

St. Alexander Church

Third Sunday of Lent

March 3, 2024

The Palos Catholic



3RD SUNDAY OF LENT

Since the Passover of the Jews was near, Jesus went up to Jerusalem. He found in the temple area those who sold oxen, sheep, and doves, as well as the money changers seated there. He made a whip out of cords and drove them all out of the temple area. - Jn 2:13b-15a

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

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

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

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

St. Alexander Parish Presents Parish Lenten Mission Fr. Tom McCarthy



March 11th—13th 7:00 PM
St. Alexander Church

What does it mean to be Catholic today?

Evening 1 — *The Saints* – Are they the heroes of our faith?

Evening 2 — *Prayer* – Is it worth it?

Evening 3 — *The Family of Faith* – What is my part in being an active part of this family?

Contact the parish office at 708-448-4861 if you would like a Mass intention for 2024 or 2025.



Stations of the Cross
Every Friday evening
during Lent at 7:00 PM



ROSARY & SOUP NIGHTS

During Lent we encourage families to teach their children that fasting and prayer can make unimaginable changes. Make a change and add something to your life you wouldn't normally do. We look forward to sharing a meal with you but more importantly, we look forward to praying with you. We meet every Wednesday evening during Lent.

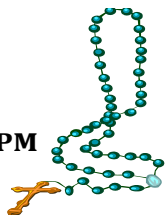
**ST. ALEXANDER PARISH
TEACHER'S LOUNGE**

Wednesday Nights 6:00-7:00 PM

March 6th, 13th, 20th, 27th

For additional information please contact
Kathy Yerkes at (708) 704-3259

* Soup provided by Country House Restaurant



READINGS FOR THE WEEK March 4-10, 2024

Monday: 2 Kgs 5:1-15ab/Ps 42:2, 3; 43:3,4/
Lk 4:24-30

Tuesday: Dn 3:25, 34-43/Ps 25:4-5ab, 6 and 7bc,
8-9/Mt 18:21-35

Wednesday: Dt 4:1, 5-9/Ps 147:12-13, 15-16, 19-20/
Mt 5:17-19

Thursday: Jer 7:23-28/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9/
Lk 11:14-23

Friday: Hos 14:2-10/Ps 81:6c-8a, 8bc-9, 10-11ab,
14 and 17/Mk 12:28-34

Saturday: Hos 6:1-6/Ps 51:3-4, 18-19, 20-21ab/
Lk 18:9-14

Sunday: 2 Chr 36:14-16, 19-23/Ps 137:1-2, 3, 4-5,
6 (6ab)/Eph 2:4-10/Jn 3:14-21
Scrutiny: 1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a/
Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 (1)/Eph 5:8-14/
Jn 9:1-41 or 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38



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:

Marianne Thurson, mother of Sheila Gilligan



Fr. Frank Kurucz baptized **Lucas John Yerkes**, son of John & Megan, on Sunday, February 25, 2024.

Fr. Colm Mitchell baptized **Madelyn Eileen Jankovich**, daughter of Michael & Caitlin, on February 25, 2024.

We welcome them into the family of the church and offer their parents our prayers and good wishes.



II Breanna Collins & Ryan Giacomelli

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.



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	Rosie Ryan
Eileen Long	Doris Nowak
Penelope Schram	Patrick Regan
Jerry Hamman	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.

SCRIPTURE REFLECTION



I am the Lord your God ... You shall not have other gods beside me. —Ex 20:2-3

One of the greatest golfers of all time — if not the greatest — was Jack Nicklaus. Which is why it is baffling that at the beginning of each season he would return to his childhood coach and re-learn how to grip the golf club. It's like Shakespeare re-learning the alphabet and grammar. Why would he do that? Because Jack knew that the fundamentals are always relevant. Perfecting and obsessing over his grip allowed him to do everything else in the game well. In sports and life, the best ones love the basics.

