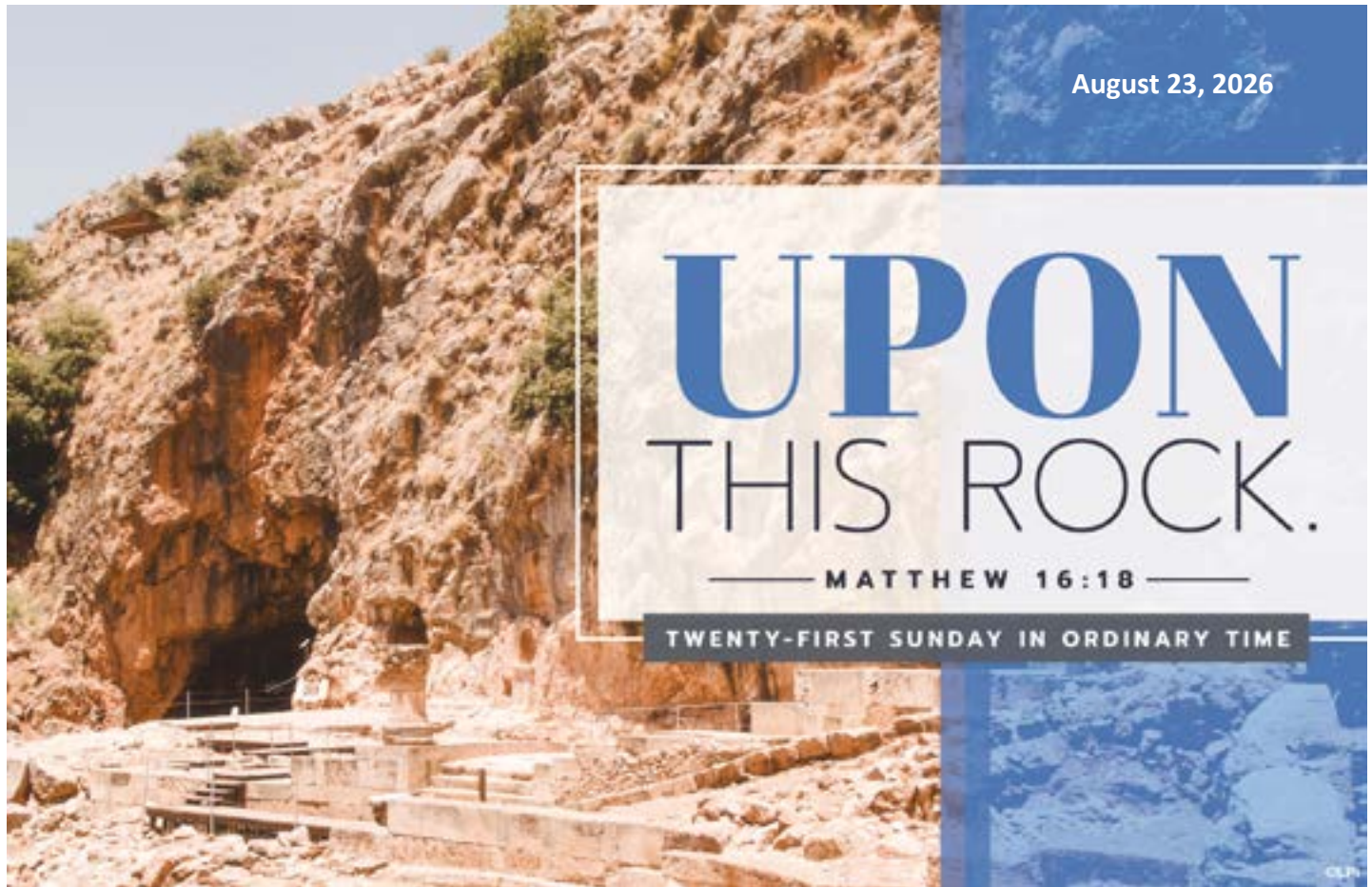


ST. MOTHER THEODORE GUERIN PARISH

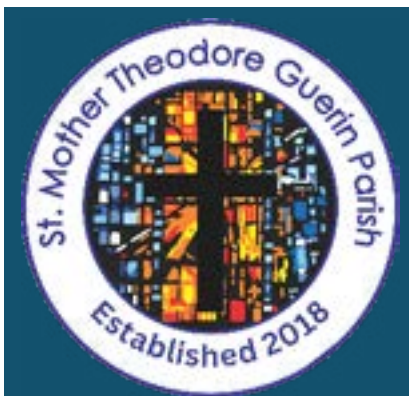


August 23, 2026

UPON THIS ROCK.

