

St. Alexander Church

Pentecost Sunday

May 28, 2023

The Palos Catholic



PENTECOST SUNDAY

Jesus said to them again,
"Peace be with you. As
the Father has sent me, so
I send you." - Jn 20:21

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 Czerwec, SSND, LCPC

Parish E-Mail: alchurch1@comcast.net

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

St. Alexander School

126th St. and 71st Ave. 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

126th St. and 71st Ave. 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 Vigil: 7:00 PM

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 - Benediction and Eucharistic
Adoration for one hour

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 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

Archdiocese of Chicago Vocation Director:

Rev. Timothy Monahan 312-534-8298



FROM OUR PASTOR

Dear Parishioners,

On this Feast of Pentecost our Lord Jesus Christ blessed His apostles and followers with the gifts of the Holy Spirit: the Spirit of Love, Peace and Joy. The same Holy Spirit that came into the Apostles in tongues of fire two thousand years ago still enflames our hearts with the same gifts of wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, piety, and fear of the Lord. Today we are called to be modern day apostles sharing our gifts with one another and spreading the good news of Christ to all people.

As we celebrate The Feast of the Pentecost, we recall that Jesus breathed on the apostles and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit". Before that Jesus twice told his apostles, "Peace be with you". Our Lord Jesus Christ wishes that each and every man and woman on this earth live in peace and harmony with one another. He made no distinctions whether somebody was white or black, Jew or Gentile, or any other nationality. As we live in these times where there are massacres in schools and in our streets, violence is rampant everywhere, innocent lives are taken, racial and ethnic tensions still exist, we must remember that our Lord wishes us all to be at peace and be a peaceful people.

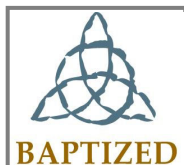
I would like to wish everyone a Happy Memorial Day. Wherever you are this day, please pray for all of our veterans, especially those who sacrificed their lives for our freedom. Also on this day remember all of our loved ones who are now with the Ascended Christ in the Eternal Kingdom of Heaven. Our Memorial Day Mass will be held Monday, May 30th at 8:30AM.

Friday, June 2nd, will be the 103rd anniversary of the birth of St. John Paul II. As Pope, we recall that St. John Paul was instrumental in bringing down communism in Eastern Europe as he worked with other world leaders. In most countries communism fell with protests that were held in a peaceful manner. Let us pray that our country will take the example of St. John Paul II and achieve a change of heart amongst people without violence, and in a peaceful way.

Congratulations to Fr. Edward Mikolajczyk who celebrates his 50th Anniversary of Ordination to the Priesthood on Sunday, May 28th with a special Mass at 11:00 AM at Our Lady of the Woods. For fifty years Fr. Ed has served the Archdiocese of Chicago in many roles including associate pastor, a member of the faculty of the high school seminaries of Quigley South and Archbishop Quigley Preparatory Seminary, and for almost twenty years was pastor of Queen of Martyrs parish in Evergreen Park. He has also served on the Presbyteral Council of the Archdiocese as a member, vice chair, and chair person. Currently he is a member of the college of consultors of the archdiocese. As you can see, Fr. Ed has served the faithful of Chicago for many years and in many ministries. We are truly blessed that Fr. Ed takes the time to celebrate weekday and Sunday liturgies, when he is available at our great parish. Thank you very much Fr. Ed Mikolajczyk for your ministry and may God bless you with many more years of health in serving the people of God. Our parish and I are personally grateful for your friendship and service.

As I write this article early on Tuesday, May 23rd it is the day the Illinois Attorney General's Office released its report on the Illinois Catholic Dioceses' response to the child sexual abuse crisis. The nature of the report and the media coverage it will generate are certainly causes of pain and concern for all. I ask that you please read the pages in our bulletin which are Cardinal Cupich's statement and response to the Illinois Attorney General Report. There are also a couple of pages from the Office for the Protection of Children and Youth. In the meantime, please continue to pray for all those who have been abused in the past, for the Catholic Church, and for St. Alexander Parish. Please always know the protection of our children is one of my greatest concerns and priorities in our wonderful parish.

God Bless,
Father Marty



The following children were baptized by Fr. Martin Michniewicz on Sunday, May 21, 2023.