Similarly, as we begin Lent, we re-learn the spiritual basics in the Ten Commandments. Consider the first, to "have no other gods besides me." This is our "grip." Is our connection to God one of absolute fidelity and exclusive worship? Am I willing to let go of my precious idols, the things I cling to instead of God? Once we say "yes" to this fundamental question of our spiritual "grip," then we are ready to properly engage with everything else in life. Watch how beautifully the game of life unfolds in the next nine commandments (numbered in parentheses): how we speak to God and others (2 and 8), how we organize our week (3), how we relate to our family (4) and the wider community (5 and 7), how we live our sexuality (6), and how we order all the other desires of the human heart (9 and 10). But don't rush to these later Commandments too soon! Everything in life is built on the first Commandment. The more we focus on worshiping God alone, the better we navigate the complexity of life with panache, effectiveness, and love.

Lenten challenge: This week, identify what you can do to better worship God alone. If you're not sure, scan the last nine commandments to identify what you are most likely to worship instead of God. Power, pleasure, control of your time, possessions, family, health, reputation, money? Commit to concrete action to help you let go of this "idol" to better hold on to God alone in faithful worship. Remember: the best love the basics.

— Father John Muir

Today's Readings: Ex 20:1-17 or 20:1-3, 7-8, 12-17/
Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11 (Jn 6:68c)/1 Cor 1:22-25/
Jn 2:13-25 Scrutiny: Ex 17:3-7/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9
(8)/Rom 5:1-2, 5-8/Jn 4:5-42 or
4:5-15, 19b-26, 39a, 40-42

Fr. Mitchell invited second and third graders to the burning of the palms in preparation for Ash Wednesday



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 Knights of Columbus Council #14057 would like to offer military families Blue Star Banners. If you would like to receive a Blue Star Banner, please call the Parish Office at 708-448-4861.

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
 Shannon Lungaro - U.S. Navy
 Alan Filipiak - U.S. Navy
 A. Amanda Cleland - U.S. Air Force
 Joshua Bramlett U.S. Navy
 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 Riden - U.S. Navy
 Kevin Lewis - U.S. Navy
 Michael Lindstrom - U.S. Army
 Ryan Graeber - U.S. Marines
 Mary Kate Wetzel - U.S. Marines
 Chloe Van Witzenburg - U.S. Army
 Hanna Van Witzenburg - U.S. Army
 Isaac & Veronika Baines - U.S. Navy
 Michael D. Faloon - National Guard
 Conor Knapp - U.S. Army

Robert Brennan - U.S. Army
 Scott Milcarek - U.S. Army
 Charles Berglund - U.S. Marines
 Patrick Pratl - U.S. Navy
 Andrew Cleland - U.S. Army
 John Hoban III - U.S. Army
 Mark Filipiak - U.S. Marines
 Steven Lungaro - U.S. Navy
 Matthew Bramlett - U.S. Navy
 David Lindstrom - National Guard
 Daniel Weakley - U.S. Navy
 Stephen Vossler - U.S. Navy
 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 Leshman - U.S. Navy
 Cody Goldman - National Guard
 Cameron Smentek - U.S. Army
 Judith Hite - U.S. Army
 Jake Soukup - U.S. Army