— MATTHEW 16:18 —

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



MISSION STATEMENT:

"To do God's will as a unified, vibrant parish, and to foster an intentional relationship with Jesus through worship, witness, service, discipleship, stewardship, and community."

ST. CELESTINE CHURCH and St. Mother Theodore Guerin Parish Office

3020 North 76th Court, Elmwood Park, Illinois 60707
708-453-2555 stguerinparish.org

OFFICE HOURS

Monday—Thursday: 8:30 AM to noon and 12:30 to 8 PM;
Friday: 8:30 AM to noon and 12:30 to 5 PM
Saturday: 8:30 AM—12:30 PM; Sunday: closed.

MASSES Monday through Friday 8 AM

Saturday Mass 4:30 PM (Reconciliation 3:30 PM)

Sunday Masses 7:30, 9, and 11 AM

Chapel open daily 8:30 AM to 5 PM

ST. CELESTINE SCHOOL

3017 North 77th Avenue, Elmwood Park, Illinois 60707
stcelestineschool.org 708-453-8234

Follow Us On

Facebook: St. Mother Theodore Guerin Parish

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YouTube: Subscribe to Saint Mother Theodore Guerin

Mass Intentions

Saturday, August 22

4:30 PM +Carl and +Rose Rossi
 +Mary Olsen
 +Harry Olsen
 +Ken Strabley, Birthday
 +Eleanore Rinella
 +Carlina Magaoay
 +Victoria Llamelo
 +Robert Paprocki

Sunday, August 23

7:30 AM +Feliciano Reyes, Jr.
 +Guillermo Arellano
9 AM +Joseph Morgan, Sr.
 +Barbara Mueller, 15th Anniversary
 +Carl Mueller, 8th Anniversary
 +Eustaquia Esther Feir
 +Susan Shotsberger
11 AM +Roman and +Anna Romanyuk
 +John Julian Rubalcaba
 +Francis Rubalcaba
 +Genevo Rubalcaba
 +Frank and +John Kucera

8 AM Monday, August 24
 +John Kucera, Birthday

8 AM Tuesday, August 25
 +Eddie Mizejewski

8 AM Wednesday, August 26
 +Ann French
 +Julie Monahan, 5th Anniversary

8 AM Thursday, August 27
 Faithful Departed

8 AM Friday, August 28
 People of the Parish

Saturday, August 29

2 PM Jayleen Martinez, Quinceanera
4:30 PM +Carl and +Rose Rossi
 +Bruno Gutkowski
 +Linda Poe, 1st Anniversary
 Maggio and Rinella Family

Sunday, August 30

7:30 AM +William Ketcik, Birthday
 +Guillermo Arellano
 +Thomas Denis Smith
 +Thomas H. Smith
9 AM +Geraldine Lustro
11 AM +Roman and +Anna Romanyuk
 +Eleanor Masciola
 +Angelina Alongi
 +Arlene LaMantia
 +Robert Paprocki

Liturgical Ministers

Saturday, August 29

4:30 PM
 Presider Fr. Paul Eruva
 Servers Robert O., Isaac M.,
 Diego M., Henry V., Mary V.
 Lector Bob Mitchell, O.F.S.
 Euch. Ministers Perlita Domingo, Pat
 Strabley, Peggy O'Donnell
 Ruben Monteroso, Mike
 Miller, Patricia Rinella

Sunday, August 30

7:30 AM
 Presider Fr. Fil Ngwila
 Servers Evan V., Elijah V.,
 Peighton V., Jazmin G.,
 Yasleen G.
 Lector Andy Johnson
 Euch. Ministers Maria Mojek, Mary Kay
 Macchione, Bill Lesch,
 Tina Krzysko, Florence
 Smith, Michelle Doyle

