

St. Alexander Church

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time
January 14, 2024

The Palos Catholic



2ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Jesus turned and saw them following him and said to them, "What are you looking for?" They said to him, "Rabbi"—which translated means Teacher—"where are you staying?" He said to them, "Come, and you will see." - Jn 1:38-39a

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

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

Counseling Center: 708-448-4861 ext.310

Director: Sr. Claire Marie Czerwiec, SSND, LCPC

Parish E-Mail: alchurch1@comcast.net

St. Alexander on the Web: www.stalexanderpalos.org

St. Alexander School

7025 W. 126th S. 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

RCIA Celebration of the Rites 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 (RCIC) and teens (RCIT).

RCIA/RCIC/RCIT 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

Evening of Healing Prayer and Eucharistic Adoration

On the 1st Saturday of the month

4:30 PM - Recitation of the Rosary

5:00 PM - Regular Vigil Mass for Sunday

5:45 PM - Eucharistic Adoration
for one hour of quiet prayer

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,

As the winter months progress, I remind everyone to be careful as they walk on our parish grounds. Many times there are patches of black ice that you cannot see and then you may unfortunately fall. We, at St. Alexander, try to do our best to remove snow and ice from our sidewalks and parking lots but sometimes it is difficult due to weather conditions. Once again, take caution and walk slowly in icy weather.

Please remember that January is the month where we pray for the lives of the unborn. As we live our lives we remember that many children are lost through abortion. Many mothers have lost their lives during abortions and others continue to suffer emotional and physical scars.

Project Rachel reaches out to those mothers who have suffered so much. Project Rachel is a sensitive, private, free and confidential post-abortion reconciliation program sponsored by the Respect Life Office of the Archdiocese of Chicago. When a person has been involved in an abortion which calls for healing, they are referred for counseling to one of the seventy-five specially trained priests or counselors in the Chicago Archdiocese. The meeting with the priest or counselor will generally include counseling, prayer, and scripture. Project Rachel provides post-abortion healing for mothers, fathers, grandparents and siblings of aborted children, as well as abortion providers and those in the abortion industry.

Through this program the Catholic Church reaches out to those broken by the sin of abortion with the power of Jesus' death and resurrection. It is Jesus who heals and forgives through the sacraments, especially the Sacrament of Reconciliation. If you, a family member, or friend needs assistance or would like more information about Project Rachel, please call 312-337-1962. In the meantime, let us all say a prayer for an end to all abortions and a prayer for all who have either died or been hurt through this process.

Parishioners will soon be receiving raffle tickets for this year's Annual Parish Raffle, which supports our school and religious education program. The raffle drawing will take place on March 2nd.

As we continue the beginning of the new year we realize that technology is becoming more prevalent in our everyday lives. Unfortunately many people use modern day technology to scam people which affects their bank accounts, mortgage status, and to obtain individual's money through lies and deceit. Recently I have become aware that certain parishioners have obtained false texts from me asking for money and for help for an individual who is in need. Please ignore these texts. This is nothing new, it has happened before. Being your pastor for 13 1/2 years I believe that you know this is not my way of operating. If you are ever in doubt of any communiqué you have received from me please call the parish office. In the meantime please be aware of all the scam artists in today's society trying to illegally steal funds from others.

Finally, many thanks to our parish family, who would like to remain anonymous, that donated the Matthew Kelly books "Beautiful Eucharist". Please free to take several books not only for yourself but for those in your life who need to be reminded of the importance of the Eucharist in their lives.

God Bless,
Father Marty



Wedding Banns

III Brittany Fitzpatrick & Luke Oosterbaan



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:

Richard Ach, husband of Wilma
Anne Dvor, cousin of Sophie



READINGS FOR THE WEEK

January 15-21, 2024

- | | |
|------------|--|
| Monday: | 1 Sm 15:16-23/Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21 and 23/Mk 2:18-22 |
| Tuesday: | 1 Sm 16:1-13/Ps 89:20, 21-22, 27-28/Mk 2:23-28 |
| Wednesday: | 1 Sm 17:32-33, 37, 40-51/Ps 144:1b, 2, 9-10/Mk 3:1-6 |
| Thursday: | 1 Sm 18:6-9; 19:1-7/Ps 56:2-3, 9-10a, 10b-11, 12-13/Mk 3:7-12 |
| Friday: | 1 Sm 24:3-21/Ps 57:2, 3-4, 6 and 11/Mk 3:13-19 |
| Saturday: | 2 Sm 1:1-4, 11-12, 19, 23-27/Ps 80:2-3, 5-7/Mk 3:20-21 |
| Sunday: | Jon 3:1-5, 10/Ps 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 (4a)/1 Cor 7:29-31/Mk 1:14-2 |



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:

Tatiana Ranftl	Dale Yukich
Maggie Campbell	Lisa Krisik
Carole Holding	Barbara Collins
Dennis Rytlewski	Rosie Ryan
Martha Richards	

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.