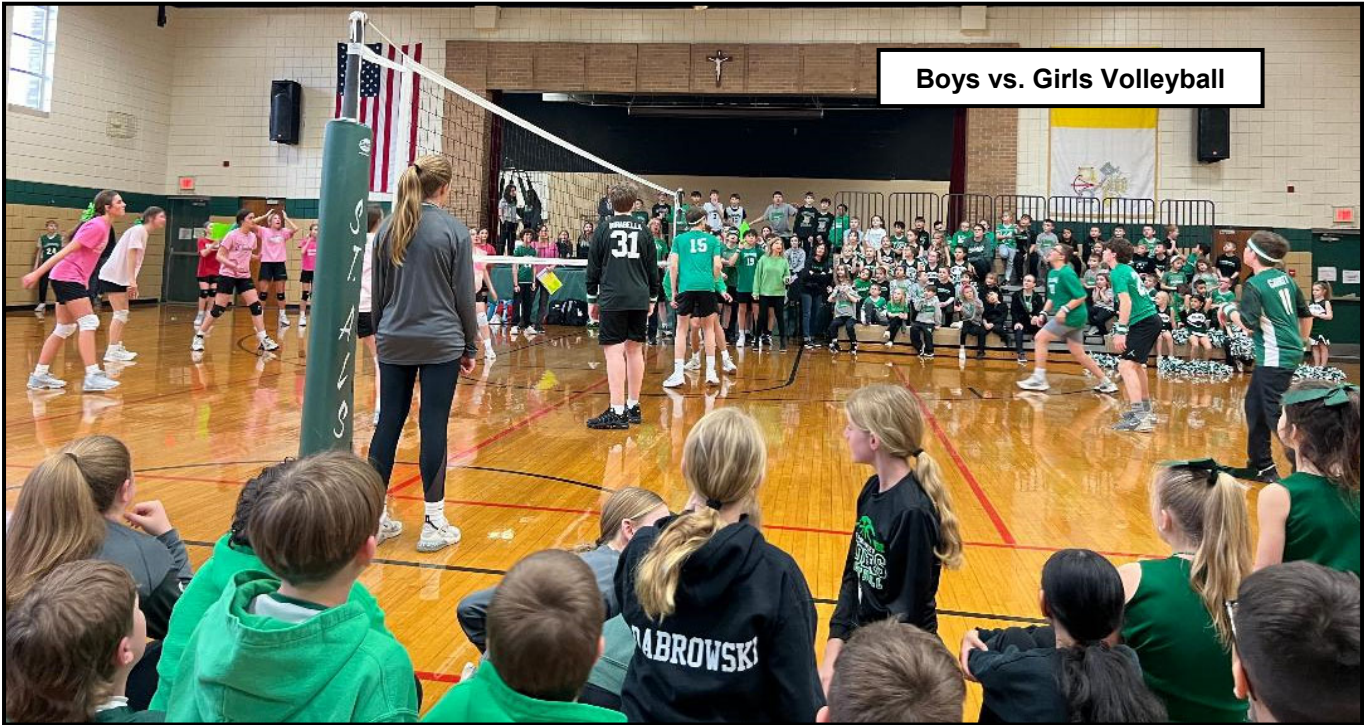
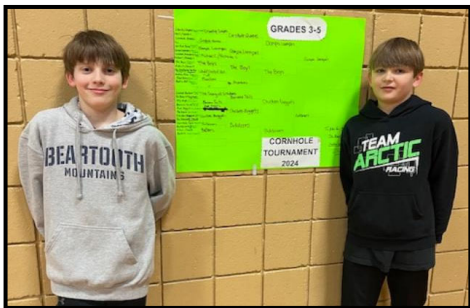


Catholic Schools Week Activities





CORNHOLE WINNERS



Boys vs. Girls Volleyball

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



Archdiocese of Chicago

Lenten Drive for Basic Needs **March 9th to March 24th**

We kindly request your generous donations of new toiletries, t-shirts, socks, and underwear for men, women, and children. Your thoughtful contributions will make a significant impact on the lives of those less fortunate in our community.

How to Contribute:

- Bring your donations to the designated collection point in the parish narthex.
- Donations will be accepted during weekend Masses.
- Ensure that all items are new to provide the recipients with the dignity they deserve.

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.

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LENTEN REGULATIONS

Fridays during Lent are obligatory days of abstinence. Abstinence from meat is to be observed by all Catholics who are 14 years old and older on all Fridays of Lent.

The Paschal Fast, as well as abstinence, are prescribed for Good Friday and is encouraged to continue until the Easter Vigil (on Holy Saturday Night). This special fast is to honor the suffering and death of the Lord Jesus, and to prepare ourselves to share more fully and to celebrate more readily his Resurrection.