9 AM
 Presider Fr. Ton Nguyen
 Servers TBA
 Lector Bonnie Billa
 Euch. Ministers Maryann Dibari, Lynn
 Loftus, John Madden,
 Grisel Lopez, Mary Graf,
 Lois DeFelice

11 AM
 Presider Fr. Ton Nguyen
 Servers Lucas R., Christian C.,
 Sarah P., Amelia H.
 Lector Danny Hesslau
 Euch. Ministers Greg Derlacki, Mary
 Sullivan, Michael
 Wittrock, Kathy Iversen–
 Jaroch, Kim Bartell,
 Sandra Mazzeffi

Bulletin Deadlines

Please send information to Kim at
 khagerty@stguerinparish.org.

September 6 is due on Wednesday,
 August 26 at 9 AM

September 13 is due on Wednesday,
 September 2 at 9 AM

Parish Weekly Events

Sunday, August 23

All Masses School Blessing
 9:45 AM Scout Leaders in the
 Lower Meeting Room
 11 AM Backpack Blessing

Monday, August 24

7 PM Athletic Committee in
 the Lower Meeting Room

Tuesday, August 25

7 PM Mother of Perpetual
 Help Devotion in the
 Chapel

Wednesday, August 26

6 PM Troop Meetings in the
 Lunchroom

Pray with Pope Leo



Launched through the Pope's worldwide prayer network, the "Pray with the Pope" Campaign fosters a deeper spiritual communion through digital connection and shared, contemplative prayer.

August: For evangelization in the city.

Let us pray that in large cities often marked by anonymity and loneliness we find new ways to proclaim the Gospel, discovering creative paths to build community.

St. Mother Theodore Guerin Parish

St. Celestine Church and Parish Office **708-453-2555**
3020 North 76th Court, Elmwood Park, Illinois 60707
stguerinparish.org

Rev. Ton Nguyen, Administrator x5029
tnguyen@stguerinparish.org

Rev. Paul Eruva, Associate Pastor x5030
peruva@archchicago.org

Rev. Eugene Gratkowski, Pastor Emeritus, St. Cyprian
Rev. Fil Ngwila, **Rev. Stan Ilo**, Priests-in-Residence
Deacon Michael DeLarco x5031
mdelarco@archchicago.org

Office Hours: Monday—Thursday, 8:30 AM—noon
and 12:30—8 PM; Friday 8:30 AM—noon
and 12:30—5 PM; Saturday, 8:30 AM—
12:30 PM; Sunday closed

Laurie DePillo, Business Manager x5015
lauriedepillo@stguerinparish.org

Lynn Schmidt, Administrative Assistant x5010
lschmidt@stguerinparish.org

Andrea Mayer, Receptionist x5010
amayer@stguerinparish.org

Ruthanne Swiatkowski, Director of Lifelong Faith
Formation x5017
rswiatkowski@stguerinparish.org

Craig Kamptner, Director of Music Ministry x5016
ckamptner@stcelestineschool.org

Kim Hagerty, Director of Evangelization, Bulletin Editor
khagerty@stguerinparish.org x5012

Eric Mueller and **Bob Vessini**, Maintenance

Mary Murphy, Coordinator of Religious Education for
Children and Adults with Special Needs
murphym2000@gmail.com

Lois DeFelice, Ministry of Care
loisdefelice@gmail.com

Michelle Doyle, Food Pantry
mdoyle@stcelestineschool.org. Open 4—6
PM two Thursdays a month. Check
Weekly Events or website for dates.

Baptisms and Baptism Preparation Classes: Contact
Ruthanne Swiatkowski, x5017. Baptisms
are at 12:30 PM on the 2nd and 4th
Sundays of the month. Class held on the 1st
Wednesday of each month at 7 PM.

Masses and Reconciliation: see cover.

Weddings: Please call a year in advance of preferred
date and talk to Deacon Mike DeLarco
before a wedding date can be reserved.
Participation in marriage preparation is
essential.

Holy Hour: First Friday of each month at 3 PM

Mother of Perpetual Help Devotional Tuesdays at 7
PM in the Chapel.