Boyen Patrick Craven, son of Brian & Samantha
Mackenzie Irene King, daughter of Kevin & Melissa
Calvin Quinn Rekruciak, son of Joseph & Giles
Henry Andrew White, son of Kyle & Katarzyna

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:

Ralph Willard Heft, father of Ralph Jr.
Elwood Michel, father of Jay
Jack Schuch, husband of Patti

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.



SCRIPTURE REFLECTION



I hope you'll acknowledge with me a simple fact: it's not normal to have tongues of fire "part and come to rest" on people. It is actually pretty strange. Yet that is precisely what we celebrate in this feast of Pentecost. How can this mean something to us in our daily lives?

Jews had a tradition that heaven is a temple made of bricks of fire. So, through the apostles, the heavenly temple is coming to earth. But this fire looks like tongues, not bricks. That means that heavenly speech will be crucial to building a dwelling place for God on earth among men and women. So, it's no surprise when the apostles begin to speak in a miraculous way that is understood by all language groups. They are speaking of what God has done in and through Jesus: bringing heaven to earth and uniting all peoples to God and to each other.

How often our speech divides: gossip, slander, insults, and so on. How strange and rare it is when people speak in ways that truly unite instead of divide. Imagine how powerful it would be if you and I began to speak at home, at work, and in our community in a way that made people hear heavenly speech. Imagine if you spoke of the mighty deeds of God in a way that everyone could understand. That's precisely what the Holy Spirit descends upon us to do. Ask Him to come as a tongue of fire to you once again, and He will. Then speak!

— Father John Muir

Today's Readings: Acts 2:1-11/Ps 104:1, 24, 29-30, 31, 34 (see 30)/1 Cor 12:3b-7, 12-13/Jn 20:19-23



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:

Tatiana Ranftl	Dale Yukich
Maggie Campbell	Lisa Krisik
Joe Guzman	Greg Ceebin
Stanley Maciasz	Karen Neadly
Jim Gibbons	Joan Morris

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 at 708-448-4861.



READINGS FOR THE WEEK May 29-June 4, 2023

Monday:	Gn 3:9-15, 20 or Acts 1:12-14/Ps 87:1-2, 3 and 5, 6-7/Jn 19:25-34
Tuesday:	Sir 35:1-12/Ps 50:5-6, 7-8, 14 and 23/Mk 10:28-31
Wednesday:	Zep 3:14-18a or Rom 12:9-16/Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6/Lk 1:39-56
Thursday:	Sir 42:15-25/Ps 33:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9/Mk 10:46-52
Friday:	Sir 44:1, 9-13/Ps 96:10, 11-12, 13/Mk 11:11-26
Saturday:	Sir 51:12cd-20/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11/Mk 11:27-33
Sunday:	Ex 34:4b-6, 8-9/Dn 3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56 (52b)/2 Cor 13:11-13/Jn 3:16-18



SAVE THE DATE
ST. ALEXANDER ANNUAL
PARISH PICNIC
SUNDAY, JUNE 25TH



IN HONOR OF
MEMORIAL DAY
Monday, May 29th
 Mass will be celebrated
 on Monday at 8:30 AM
 The Parish Administrative
 Office will be closed



**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!

**Please join us every
 Wednesday during May to
 pray the Rosary at the Mary
 statue from 6:00-7:00PM**



We will meet at the Mary statue located on the west side of the grass area in front of the old convent. Bring a lawn chair or stand, park in the lot and walk over.

WORD OF LIFE

“Even the weakest and most vulnerable, the sick, the old, the unborn and the poor, are masterpieces of God’s creation, made in his own image, destined to live forever, and deserving of the utmost reverence and respect.”

—USCCB Respect Life flyer quoting Pope Francis’ “Day for Life Greeting”

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Saturday, June 3rd

5:00 PM— Maureen Balich, Bev Antos, Sharon Mundo

Sunday, June 4th

7:30 AM— Nancy Foster, Betty Chwierut, Susan Chillmon

9:30 AM— Nancy Dougherty, Wendy Loftus, Carol Schuemann

11:30 AM— Jeff & Ofelia Foreman, Tom Stuchly

6:00 PM— Sharon Ayres, Michael Collins, Merrill Jurgens



LECTORS

Saturday, June 3rd

5:00 PM— Joan DeVito, Jan John

Sunday, June 4th

7:30 AM— Paula Somers, Mark Foster

9:30 AM— Rich Cruz, Debbie Myron

11:30 AM— Mary Ann Klimek, Mary Lally

6:00 PM— Johanna Jurgens, Bob Ayres



MEMORIAL DAY

HEAVENLY
 FATHER,
 INSCRIBE
 THEIR
 SACRIFICES
 INTO OUR
 HEARTS SO
 WE MAY
 NEVER
 FORGET THE
 LOSS OF
 THESE
 HEROES.