When fasting, a person may take only one full meal. Two smaller meals are permitted if necessary to maintain strength according to one's needs, but eating solid foods between meals is not permitted.

COMMUNION MINISTERS

Saturday, March 9th

5:00 PM— Sharon Mundo, Maureen Balich, Terry Horvath

Sunday, March 10th

7:30 AM— Susan Chillmon, Steve Lukasik, Betty Chwierut

9:30 AM— Patti Hartig, Carol Schuemann, Rosemary Dziuba

11:30 AM— Paul Sullivan, Jim & Pat Fisher

6:00 PM— Michael Collins, Sharon Ayres

READERS

Saturday, March 9th

5:00 PM— Linda Buchanan, Joan DeVito

Sunday, March 10th

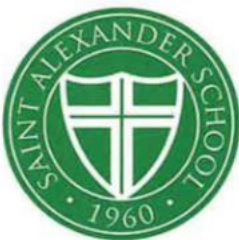
7:30 AM— Paula Somers

9:30 AM— Debbie Myron

11:30 AM— Mary Lally, Mary Ann Klimek

6:00 PM— James Clark, Bob Ayres





ST. ALEXANDER CATHOLIC SCHOOL

7025 West 126th Street, Palos Heights, Illinois 60463

P 708-448-0408 • F 708-448-5947

StAlexanderSchool.com

@StAlexanderSchool

January 10, 2024

Dear St. Alexander Parishioners and Donors,

Recently, the legislators of Illinois abandoned thousands of Catholic School students and families by failing to support the Tax Credit Scholarship Program.

As a loyal supporter of our parish and school, you understand the devastating impact of this change.

We hope to meet this challenge of assisting our students at St. Alexander School who were receiving Tax Credit Scholarships through a new scholarship platform. The Catholic Schools Scholarship Program, a fund that will provide need-based financial assistance to families who are committed to a Catholic school education, has been established to provide donors a way to make a monetary gift and still receive a 100% tax deduction (as allowable by law).

Gifts can be made online at: www.archchicago.org/scholarships

It is important to note that **your gift should be directed to St. Alexander School**. All monies directed to St. Alexander School is guaranteed by the Archdiocese of Chicago to support only St. Alexander students.

We hope everyone who knows and loves our school will consider joining us in the new effort around scholarships. Please help make a Catholic school education a reality for a deserving student.

You have faith in St. Alexander School and we have faith in your support. Together we will ensure that our Catholic school is available and accessible for years to come.

With gratitude,

Rev. Martin E. Michniewicz, Pastor

Mrs. Sharon O'Toole, Principal

National Blue Ribbon Schools Awardee, 2005.



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3. Enter your name and email
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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.



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!

Daddy Daughter Dance SAT APRIL 20, 2024

TAKE ME OUT TO THE BALL GAME

Casual Attire Suggested



Volunteers requested to set up Fri Apr 19th after school or Sat at the Dance
Please contact Cindy Kennedy 709-921-0003 or Christine Augustyn 708-415-2873

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**.



CHWC 2024! DREXEL HILL, PENNSYLVANIA JUNE 22ND-29TH

**I CAN TAKE UP TO
13 TEENS AND 5
ADULTS!!!**

Thank you for all your support in the past, if anyone would like to continue to support our mission trip, any donations would be greatly appreciated!

All donations help keep the cost down for those who want to join!

For more information

Contact

Tyler Ried

(309)826-2049 (Cell)

Tried@archchicago.org



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!

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.