Rosary: Second Wednesday of the month at 7 PM in
the chapel and after the morning masses.

St. Celestine School 708-453-8234
3017 North 77th Avenue, Elmwood Park, IL 60707

Sheila Klich, Principal
sklich@stcelestineschool.org

Jennifer Ebervein, Secretary

Nicole Nayder, Financial Secretary

From the Administrator's Desk: Fr Ton Nguyen**How Many Stop Signs Are There from Your House to Church?**

Fr. Eruva warned me when I arrived: "There are a lot of stop signs and one-way streets in Elmwood Park." Yes, thanks GPS! Well, one day I went jogging around the neighborhood without my phone. On my way back, I somehow found myself running around the same block, trying to figure out how to get back to the parish. Eventually, I gave up on my "shortcut" and started running back in the direction I had come from.



How many stop signs had I passed? I have no idea. Maybe I should have counted them so I would know when to turn! That little adventure made me think: What direction are we heading in life? God created us for one ultimate purpose: to seek Him, to love Him, and one day to be with Him forever. Along the journey, God gives us many "stop signs"—moments of success and failure, joy and sorrow. They invite us to pause and ask: Where am I going? Am I still heading in the right direction? Is my life leading me closer to Christ?

In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus gives His disciples one of those stop-sign moments. He asks, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" They give Him plenty of answers: John the Baptist, Elijah, Jeremiah, or one of the prophets. Then Jesus asks, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter responds, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God."

Peter knew his destination. He left everything to follow Jesus. He loved Him enough to eventually give his life for Him. Was Peter's journey perfect? Absolutely not! He even denied Him. But Peter did not allow his failures to become his final destination. With God's grace, he got up and continued the journey.

Perhaps that is a good question for each of us this week: How is my journey going? When life gives us a stop sign—a success, a disappointment, a joyful surprise, or a storm—perhaps we can pause long enough to ask where the Lord is leading us. The stop sign is not the destination. Keep your eyes on Christ.

Speaking of signs, some of you have asked what JMJ at the end of my articles means. It stands for Jesus, Mary, and Joseph—the Holy Family.

And speaking of names, I want to learn yours! Please consider sharing a family photo with me, with everyone's names written below the picture or on the back. I am not always great at remembering names, so I need your help! My hope is not simply to memorize names but to bring your names and faces with me into my morning Holy Hour and pray for you by name. And if you're thinking, "I'll bring the photo next week..." Well, how about today? You can drop it off at the parish office or place it in the box near the baptismal font during Sunday Mass.

After all, we're traveling toward the same destination. It would be good to know the names of the people we're journeying with! I love being a priest.

JMJ,
Fr. Ton

Liturgical Life

He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Simon Peter said in reply, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." Jesus said to him in reply, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah. For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my heavenly Father."
- Mt 16:15-17

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

Questions of the Week

Invite Parishioners to Reflect and Respond to Scripture

First Reading:

For disobeying the Lord, Shebna, the master of King Hezekiah's palace, is stripped of his authority and honor, and it is given to Eliakim. Are there people in your life or family that you honor and revere?

Second Reading:

Reflecting on the unimaginable depth of God's wisdom and knowledge, Paul asks, "Who has known the mind of the Lord or who has been his counselor?" What question do you have for the Lord?