Congratulations to our sixth grade Boys Volleyball team on winning first place in the Southside Boys Volleyball League in the A Division defeating St. John Fisher Blue. Team members: Shane Devine, Jimmy Hughes, Matthew Kent, Bryan Lech, Jake Maslowski, Marty Navarette, Luke Pricone, Harrison Schultz, Billy Sheerin, Brendan Stroner, Conor Weldon and coaches Therese Devine and Ellen Navarette.



Students in 3rd grade researched a famous person, created a storyboard and dressed as their character as they presented the information to their classroom and other grade levels.

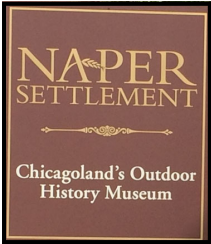




ST. ALEXANDER SCHOOL HAPPENINGS



Fourth grade
field trip
to Naper
Settlement



**Statement of Cardinal Blase J. Cupich, archbishop of Chicago, in Response to the Illinois Attorney General Report
May 23, 2023**

Today, Illinois Attorney General Kwame Raoul published a report (the Report) on his office's investigation of allegations of child sexual abuse against clergy in the six Illinois Catholic dioceses over a period of nearly 90 years. The Report addresses both how dioceses responded to such allegations in decades past and current policies that help ensure the safety of children and support the healing of survivors. We have not studied the report in detail but have concerns about data that might be misunderstood or are presented in ways that could be misleading. It is therefore important that we state what we know to be true. For example:

The 451 names "disclosed":

- 451 is all 6 dioceses and includes religious order priests
- 451 includes the priests already on the 6 web sites
- ALL were reported to civil authorities, none were undisclosed, none were "hiding in plain sight since at least 2002.
- We DO list religious found by their orders to be substantiated
- 149 still "undisclosed" men are mostly religious order members who are not on our site; they are not undisclosed, and they are under the supervision and report to their respective order. AG himself distinguished between dioceses and religious orders, saying "this was an investigation of the dioceses, not the orders," recognizing they are different. However their totals include both.
- AG said: church is more worthy of investigation because it is a trusted religious organization. We think all children deserve to be protected regardless of whether they are cared for by a religious or secular institution; it isn't fair or wise to focus only on the Catholic Church, which has made the greatest strides in this area.
- Statute of limitations: we offer care, compassion (pastoral outreach) and even compensation to all who come forward, regardless of the statute of limitations.
- AG recommends outsiders being involved in overseeing our internal church investigations. We have had an independent review board with lay people overseeing these investigations since 1992, which is why the number of abuse incidents has dropped so dramatically.

We must think first of the survivors of sexual abuse who carry the burden of these crimes through their lives. On behalf of the archdiocese, I apologize to all who have been harmed by the failure to prevent and properly respond to child sexual abuse by clerics. Survivors will forever be in our prayers, and we have devoted ourselves to rooting out this problem and providing healing to victims.

For more than 30 years, the Archdiocese of Chicago has been at the forefront of developing and improving policies and programs to address the scourge of child sexual abuse and to support survivors. Our policies and procedures, first adopted in 1992, have served as a model for organizations and professionals dealing with this difficult issue. I hope the attention drawn to the issue by the Report will encourage those who work with minors to learn from our experience and take steps to protect all children from sexual abuse.

Here are some key facts about our efforts in the Archdiocese of Chicago:

