

St. Alexander Church

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
July 26, 2026

The Palos Catholic



17th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure buried in a field, which a person finds and hides again, and out of joy goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.”
- Mt 13:44

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, July 12, 2026.

Bennett Kline Barczak, son of Anthony & Jillian
Lenny Thomas Lyman, son of Kevin & Victoria

The following children were baptized by Deacon Fran Pendergast on Sunday, July 19, 2026.

Eleanor Louise Kuzmicki,
 daughter of Michael & Victoria

Oliver Anthony Sullivan, son of Neil & Margot

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:

Michael Hogan, husband of Kathleen



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	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



Around the time that the gold rushes ended in the nineteenth-century West, a curious phenomenon arose in New England known as money diggers. These were men who roamed the countryside with shovels, divining rods, and superstitious hope, convinced that treasure lay buried beneath their feet. Surely there must be gold under our feet. But there was not. The craze of these wild goose chases caused many to lose farms, families, and sanity.

In this week's Gospel, Jesus inaugurates a new era of spiritual money digging. He announces, "The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure buried in a field." He invites us to become treasure seekers who search in the right place. What is of greatest value is not money beneath our feet, but the infinite treasure hidden deep in the humanity of Jesus himself, God's own blessed life. The glory of heaven lies veiled in his ordinary life, his teaching, his suffering, his Church.

This teaching about the Kingdom changes things. Now we see the Church's doctrinal and moral teachings are not arbitrary rules. They are a treasure map. Follow them, and we will uncover divine happiness. Ignore them, and we will wander aimlessly, spade in hand, digging in empty fields, discouraged.

Where have we wasted energy seeking treasure in the wrong places? How have we given up on seeking the treasure of truly finding God's love for us? If so, let us repent of both. Then let us dust off our shovels and get back to digging deep into the field of Christ Jesus and his Church. After all, He never ceases seeking his treasure in us.

— Father John Muir

Today's Readings: 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



READINGS FOR THE WEEK July 27-August 2, 2026

Monday:	Jer 13:1-11/Dt 32:18-19, 20, 21/ Mt 13:31-35
Tuesday:	Jer 14:17-22/Ps 79:8, 9, 11 and 13/ Mt 13:36-43
Wednesday:	Jer 15:10, 16-21/Ps 59:2-3, 4, 10-11, 17, 18/Jn 11:19-27 or Lk 10:38-42
Thursday:	Jer 18:1-6/Ps 146:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6ab/ Mt 13:47-53
Friday:	Jer 26:1-9/Ps 69:5, 8-10, 14/Mt 13:54-58
Saturday:	Jer 26:11-16, 24/Ps 69:15-16, 30-31, 33-34/Mt 14:1-12
Sunday:	Is 55:1-3/Ps 145:8-9, 15-16, 17-18/ Rom 8:35, 37-39/Mt 14:13-21



**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!



***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**

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.

**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!

Contact the parish office at 708-448-4861 if you would like a Mass intention for 2026. or 2027.

COMMUNION MINISTERS

Saturday, August 1st

5:00 PM— Mary Ceebin, Steve Lukasik, Maureen Balich

Sunday, August 2nd

7:30 AM— Bob Straz, Patricia Sobczak, Nancy Foster

9:30 AM— Wendy Loftus, Rich Cruz, Nancy Dougherty, MB Flynn (LG)

11:30 AM— Ryan Alberts, Mike Kearney, Linda Horton

6:00 PM— Sharon Ayres, Michael Collins

READERS

Saturday, August 1st

5:00 PM— Joan Devito

Sunday, August 2nd

7:30 AM— Mary Dombrowski, Mark Foster

9:30 AM— Linda Buchanan

11:30 AM— Linda Horton, Ryan Alberts

6:00 PM— James Clark, Bob Ayres



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.

Knights Follow Through

On a steamy summer evening—thick with drifting Canadian wildfire smoke and with outdoor events being cancelled throughout the area—the annual Palos Heights Car Show pressed on as planned. True to their word, the Knights of Columbus were there, following through on their commitment to serve the community.

Armed with warm, salty, stadium-sized pretzels and plenty of ice-cold water and soda, the Knights were determined to make the evening a little brighter for attendees braving the heat. Their presence, hospitality, and good humor offered a refreshing lift to all who stopped by for a cool drink or a tasty treat to beat the heat.



Pilgrimage

The app for your Catholic journey

Do you attend Mass regularly, but crave something more? Using the new Pilgrimage app, you can journey through Scripture with friends, and your group. Your group will have access to a message board, which enables you to ask questions, start discussions, share content and connect with fellow group members, all from within the app. Learn more: www.pilgrimage.americanbible.org/

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

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.