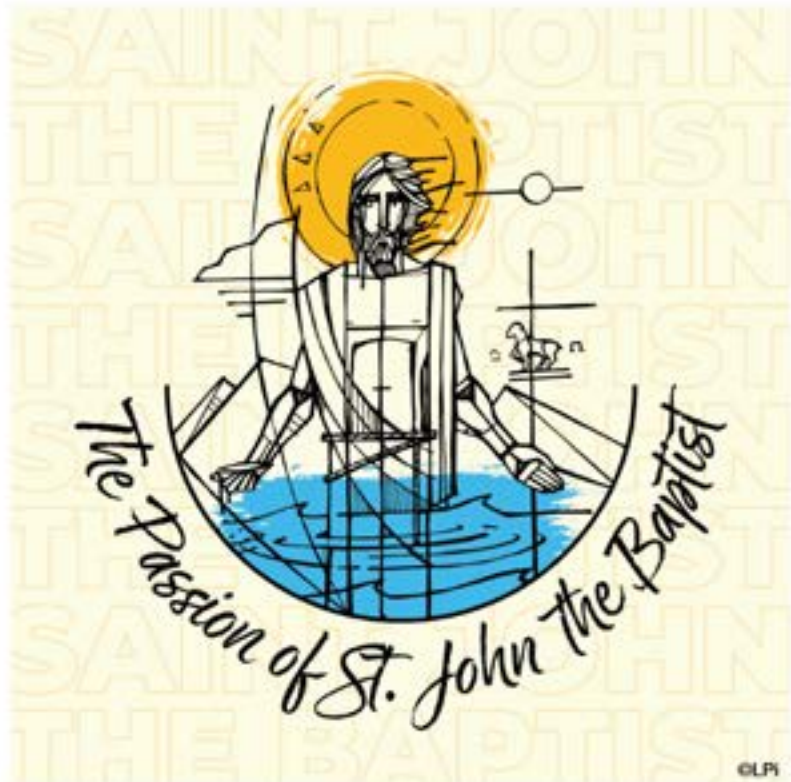
Gospel:

Jesus establishes Peter as the rock upon whom he will build his church. In what ways do you help build your church community?



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Liturgical Life

(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC

Only Peter Has the Answer

"What do you think of the Pope?"

After the election of Pope Leo XIV in 2025, all my non-Catholic friends texted me this question. The result of the papal conclave was dominating the news cycle, and everyone was curious about this man who would now be so prominent on the world stage, making me temporarily popular with people who apparently need more (and better) Catholics in their lives.

In today's Gospel, we see Jesus entrust Peter and his heirs with the stewardship of the kingdom here on earth, creating an unbroken line of authority which stretches through the millennia all the way to our current Pope — whoever he is at the time you are reading this.

I don't know if you like the Pope. The same goes for your local bishop and your pastor. If a friend texted you, "What do you think of him?" I have no idea how you would respond.

All I know is this: it doesn't really matter. What really matters is what we would say if a friend texted us the same question about Jesus Christ: "What do you think of him, and why?"

In today's Gospel, Jesus doesn't ask his disciples to take an IQ test. He doesn't try to find out which one is the nicest, the hardest worker, the most humble, or even the holiest.

He asks a very simple question: "Who do you say that I am?"

Peter has the answer.

I am not Catholic because I like the Pope. I am not Catholic because the human representatives of the Church have anything to offer me (they often do, but this is beside the point).

I am Catholic because only Peter has the answer.

— Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Why do we do that?

Catholic Life Explained

Question:

In Sunday school, the students are studying the Ten Commandments. I know that kids are important in the eyes of God, so I'm just wondering why there isn't a commandment about honoring children.

Answer:

Commandments provide EOO-Equal Opportunity for Observance! They are meant for everyone, children as well as adults. There are several assumptions that would make such a commandment a bit redundant. One, children are entrusted to the care of their parents. So, respect, love, and care — as well as teaching them — are assumed to be part of the responsibility of parents. They are the first teachers in the ways of faith and, as such, participate in God's work of loving and creating. The child has the obligation and responsibility towards their parents. Only when they are adults will they make decisions on their own.

In Biblical times, and in many societies today, children are responsible for caring for elderly parents, providing for their needs. In our culture today, too often kids have more rights than responsibilities, and oftentimes long before they are able to handle them. If we follow the Commandment of Jesus to love others and treat them as we would want to be treated, everyone is included, children too.