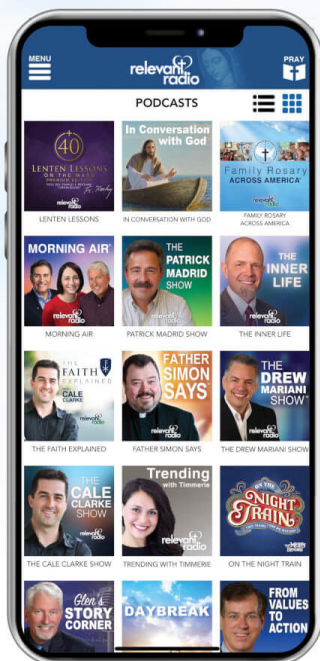
Prepare or update your will or trust today by contacting an attorney. For sample bequest language, contact Fr. Marty at 708-448-4861.

For the benefit of **widowed parishioners**, there will be a workshop. Your participation is welcome. Thank you.

What: **Retreat/workshop for Widowed Men & Women**
 When: **April 13 & 14 (2-day program-overnight encouraged)**
 Where: **St. Mary's Retreat House, Lemont, Illinois 60439**
 (Commute or stay overnight.)

For further information, call: 708-354-7211 or e-mail us at joyfulagain7211@gmail.com
 website: www.joyfulagain.org

Joyful Again! is a spiritual program for widows and widowers who want to resolve the normal grief they feel after losing their spouse and who want to begin to start to live fully again.



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Mass Intentions For The Week



THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT MARCH 3, 2024

Saturday, March 2nd

5:00 PM— Poor Souls in Purgatory
Dolores & Robert Kramarski
Nancy Tarka
Melissa Mundo

Sunday, March 3rd

7:30 AM— Linda Koepke
Vincent & Mary Hoban
Aggie Palmer
Thomas Lahey
Colleen J. Nix

9:30 AM— For the Parishioners
Dorothy Janik
Ruth Chamberlain
Colin Myron
Dr. Richard Griffin
Donna M. & Joseph A. Feldner, SGM
Loren J. Feldner, DDS
Daniel Bagniewski—8th Anniversary
Stephen “Bud” Stefan
Antoinette Gill
Alejandro Liceaja—Birthday Blessing

11:30 AM— Jim & Pat Serio
John Svabek
George Lombard

6:00 PM— Healing Intention

Monday, March 4th (St. Casimir)
8:30 AM— Mary Eileen Crean
John Janik
Sean Donahue—3rd Anniversary
Walter J. Dybowski
Joan Bagniewski
Colleen J. Nix

Tuesday, March 5th

8:30 AM— Joanne Schwabe
Fr. Charles Degnan—12th Anniversary
Mary Stephens
Irving Griffin
Colleen J. Nix

Wednesday, March 6th

8:30 AM— Alexander Dolan Roth
Stephan “Bud” Stefan
Tess & Tom—Engagement Blessing
Colleen J. Nix

Thursday, March 7th (Sts. Perpetua and Felicity)

8:30 AM— Mary E. Boyle—3rd Anniversary
Virginia Pieczynski
Joseph & Antoinette Gill
Colleen J. Nix

Friday, March 8th (St. John of God)

8:30 AM— Louise Bugaj
Colleen J. Nix

Saturday, March 9th (St. Frances of Rome, St. Catherine of Bologna)
8:00 AM— Tom & Kathleen Walsh
Colleen J. Nix

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT MARCH 10, 2024

Saturday, March 9th

5:00 PM— Joseph S. Grill
Kevin Ready
Steven “Bud” Stefan

Sunday, March 10th

7:30 AM— Josephine Data
Linda Koepke
Catherine Hoban
Aggie Palmer
Poor Souls in Purgatory
Matthew Murphy
Steven Plescher
Colleen J. Nix

9:30 AM— Joseph Pajda
Jim Wann
Joanne Schwabe
Jeanette Mazurek
Breta Hoban
Bernice Wisniewski
Donna M. & Joseph A. Feldner, SGM
Loren J. Feldner, DDS

11:30 AM— For the Parishioners
John Svabek
Stan Mulica
Darrell Keogh

6:00 PM— Healing Intention

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