- Since 1992, we have maintained one of the first and largest victim-survivor assistance programs in the nation. We provide assistance to anyone making an allegation, regardless of whether the accused is living or whether the allegation is substantiated.
- No cleric with even one substantiated allegation against him is in ministry in the Archdiocese of Chicago. When we learn of an allegation of abuse, we act promptly, report it to civil authorities, remove the accused from ministry and investigate the allegation. Allegations are submitted to our lay-majority Independent Review Board for investigation. In accordance with the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) Charter for the Protection of Children and Youth, clerics found to have committed even one act of child sexual abuse are permanently removed from ministry.
- The archdiocese has, to our knowledge, reported all allegations of child sexual abuse by clergy to civil authorities, including the oldest allegations. We report these allegations regardless of whether the accused is alive or dead, a diocesan priest, an extern priest from another diocese or a religious order priest. We consider an allegation to have been made even if the report is made anonymously, has incomplete facts (such as the name of the priest or parish) or is made by a third party, and we report all such allegations to civil authorities. It is important to emphasize that, to our knowledge, there are no “hidden,” “undisclosed” or “unreported” allegations of child sexual abuse by the clergy of this archdiocese.
- Under our recently amended policies, allegations against deceased priests who have not yet been placed on our website list are processed by our Independent Review Board. If an allegation against a deceased priest is substantiated, the priest’s name is added to the list.
- When an allegation of child sexual abuse involves a religious order priest working in a ministry of the archdiocese, such as a parish assignment, we remove the accused’s faculties to minister in the archdiocese, contact the religious order and help facilitate the survivor’s report. Every religious order with members living in the archdiocese is mandated to have a process for investigating such allegations.
- Since 2006, we have published the names of diocesan priests with substantiated allegations of abuse on our website. In 2014, we published more than 20,000 documents from these priests’ files. These documents remain on our website.
- We update our website list as needed and have expanded it to include the names of religious order priests whose order has substantiated an accusation against them and who have been assigned to a ministry of the Archdiocese of Chicago such as a parish.
- We conduct background screenings for archdiocesan clergy, employees and volunteers and implement a comprehensive safe-environment training program for adults and children. Over the last two years, we trained more than 112,000 children in an age-appropriate manner on how to recognize, resist and report abusive behavior. To date, we have trained more than 263,000 adults in 3,700 training sessions.

As is required by the USCCB Charter for the Protection of Children and Youth, (the Charter) we audit our parish and school safe environment programs every year and, in turn, the archdiocese’s compliance with the Charter is audited by the USCCB.

- Additionally, we have worked in collaboration with survivors to respond to their need for healing. This partnership has led to the development of the Healing Garden, an annual Mass for Hope and Healing and Pinwheel Service for Child Abuse Prevention, survivor-led peace circles, and the Healing Voices magazine.
- We always seek to improve our child protection and victim support efforts. We have repeatedly had our processes, policies and files reviewed by independent experts to help ensure we remain current with best practices.

In addition to these steps, the Archdiocese of Chicago fully cooperates with law enforcement, including with the Attorney General's investigation. We have made our employees available for interviews and provided access to hundreds of thousands of documents. We are committed to continuously reviewing our policies and will carefully consider any changes recommended by the Attorney General. Indeed, the archdiocese has already implemented a number of recommendations the Attorney General made during the course of the investigation such as expansion of the parameters of our website list.

From my earliest days as a bishop, I have dealt with allegations of child sexual abuse by putting the child at the center of my actions. In my experience, whether the abuse happened in the recent or distant past, the survivor speaks from the pain they suffered as that wounded and betrayed child. The Archdiocese of Chicago has long sought to heal them and prevent this crime from occurring again. I am personally committed to applying the highest level of vigilance to these efforts and to further strengthening our safeguards against abuse. I invite other institutions that care for children and civil authorities to join us in this work and consider adopting the procedures we have developed over the past three decades, so that all children are kept safe.

Evening of Healing Prayer under the Mantle of the Blessed Virgin Mary Saturday, June 3rd



All are invited to St. Alexander Church to participate in Prayers of Healing for individuals and the Catholic Church. Join us if you are suffering from physical, emotional or spiritual illness or if you want to spend some time in prayer.

4:30PM Recitation of the Rosary

5:00PM Regular Vigil Mass for Sunday

5:45PM Benediction and Adoration for one hour led by Deacon Mike Ciciura
a representative of the Archdiocese of Chicago Office of Healing



- Feel free to come to any of these parts
- Deacon Mike and the Prayer Team will be available for individual prayer
- The Sacrament of Confession and Anointing of the Sick will be available after Mass
- Prayers for Deliverance may be requested to Deacon Mike after Adoration

"Is anyone among you suffering? They should pray. Is anyone among you sick? Pray for one another, that they may be healed. The prayer of faith will save the sick person, and the Lord will raise him up." —James 5: 13-16

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO



The Office for the Protection of Children and Youth (OPCY)

Archdiocese of Chicago's Response to Sexual Abuse of Minors

Early and Decisive

1991

Cardinal Joseph Bernardin convened lay commission to review the Archdiocese of Chicago's procedures for handling accusations of sexual abuse.

