived in your immaculate
womb, brought forth, nursed and
embraced most tenderly.

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.

AVAILABLE NOW!
PRINT & DIGITAL AD SPACES

**Build your business and help us grow a vibrant
faith community!**

Jeff Hansen from LPi, our bulletin printer, will be securing new ads for our church in the coming weeks. As a valuable member of the business community, we invite you to expand your reach and grow your business with a print ad in our parish bulletin and/or a digital ad featured on ParishesOnline.com.



Jeff Hansen
(800) 950-9952 x2683
JHansen@4lpi.com

Mass Intentions For The Week

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 Foskett
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

Monday, July 20th (St. Apollinaris)

8:30 AM— Colleen J. Nix
Helen Jablonski
Linda Barcelona

Tuesday, July 21st (St. Lawrence of Brindis)

8:30 AM— Colleen J. Nix
Jennifer Aparo
Ralph Dziuba
Eric & Sue Zempich & Family

Wednesday, July 22nd (St. Mary Magdalene)

8:30 AM— Christine Craven
John & Kaitlin Busch—3rd Anniversary
Lisetta Romeo
Colleen J. Nix
Julian P. Jastrzebowski Jr.
Jennifer Aparo
Lisa & Alex Liceaga & Family

Thursday, July 23rd (St. Bridget)

8:30 AM— Colleen J. Nix

Friday, July 24th (St. Sharbel Makhluf)

8:30 AM— Colleen J. Nix
George E. Hresil
William & Sandy Macey & Family
Richard Kresal—Birthday Blessing

Saturday, July 25th (St. James, Apostle)

8:00 AM— Raymond C. Cavanagh
Linda Pocius—1st Anniversary
Colleen J. Nix
Michael & Darlle Macey & Family
Chet & Tom Chwierut

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME JULY 26, 2026

Saturday, July 25th

5:00 PM— Joseph Sloyan
Catherine Wells
Dale Yukich
Richard Guzior
Raymond Schwaller
Tom Donovan

Sunday, July 26th

7:30 AM— Raymond Cavanagh
Mary E. Ahern
Colleen J. Nix
Nancy Lukasik
Chet & Tom Chwierut
Irene Brajner & Family
9:30 AM— James O'Malley—6th Anniversary
John Norton
Arlene Gaidas
Don & Mary Tadda
John Patrick O'Shea
Dan & Joan Bagniewski
Klaudia—Healing Intention
11:30 AM— The Vasil Family—Special Intention
Brigid McNulty
Tom Scanlon
Jayne Dvorscek
Mr. & Mrs. Nicholas Weisgerber—
1st Wedding Anniversary
6:00 PM— For the Parishioners



St. Alexander Prayer Shawl Ministry

Jesus is alive among us and so is the love of God the Father. The warmth of his mother Mary's arms can wrap you in love as well. The Prayer Shawl Ministry has prayer shawls, lap blankets and baby blankets available to you in the PAC, so you can easily obtain them for your family or friends who are ill or need simple comfort. The grace of God is fulfilled when we are kind to each other. Please feel welcome to get these gifts of love to share a beautiful ministry of our faith, a prophetic sign of our love.