Worship & Meditation

Readings for the week of August 23, 2026

Sunday:

Is 22:19-23/Ps 138:1-2a, 2b-3, 6 and 8/
Rom 11:33-36/Mt 16:13-20

Monday:

Rv 21:9b-14/Ps 145:10-11, 12-13, 17-18/
Jn 1:45-51

Tuesday:

2 Thes 2:1-3a, 14-17/Ps 96:10, 11-12, 13/
Mt 23:23-26

Wednesday:

2 Thes 3:6-10, 16-18/Ps 128:1-2, 4-5/
Mt 23:27-32

Thursday:

1 Cor 1:1-9/Ps 145:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/
Mt 24:42-51

Friday:

1 Cor 1:17-25/Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 10-11/
Mt 25:1-13

Saturday:

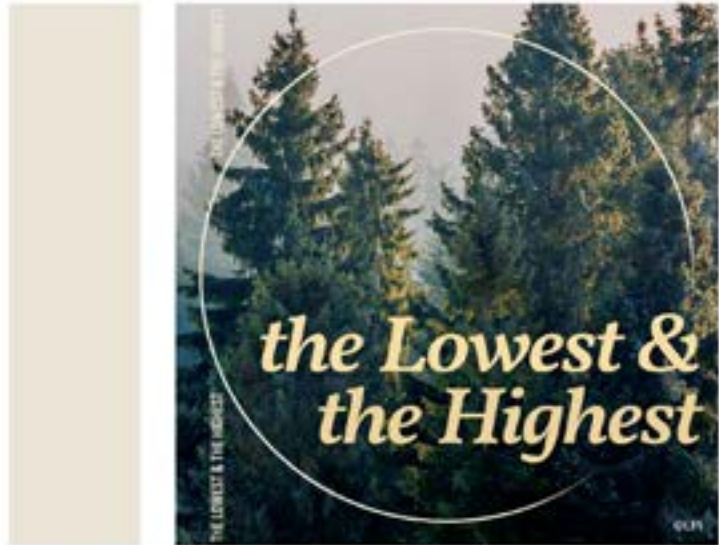
1 Cor 1:26-31/Ps 33:12-13, 18-19, 20-21/
Mk 6:17-29

Next Sunday:

Jer 20:7-9/Ps 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9/
Rom 12:1-2/Mt 16:21-27



Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.
The English translation of Psalm Responses from Lectionary for
Mass © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in
the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.



Gospel Meditation

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

The first time I stood inside St. Peter's Basilica in Rome, its majesty overwhelmed me. The sheer beauty of Michelangelo's dome seemed to lift my soul right out of my body. Later, I joined the Scavi tour that winds below the basilica, down into the ancient pagan cemetery where Peter was buried. There, in the dim light and narrow passageways, I found myself looking at the bones of a murdered Jewish fisherman, his feet cut off so his crucified body could be taken down more easily.

What a paradox. Above me, the most glorious church ever built. Beneath me, the remains of a backwater fisherman. But this man dared to answer Jesus' question, "**Who do you say that I am?**" And crowning that immense dome above his tomb are the words from today's Gospel, "**You are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my Church.**"

Within you and me is the drama of the lowest and the highest. Every time we confess Christ, humbly, imperfectly, maybe even trembling, we enter that same mystery. The dust of our humanity, touched by the splendor of heaven. God's presence and our dry bones together. Humility and glory. May our lives embrace both the lowest and the highest, like that great basilica, as we profess Jesus.

— Father John Muir

Religious Ed and Catechist Openings!

The St. Mother Guerin Religious Education Program helps our students build their connections to God through prayer, incorporate God into their everyday lives, and recognize opportunities to enhance their relationship with God.

We welcome children to learn about Jesus, the Catholic faith and prepare for the Sacraments of Baptism, Reconciliation, Communion and Confirmation.

Religious Education is offered to students in Grades 1—8 who during the week attend a public or home school setting. Students meet at St. Celestine School twice a month on Saturdays from 9:30 to 11:30 AM.

Classes start September 19. Registration for the 2026—2027 school year is available online. The link to register online is: <https://stguerinparish.org/religious-education/> and registration forms are also available in the St. Celestine Pastoral Center.

Also, if you would like to help as a catechist, please contact our Director of Lifelong Faith Formation, Ruthanne Swiatkowski at 708-453-2555 x 5017 or rswiatkowski@stguerinparish.org.

Order of Christian Initiation of Adults

The Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA) is a process by which adults explore the Catholic faith and ordinarily become members of the Church. The program consists of several months of instruction in the teachings, beliefs, customs, and practices of the Catholic faith.

Those who complete the process receive the sacraments, usually Baptism, First Communion, and Confirmation, or a combination of those, at Easter.