1992

The Archdiocese of Chicago put in place policies and procedures to address allegations and issues related to sexual abuse of minors.

The Archdiocese of Chicago created the first Office of Victim Assistance Ministry to provide direct outreach and support to victims-survivors and their families.

The Archdiocese of Chicago created an independent office (now known as the Office of Child Abuse Investigations and Review) to receive allegations of abuse of minors by clergy.

1993

The Archdiocese of Chicago's Independent Review Board convened to review allegations of abuse and to make direct recommendations of the accused clergy's fitness for ministry to Cardinal.

Comprehensive and Sustained

The Archdiocese of Chicago created the **Office for the Protection of Children and Youth (OPCY)** in 2003 to bring together the various ministries within the archdiocese that had been operating to ensure the archdiocese is a safe place for children. The following offices work together to stay current on preventing and responding to child sexual abuse:

Office for Assistance Ministry (OAM) personnel reach out and extend supportive services to victims-survivors from the moment they come forward with an allegation of clergy sexual abuse. This includes traveling throughout the country



Healing Garden at Holy Family Church in Chicago.

with personnel from the Office of Child Abuse Investigation and Review (CAIR) to meet with and listen to victims-survivors. OAM personnel also provide the opportunity for victims-survivors to get independent professional counseling from fully accredited therapists. Additionally, OAM personnel have worked in collaboration with victims-survivors to respond to their need for healing. This has led to the development of the Healing Garden, annual Mass for Hope and Healing and Pinwheel Service for Child Abuse Prevention, victim-survivor led peace circles, and the Healing Voices magazine. To date over 400 victims-survivors and family members have been served by OAM personnel.

Office of Child Abuse Investigation and Review (CAIR) is headed by a lay professional who provides a compassionate and thorough process for receiving and investigating reports of child abuse against archdiocesan personnel. Archdiocese personnel notify public authorities of all reports of possible abuse of any kind and from any date, regardless of legal requirements.

- The Director of CAIR serves as staff for the Independent Review Board, which is an advisory board for the Cardinal. The Board's main charges are ensuring the safety of children and determining a cleric's fitness for ministry. Over 230 recorded Board meetings have been held. The Board has determined 296 allegations of abuse to be substantiated and determined 75 allegations of abuse to not be substantiated.

Safe Environment Office personnel provide resources to educate archdiocesan clergy, employees and volunteers on how to prevent child sexual abuse, how to recognize sex offender behavior and how to create safe environments for children and youth.

Since 2003 more than 3,700 training sessions in the archdiocese have been held training more than 263,000 adults.

- Archdiocesan parishes and schools are required to provide valuable training to children and youth on how to recognize, respond and report grooming or abuse.
- Safe Environment Office personnel also screen, through name-based background checks, all clergy, employees and volunteers. Office personnel also receive and review fingerprint results for school personnel.

To report an allegation of abuse and/or neglect of minors, contact the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) Hotline at 800.25.ABUSE and/or contact your local police department. You can also contact the Office of the Protection of Children and Youth (OPCY) at 312.534.5254.

- All employees and volunteers who work with children and youth in the archdiocese must submit a CANTS (Child Abuse and Neglect Tracking Systems) Form.
- All employees and volunteers in the archdiocese must abide by the archdiocese's Standards of Behavior.
- The archdiocese requires Mandated Reporter Training for all clergy, school personnel, religious education personnel, youth ministers and coaches as part of the archdiocese's Safe Environment Compliance.

Priest Monitoring Program is the Archdiocese of Chicago's stringent monitoring program of clergy with substantiated cases of sexual abuse against them. These men have been withdrawn from ministry and are prohibited from presenting themselves as a priest. They are required to comply with numerous restrictions to provide safety for the community, the program participants, and the Church.

The Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People

The *Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People* was approved in 2002 by the bishops of the United States Catholic Conference.

The latest revision was approved June 2018.

The Charter reinforced what the Archdiocese of Chicago was doing by requiring all dioceses to:

- Heal and promote reconciliation of victims-survivors and their families;
- Make prompt and effective response to abuse allegations;
- Cooperate with civil authorities;
- Discipline offenders;
- Create a safe environment for children and young people through training and screening;
- Provide means of accountability for the future and to ensure the problem continues to be effectively dealt with through the **Secretariat of Child and Youth Protection** and the **National Review Board**.

Every year the Archdiocese of Chicago participates in an audit of the implementation of the *Charter's* requirements. Every year the archdiocese passes the audit.