WORD OF LIFE

"When we encounter Christ, experience his love, and deepen our relationship with him, we become more aware of our own worth and that of others. His love for each person is cause for great joy, and growing understanding of this priceless treasure motivates us to share his love with others. Our lives are often changed by the witness of others; so too, others' lives may be changed by our witness and authentic friendship with them."

—USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities



SCRIPTURE REFLECTION

As a priest, I'm amazed how happily married couples remember the tiniest details of their earliest encounters. They effortlessly report things like: "he wore a blue shirt," "we ordered brussels sprouts," "her hair was up in a bun," and "he spilled shrimp cocktail sauce at my family's open front door when it was ten degrees below zero," (that one's courtesy of my mom). We delight in remembering and speaking of when our new life of love began. The little details are glorious reminders that it's all real.

It's similar for John the Apostle. He tells us of the two disciples who followed Jesus into his house, "...they stayed with him that day. It was about four o'clock in the afternoon." Why

does that tiny detail matter? Because that's the time of day when they encountered the love of Jesus the Messiah in their lives. Our religion is not primarily about abstract truths about God, no matter how true or sublime. It is about God meeting and saving us in our human nature. It's about a human relationship.

What was the time of day when you first recall encountering Christ and his Church? Who was there? What did you feel? How did things look and smell? What happened? Take some time to recall it in detail. For me, it was inside an old, rickety church on a hillside in Jerome, Arizona. It was about 9 p. m. on a Saturday evening. I was with my friends Jenny, Brad, and Laura. We were praying, singing, and laughing. When was it for you? Remembering the details isn't empty nostalgia. It reminds us now that God's love for us in our humanity is real.

— Father John Muir

Today's Readings: 1 Sm 3:3b-10, 19/Ps 40:2, 4 7-8, 8-9, 10 (8a, 9a)/1 Cor 6:13c-15a, 17-20/Jn 1:35-42



9 DAYS FOR LIFE JANUARY 16-24

Pray to protect human life!

Join Catholics nationwide in prayer for the protection of human life! You can download the novena or get the daily prayers and reflections by email or text message.

9DAYSFORLIFE.COM



St. Al's Over 50 Fellowship

Just a reminder that there is no Over 50 Fellowship Meeting in January. We will see you February 15, 2024. At that time we will be also collecting our 2024 dues of \$25.00.

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.



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!

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 2ND
WINNERS WILL BE POSTED ON OUR WEBSITE

Two St. Alexander School students are District winners and will advance to the Archdiocesan Chapter competition of the Knights of Columbus Keep Christ in Christmas poster contest. Congratulations to Andrew Shobe whose poster (pictured on the left) was chosen as the district winner in the Kindergarten category and Saoirse Welch's poster (pictured on the right) was the winner in the Grade 1 and 2 division.

Each year the Knights of Columbus sponsors the Keep Christ in Christmas poster contest for our school children. By engaging the artistic talents of our young people in the contest it is hoped they will come to a deeper understanding and appreciation of the true meaning of Christmas and that their art work will bring others to remember our Lord Jesus Christ during the Christmas season.



WINTER BAKE SALE

KICKING OFF CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK!



SUNDAY, JAN. 28TH • AFTER ALL MASSES
7:30 AM - 12:30 PM

SUPPORTING THE ST. ALEXANDER CLASS OF 2024
ALL PROCEEDS WILL GO TOWARD 8TH GRADE GRADUATION ACTIVITIES

a dozen reasons to choose Catholic Schools



St. Alexander's Athletic Board/Booster Club Presents



Championship Game Raffle Pools

Sunday, January 28, 2024

Super Square \$120

Pays out every score change AND 1st Quarter,
Halftime, 3rd Quarter and Final Score.

Includes Entry, Food and Drink.

General Tickets are also available, \$50 in advance, \$60 at the door.

