

# St. Alexander Church

Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time  
September 24, 2023

## The Palos Catholic



## 25<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“Are you envious because I am generous? Thus, the last will be first, and the first will be last.”  
- Mt 20:15-16

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](http://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](http://www.stalexanderschool.com)

School E-Mail: ..... [info@stalexanderschool.com](mailto: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](mailto:tried@archchicago.org)

Knights of Columbus: ..... 708-448-4861 ext. 400

Knight of Columbus on the Web: ..... [www.kofc14057.org](http://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 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,

October is one of the months that we, as Roman Catholics, honor Mary, Queen of the Rosary. Mary was perfect in her love for God, and is a perfect example of how we should live our Christian lives. Please remember to say a prayer each day this October thanking Mary for her gifts and interceding for us with our heavenly Father.

October is also Respect Life Month. Let us all pray not only today, but throughout the year, that people will respect the sanctity of life from the moment of conception to a natural death. This is the will and the command of our Lord.

This October, once again, all parishes in the Archdiocese of Chicago will be taking a head count of all those who attend Sunday Masses. This is done not only to see how many Catholics attend Mass in our Archdiocese, but also to evaluate the vitality of each particular parish. Our parish is strong financially and Masses are relatively well attended, but we could have more people in the pews. Please encourage people to attend Mass each and every Sunday. I especially encourage those who do not attend to please attend Masses during the month of October so you can be counted and our numbers will be strong when reported to the Archdiocese.

On September 30<sup>th</sup> our Family School Association will be hosting an Oktoberfest in support of our school children. Please turn to page eight of the bulletin for information and pray for good weather.

Please remember our St. Alexander Athletic Association Golf Outing at Waters Edge Golf Club will be held on Friday, October 6<sup>th</sup>. Spread the word to your family and friends and try to put a foursome together. Turn to page nine for more information on the outing and how to register.

Mark your calendars for Saturday, November 18<sup>th</sup> for our Annual Parish Trivia Night. This has become a new tradition at St. Alexander where people gather for a good time and an evening for most of us to realize how little we know when it comes to trivia. More information will be forthcoming in future bulletins.

Finally, due to a deadline for this weeks bulletin I am writing this article on Thursday, September 14<sup>th</sup>. At the present moment the Chicago Bears are 0-1 and the University of Baylor Bears are 0-2. Hopefully by the time you read this bulletin one of these Bear teams will have won a game.

God Bless,  
Father Marty

### 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*



## Are You A Candidate For Spiritual Direction?

- 1. Is your experience of faith in transition?**
  - \* Exploring new ideas about your faith
  - \* Picture of God is changing
  - \* Physical place of faith has changed
  - \* Spiritual practices need a review
  
- 2. Have you experienced a personal loss?**
  - \* Physical loss of a relative, friend, or loved one.
  - \* Loss of material possessions or income
  - \* Loss of special relationship
  
- 3. Has your self-perception changed?**
  - \* Transition from single to married life
  - \* Beginning a new job or career
  - \* Forced change of career/loss of job
  - \* Desire to become more healthy—physically or spiritually
  
- 4. Do you feel a yearning for God?**
  - \* Asking where is God in your life experiences
  - \* Desire to pay more attention to your relationship with God
  - \* Desire to pay closer attention to your prayer life

If you are interested learning more about Spiritual Direction, contact Deacon Mike at 630-243-9342 or [mciciura@archchicago.org](mailto:mciciura@archchicago.org)



## SCRIPTURE REFLECTION

Once I gave my three-year-old niece a certain toy for Christmas. When she opened it, she was happy. Shortly thereafter her five-year old sister opened another present from me: the same toy, along with some play jewelry. The three-year-old cried out: "That's not fair! Why'd she get the jewelry, too?!"

Let's face it: there's something about God's grace in our religion which bugs us. We love to look at others' blessings and cry out: "That's not fair!" Catholicism is not fair in the sense that it is a religion founded on God's grace which is unmerited favor. God pours his mercy, love, and divine life upon us not because we're good but because He is infinitely good.

If you think the "not fair" quality of grace is easy to accept, consider how typically angry we get when we hear the parable of the workers who get paid way more than they deserve. The hyper-generous landowner says to the indignant hard workers, "Are you envious because I am generous?" Well, yes, they are, and so are we! Therefore, we have to reckon with this painful truth in order to move into the divine sphere of gifts, which is the world of Christ and his Church. Then we are able to move beyond a tit-for-tat world and into one where gifts are poured forth on those who don't deserve it — namely, upon us.

— Father John Muir

Today's Readings: Is 55:6-9/Ps 145:2-3, 8-9, 17-18 (18a)/Phil 1:20c-24, 27a/Mt 20:1-16a



### 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
Janice Kurland	Mickela Brown
Brian Barth	Antoinette Gill
Karen Singer	Lenore Neadley
Jennifer Aparo	John Russell
Aggie Sweeney	

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.