— HELP WANTED —

Part-time Oak Hills Country Club Village Clubhouse attendant for general cleanup after parties. It would be some weekdays and/or some weekends, three to six times a month for \$13.00 per hour and a cleanup stipend as well. Work hours would vary. If interested, please contact John Schnierle at 708-671-8810.



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!



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**.



Please help raise your voice to state legislators, so that thousands of children can continue receiving a great Catholic education in the future. Let your legislators know you value the Illinois Invest In Kids Act, what it means to our 4,200 students from low-income and working-class families receiving these Tax Credit Scholarships, and ask them to #RemoveTheSunset!

Many deserving students would not be able to attend our Catholic schools without these scholarships. Please join us now in our efforts to #RemoveTheSunset!

Scan the QR code to contact your legislator.



PASTORAL COUNSELING SERVICES AT ST. ALEXANDER PARISH



Services for individuals,
couples & families

For more information, call
448-4861 ext. 310

Sr. Claire M. Czerwec, SSND, LCPC
Pastoral Counselor & Spiritual Director



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

Mass Intentions For The Week



PENTECOST SUNDAY MAY 28, 2023

Saturday, May 27th

5:00 PM— Raymond Schwaller
Joseph Sloyan
Catherine Wells
Dolores Kramarski
Raymond & Marion Hunt
William E. Lewandowski

Sunday, May 28th

7:30 AM— Bernard Ziobro
Margaret Corbett
Kathleen R. Casey
Aggie A. Palmer
Ed Dombrowski
Linda Koepke
Colleen J. Nix
Dennis & Aurelie King
William & Jung Jae King
9:30 AM— For the Parishioners
Dorothy Ludack—2nd Anniversary
Chester “Chet” McGrath
Emma Perna
Nancy Tarka
Donna Marie & Joseph A. Feldner
Dr. Loren Feldner
Denise Graney
11:30 AM— Mary Catherine Stephens
James Nash
Mary Doherty
Bernard A. Ward
Denise Graney-Dolan
Bill Doherty
Special Intention—Jim Gibbons
6:00 PM— Healing Intention

Monday, May 29th (*The Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church*)

8:30 AM— Colleen J. Nix
Florence C. Jastrzebowski
Art & Lorraine Wittbrodt
Matt & Sean—Anniversary Blessing
Joseph DiSomma
Peter J. Feldner
Charles Nix

Tuesday, May 30th

8:30 AM— Poor Souls in Purgatory
Colleen J. Nix
Frances M. Feldner

Wednesday, May 31st (*The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary*)

8:30 AM— Colleen J. Nix
Leo W. Donovan Jr.
Fr. Charles T. Hugelmeyer, MM—8th Anniv.
Pat Carlson
John Barham

Thursday, June 1st (*St. Justin*)

8:30 AM— John Janik
Linda Barcelona
Colleen J. Nix
Alan Gordon

Friday, June 2nd (*Sts. Marcellinus and Peter*)

8:30 AM— Colleen J. Nix
Denise Graney
Donna M. & Joseph A. Feldner
Dr. Loren Feldner
Pamela Pusateri

Saturday, June 3rd (*St. Charles Lwanga & Companions*)

8:00 AM— Colleen J. Nix
Donna M. & Joseph A. Feldner
Dr. Loren Feldner

THE MOST HOLY TRINITY JUNE 4, 2023

Saturday, June 3rd

5:00 PM— Mary Stephens
Eugene McMahon
Mickey & Joe Havel
Dolores Kramarski
Linda Barcelona
Poor Souls in Purgatory

Sunday, June 4th

7:30 AM— Jack & Rose Cranley
Vincent & Mary Hoban
Aggie A. Palmer
Linda Barcelona
Colleen J. Nix
Jan Dolan
Linda Koepke
Jim Mech
Dennis & Aurelie King
William & Jung Jae King
9:30 AM— Gerald Barry
Mary Stephens
John Janik
Raymond & Marion Hunt
Donna M. & Joseph A. Feldner
Dr. Loren Feldner
Catherine Hecht
Sallie Heinlen
Clare Brennan
11:30 AM— For the Parishioners
George Lombard—4th Anniversary
Ekberg Family—Special Intention
Diane J. Harris
Dee Stuchly
Rose Griffin
John Wherity
Leo Donovan
Matt Wade
6:00 PM— Healing Intention