Squares can be purchased from:

Pete White 630-816-4955 | Jim Hughes 773-680-3832
Joe LiVigni 708-296-2175 | Tom Hardiman 312-617-9214

COMMUNION MINISTERS**Saturday, January 20th**

5:00 PM— Maureen Balich, Ed & Pat Sobczak

Sunday, January 21st7:30 AM— Nancy Foster, Ruth Macey,
Karen McNeal9:30 AM— Nancy Dougherty, Carol Schuemann,
Wendy Loftus

11:30 AM— Catholic School Mass

6:00 PM— Merrill Jurgens, Sharon Ayres,
Mike Collins**READERS****Saturday, January 20th**

5:00 PM— Linda Buchanan

Sunday, January 21st

7:30 AM— Mark Foster

9:30 AM— Ryan Alberts

11:30 AM— Catholic School Mass

6:00 PM— Bob Ayres, Johanna Jurgens

**The Parish Administrative Office will
be closed on Martin Luther King Day
Monday, January 15th**

**SHELTER | PREVENTION | HOUSING**

BEDS Plus is providing help... and hope...for the homeless right here in the Burbank-Oak Lawn area! We have opened a full-time shelter at the former Aloha Motel located at 8515 S. Cicero Avenue in Chicago. This facility will provide homeless individuals an opportunity to meet with our case managers regularly to find solutions to their homelessness.

And you can help! Right now, we really need volunteers to help us with meals at the shelter. We will be serving 21 meals each week and that takes work. You can volunteer to prepare meals, serve meals, or greet and help our guests. Give as little as 3-4 hours a month. Share the meal prep (church groups, friends, family) or bring a friend or two to serve meals. If you are looking for a way to help the homeless population, this is it. Call Bill Burke at 708-831-2237 or email at burke@beds-plus.org. We have shifts to match whatever is convenient for you. Please consider this opportunity to help those who need it most.

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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.



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

Mass Intentions For The Week



SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME JANUARY 14, 2024

Saturday, January 13th

- 5:00 PM— For the Parishioners
 John Racila
 Robert Fisher
- Sunday, January 14th**
- 7:30 AM— James Laski Sr.
 Mary Laski
 Linda Koepke
 Catherine Hoban
 Aggie Palmer
 Virg, Joe & Rick Potempa
 Colleen J. Nix
 Robert Barth
 Joseph Stadelmann
- 9:30 AM— Raymond & Marion Hunt
 Nancy Tarka
 Eugene R. Codo
 Gerry Pannaralla
 Jim Wann
- 11:30 AM— Karyn Mrotek
 John Svabek
 Debbie Obiala
 Patricia Mikrut
- 6:00 PM— June Spoonhour
 Kim Keifer—Healing Intention

Monday, January 15th

- 8:30 AM— Irene Pajda
 A.J. Manger Jr.
 Colleen J. Nix

Tuesday, January 16th

- 8:30 AM— Nancy Tarka
 Dorothy Janik
 Colleen J. Nix
 Fr. John Crosby
 Rose DiOrio—Special Intention
 Michael Macey—Healing Intention
 Poor Souls in Purgatory

Wednesday, January 17th (St. Anthony)

- 8:30 AM— Kimberly Koning—1st Anniversary
 Colleen J. Nix
 Betty Chwierut—Special Intention

Thursday, January 18th

- 8:30 AM— Macey Family
 Joan & Harvey Dust—Healing Intention
 Colleen J. Nix

Friday, January 19th

- 8:30 AM— Colleen J. Nix
 Liam Hanley
 Mary Moss
 Mike Sweeney—Special Intention
 Julian P. Jastrzebowski Jr.
 Special Intention
- 4:30 PM— Wedding: Brittany Fitzpatrick &
 Luke Oosterbaan

Saturday, January 20th (Sts. Fabian & Sebastian)

8:00 AM— Colleen J. Nix

THIRDSUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME JANUARY 21, 2024

Saturday, January 20th

- 5:00 PM— Pamela R. Bright
 Stephen "Steve" Lynch
 Sam Sarcinelli

Sunday, January 21st

- 7:30 AM— For the Parishioners
 Judy McCarthy
 Linda Koepke
 Johanna Hoban
 Aggie Palmer
 Matt & Arlene Sobczak
 Colleen J. Nix
- 9:30 AM— Margaret E. Peggy Boyle
 Andrzej Radecki
 Nell Hanley
 Joanne Schwabe
 Dennis P. Troesch
 Joan & Dan Bagniewski
- 11:30 AM— Raymond & Marion Hunt
 Rosanne Jones
- 6:00 PM— Joseph Charles Grill
 Richard Jurgens

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