### READINGS FOR THE WEEK

September 25-October 1, 2023

- |            |  |
|------------|--|
| Monday:    | Ezr 1:1-6/Ps 126:1b-2ab, 2cd-3, 4-5, 6/Lk 8:16-18                      |
| Tuesday:   | Ezr 6:7-8, 12b, 14-20/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4ab, 4cd-5/Lk 8:19-21              |
| Wednesday: | Ezr 9:5-9/Tb 13:2, 3-4a, 4befghn, 7-8/Lk 9:1-6                         |
| Thursday:  | Hg 1:1-8/Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b/Lk 9:7-9                        |
| Friday:    | Dn 7:9-10, 13-14 or Rv 12:7-12a/Ps 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 4-5/Jn 1:47-51   |
| Saturday:  | Zec 2:5-9, 14-15a/Jer 31:10, 11-12ab, 13/Lk 9:43b-45                   |
| Sunday:    | Ez 18:25-28/Ps 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9, (6a)/Phil 2:1-11 or 2:1-5/Mt 21:28-32 |



III Emiley Wimmer & Joseph Fanelli III  
III Kathy Liput & Richard Finger



### 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!

### WORD OF LIFE

"Suicidal individuals—with or without a terminal illness—typically do not want to die... The patient requesting assisted suicide is often asking, 'Does anyone want me to be alive, or care enough to talk me out of this request and support me through this difficult time?'"

—USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities



### St. Vincent de Paul Feast Day September 27<sup>th</sup>

St. Vincent de Paul was born in Gascony in 1581 A.D. He completed his studies and became a parish priest in Paris. St. Vincent founded the "Congregation of the Mission" to help with the formation of priests and provide help to the poor. He also founded the "Congregation of the Daughters of Charity" with the help of Saint Louise De Marillac. St. Vincent died in 1660 A.D. He is the Patron Saint of Charitable Societies. St. Alexander's Society of St. Vincent de Paul continues to carry on the message of St. Vincent de Paul.

*"Extend your mercy towards others, so that there can be no one in need whom you meet without helping. For what hope is there for us if God should withdraw His Mercy from us."*

St. Vincent de Paul

### COMMUNION MINISTERS

#### Saturday, September 30th



5:00 PM—Sharon Mundo, Ryan Alberts, Dolores Gorski

#### Sunday, October 1st

7:30 AM—Steve & Nancy Lukasik, Betty Chwierut

9:30 AM—Mary Beth Flynn, Rosemary Dziuba, Nancy Dougherty

11:30 AM—Gino Rodriguez, Mike Kearney, Tom Stuchly

6:00 PM—Michael Collins, Sharon Ayres

### READERS

#### Saturday, September 30th



5:00 PM—Linda Horton, Bill Rogers

#### Sunday, October 1st

7:30 AM—Paula Somers

9:30 AM—Charlie Smith, Linda Buchanan

11:30 AM—Grace & John Donovan

6:00 PM—James Clark, Bob Ayres

### 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.



Sacrament of Communion



### OCTOBER IS THE MONTH OF THE HOLY ROSARY

The first half of the Hail Mary is from Scripture: the Angel Gabriel's greeting to the Virgin Mary when God let her know of her unique place in the history of human salvation. The second half is the church's response, our petition to Mary as Mother of God. We acknowledge our need for her help for our salvation now, and we ask in particular for this help at the moment of our death. So many private apparitions of the Blessed Virgin over the centuries have given us messages about this help, and it is a great comfort to believe that Mary will be there when the soul, the source of life for our body, struggles toward a different form of living. Mothers give birth; Mary will be there, no matter when or how death comes to each of us.



**THE BLESSING  
OF THE PETS**  
with Fr. Colm  
Mitchell and Deacon  
Francis Pendergast  
Sunday, October 1<sup>st</sup>  
2:00PM—outside the  
parish lounge

**St. Francis of Assisi Feast Day  
Wednesday, October 4<sup>th</sup>**

*Until one has loved an animal,  
part of their soul remains unawakened.*



**SAVE THE DATES  
FOR BUNDLE  
WEEKEND**

**St. Alexander Parish  
Friday, Saturday & Sunday  
October 13<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, & 15<sup>th</sup>**

**RCIA**



**Are you curious about the Catholic Faith?  
If any of these reasons apply, RCIA might be exactly  
what you're looking for!**

**(RCIA means The Rite 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 RCIA 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](mailto:mciciura@archchicago.org)**



# ST. ALEXANDER SCHOOL HAPPENINGS





# ST. ALEXANDER PRESENTS OKTOBERFEST

ENTRY FEE: \$38 PER PERSON / \$75 PER COUPLE IF PURCHASED BEFORE SEPTEMBER 22  
TICKETS PURCHASED AFTER 09/22 ARE \$50 PER PERSON

ENTRY FEE INCLUDES LIVE MUSIC,  
APPETIZERS, GERMAN BEERS, AND LATE NIGHT PIZZAS  
BRING YOUR OWN DRINKS  
RAFFLE BASKETS WILL BE AVAILABLE

Saturday  
at 6:00pm

SEPT  
**30**

On the  
Parish Lawn

PLEASE SEND CHECK PAYABLE TO ST.  
ALEXANDER SCHOOL

# 2023 St. Alexander Athletic Association Golf Outing

Water's Edge Golf Club  
Friday October 6th, 2023

1pm shotgun start  
\$185.00 per player  
checks payable to:

## St. Alexander Athletic Association

### Includes:

18 holes of golf, lunch at the turn, unlimited beverages on the course,  
2-hour open bar and pizza after golf.