If you want peace, work for justice.
— Pope Paul VI

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.



WORD OF LIFE

“Assisted suicide proponents are pursuing an aggressive nationwide campaign to advance their agenda through legislation, ballot measures, litigation, and public advertising, targeting states they see as most susceptible to their message. Some polls indicate that the public is receptive to the general concept of assisted suicide. But the same polls show that when the public learns about the dangers of assisted suicide, especially for those who are poor, elderly, disabled, or without access to good medical care, their views shift against the practice.”

—USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities
“Top Reasons to Oppose Assisted Suicide”

ParishSOFT

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

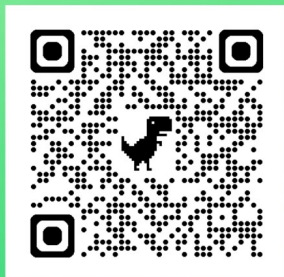


SCAN THE QR CODE FOR
INFORMATION ABOUT

-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



SAVE THE DATE
ST. ALEXANDER ANNUAL
PARISH PICNIC
SUNDAY, AUGUST 30TH

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.

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



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.

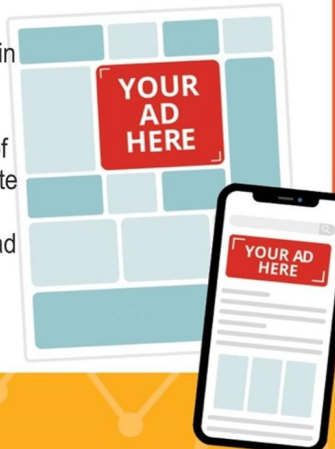
Low-Gluten Hosts

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.

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



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

Mass Intentions For The Week



SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME JULY 26, 2026

Saturday, July 25th

5:00 PM— Joseph Sloyan
Catherine Wells
Dale Yukich
Richard Guzor
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

Monday, July 27th

8:30 AM— Colleen J. Nix
Dolores Dalton Mallo
Adeline Hyzy

Tuesday, July 28th

8:30 AM— Colleen J. Nix
Margaret Corbett
Jennifer Aparo
Reynoldo Martinez

Wednesday, July 29th (Sts. Martha, Mary and Lazarus)

8:30 AM— Maggie Waldman
Colleen J. Nix
Florence C. Jastrzebowski
Art Wittbrodt—10th Anniversary
Pauline Macey

Thursday, July 30th (St. Peter Chrysologus)

8:30 AM— Thomas Pavlak—1st Anniversary
Mary Kunz
Colleen J. Nix
Peggy, Lillian & Leonard Bodach

Friday, July 31st (St. Ignatius of Loyola)

8:30 AM— John R. Cramer
Colleen J. Nix
Jane Byrne
Mary Kate Graf
Unborn Children

Saturday, August 1st (St. Alphonsus Liguori)

8:00 AM— Colleen J. Nix
John Janik
Don Tadda
Chet & Tom Chwierut
Blessed Mother's Intention
Holy Souls in Purgatory
Tom, Margaret, Pauline & Tommy Macey

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME AUGUST 2, 2026

Saturday, August 1st

5:00 PM— Dale Yukich
Nancy Lukasik
Margaret Hynes
Martin Downes
Ralph Dziuba
Elsie Marie McCoy
Jane Groover

Sunday, August 2nd

7:30 AM— Luke Tucker
Colleen J. Nix
Chet & Tom Chwierut
Kaydee Roberson
Irene Brajner & Family

9:30 AM— Natalia Slipkevych
David Yerkes Sr.
Steve & Carol Stefan
Zdzislaw Bartyzol
Dr. Michael Ryan
Don & Mary Tadda

11:30 AM— Rosie Quinn Anhalt
George Lombard
Marie Hohmer
Tom Scanlon

6:00 PM— For the Parishioners



ST. ALEXANDER DOMESTIC VIOLENCE MINISTRY

The mission of the Domestic Violence Ministry of St. Alexander Parish is to raise awareness of domestic violence in our parish; to promote the development and delivery of services in our community; and to advocate for the prevention of domestic violence through education and parish activities.

If you need help contact:

- National DV Hotline: 1-800-799-SAFE (7233)
- Illinois DV Helpline: 1-877-TOENDDV (1-877-863-6338)
- Crisis Center for South Suburbia: 1-708-429-SAFE (7233)