### Sponsorship Opportunities Available

For more information or to request a foursome, please contact:



Joe Livigni:  
[LivigniJoe1@gmail.com](mailto:LivigniJoe1@gmail.com)  
(708) 296-2175

Brian Enright:  
[BEnright4@yahoo.com](mailto:BEnright4@yahoo.com)  
(773) 398-4656

\* All proceeds benefit the St. Alexander Athletic Association

# Mass Intentions For The Week



## TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME SEPTEMBER 24, 2023

### Saturday, September 23rd

5:00 PM— Jack Schuch  
 Andrew Klimkiewicz  
 Tommy Grady  
 John McGinley  
 Joann Watts

### Sunday, September 24th

7:30 AM— Arthur J. Data Sr.  
 James J. Laski Sr.  
 Linda Koepke  
 Paul L. McLaughlin  
 Beth King  
 Colleen J. Nix  
 Aggie Palmer  
 9:30 AM— Denise Graney  
 Donna M. & Joseph A. Feldner  
 Dr. Loren Feldner  
 Catherine Hecht  
 Irene Haberkorn  
 Tommy Grady  
 Jack Schuch  
 11:30 AM— Dee Stuchly  
 Martin Bergquist Family  
 Richard Raines  
 Lawrence Norris  
 Kurt Jandacek  
 6:00 PM— For the Parishioners  
 Raymond & Marion Hunt

### Monday, September 25th

8:30 AM— Colleen J. Nix

### Tuesday, September 26th (Sts. Cosmas and Damian)

8:30 AM— James O'Malley  
 Colleen J. Nix  
 Mike Ference  
 Raymond Peckler

### Wednesday, September 27th (St. Vincent de Paul)

8:30 AM— Sophia Feiling  
 Colleen J. Nix

### Thursday, September 28th (Sts. Wenceslaus and Lawrence Ruiz)

8:30 AM— Colleen J. Nix  
 Margaret Corbett  
 Chester "Chet" McGrath  
 Richard & Melissa Mundo  
 Marion Hawkinson  
 Theodore Gaw

### Friday, September 29th (Sts. Michael, Gabriel and Raphael, Archangels)

8:30 AM— Tony Romeo Raphael, Archangels)  
 Joshua Haberkorn  
 Joseph Haberkorn  
 Florence C. Jastrzebowski  
 Mary Janik  
 Shannon Evoy Collins  
 Colleen J. Nix  
 4:00 PM— Wedding: Emiley Wimmer & Joseph Fanelli

### Saturday, September 30th (St. Jerome)

8:00 AM— Benedict O'Flaherty  
 Fr. Anthony J. Adducci—5th Anniversary  
 Colleen J. Nix  
 2:00 PM— Wedding: Kathy Liput & Richard Finger

## TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME OCTOBER 1, 2023

### Saturday, September 30th

5:00 PM— For the Parishioners  
 Raymond Schwaller  
 Joseph Sloyan  
 Catherine Wells  
 Raymond & Marion Hunt  
 Caroline Reckwerdt  
 Benjamin Jagodzinski

### Sunday, October 1st

7:30 AM— Linda Koepke  
 Vincent & Mary Hoban  
 Tom Dombrowski  
 Colleen J. Nix  
 Aggie Palmer  
 9:30 AM— Msgr. C. J. McGillicuddy—42nd Anniv.  
 John Janik  
 Donna M. & Joseph A. Feldner  
 Gerald Barry  
 Dr. Loren J. Feldner  
 Meg Feldner  
 Beth King  
 Mike McConville  
 Michael Joseph McGrail  
 Dorothy Dunmore  
 Eugene Crowley  
 11:30 AM— George Lombard  
 Wittenbonn Family  
 Dee Stuchly  
 Irene Haberkorn  
 Jack Schuch  
 Cathy Little Smith  
 Thomas Harney—20th Anniversary  
 6:00 PM— Mary Martin

### **LIFE CHAIN—SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1<sup>ST</sup>**

Life Chain 2023 is an opportunity to stand up and be counted among the pro-life majority as we join our hearts in silent, prayerful witness against the 'procedure' that takes the life of the unborn while leaving a crippling scar on the heart and life of the mother. Stand with us next Sunday as we prayerfully let our neighbors know that abortion hurts women too. St. Alexander will meet in front of Oberweis on 159<sup>th</sup> Street between Harlem and 80<sup>th</sup> Avenues. Please plan to arrive at 2:00PM to obtain your sign and find your position.