WHO IS THE OCIA INTENDED FOR?

- Adults and teens who have never been baptized.
- Adults and teens who have been baptized in another Christian denomination.
- Adults and teens who were baptized Catholic but never received First Communion or Confirmation.

Teen Classes meet on Tuesdays from 7 to 8:30 PM beginning on September 22. Adult Classes meet on Thursdays from 7 to 8:30 PM beginning on September 24. The Sacraments are celebrated at the Easter Vigil.

Please contact our Director of Lifelong Faith Formation, Ruthanne Swiatkowski at 708-453-2555 x 5017 or email rswiatkowski@stguerinparish.org for more information.

Mother Guerin High School 50th

Were you a member of the class of 1976, Mother Theodore Guerin, River Grove, Illinois? Do you know someone from that class? It's time for the 50th Reunion! Guerin alum from '76 will meet on a weekend in early October for mass on Saturday and lunch on Sunday. A great time to relive a bit of the past and make a new connection or two. For more information, including dates, email mtgclassof76reunion@gmail.com.

Study with Fr. Stan Ilo



Now that Fr. Stan has been called to the Vatican by Pope Leo to be the co-director of a new initiative of the Dicastery called The Church of the Sheaves: Equipping the Saints for Mission as Gift Exchange, his time at the parish is more limited. Despite that, he would like to lead a study of the Pope's apostolic exhortation, *Dilexi te: (I Have Loved You)* on Wednesdays, September 2 and 9, October 7 and 14, and November 11 at 6:30 PM in the Fireside Room.

Most of us have no idea what an apostolic exhortation is, and often magisterial documents are read only by theologians or clergy, while the laity remain untouched by their transformative potential. Father Stan says that *Dilexi te* belongs to the whole People of God, that it is not a document for the shelves of seminaries but for the hearts of believers.

He should know, because he wrote the official commentary for the Vatican. We will read Fr. Stan's book, *Dilexi te: A Church Formed by Love* which contains the full text of the Exhortation and a biblical study and guide for a parish group.

We will order the book, so please call the parish to reserve your book and your spot in the study! The phone number is 708-453-2555 and the cost of the book is \$15.

Lectio Divina: Listening to the Voice of Christ

Have you ever wished you could pray more deeply with Sacred Scripture or better recognize God's voice in your daily life?

Join us for Lectio Divina: Listening to the Voice of Christ, a weekly hour of prayer centered on the living Word of God. Through a simple and guided format, we will slowly read Scripture, spend time in silent prayer and reflect together on how the Lord is speaking to each of us through His Word.

No prior Bible study experience is necessary. Whether you are opening the Bible for the first time or have prayed with Scripture for years ... all are welcome to join.

This ministry will be facilitated by Danny Hesslau, parish deacon candidate, who is currently in formation for the diaconate. Together we will learn and grow in one of the Church's oldest and richest traditions of prayer.

When: September 14, 21, 28, and October 5 at 6:30 PM
Where: Chapel
Bring: A Bible (*New American Bible* Revised Edition preferred), if you have one.

"Indeed, the word of God is living and effective." Hebrews 4:12

Weekly Stewardship

Sunday, August 2, 2026

Weekly Budget	\$8,610.00
Envelopes	\$6,281.00
Loose	\$1,547.00
Total Weekly Giving:	\$7,828.00
Budget Deficit or Overage:	\$782.00

Special Collection:

School/Religious Education collection	\$2,331.00
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Sunday, August 9, 2026

Weekly Budget	\$8,610.00
Envelopes	\$5,076.00
Loose	\$3,474.00
Total Weekly Giving:	\$8,550.00
Budget Deficit or Overage:	\$60.00

Special Collection:

Global Mission Appeal	\$1,828.00
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Sunday Giving FY 2027 (July 1—August 9, 2026)

Fiscal Year to Date:	\$55,390.00
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Year-to-date numbers may vary from the total published in the weekly bulletin due to variations in the dates of turning in envelopes, e-giving and NSF checks.

1 Peter 4:10: "As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of God's varied grace."

Thank you for your generosity in supporting our parish.

Bus Drivers and Riders

Would you like to help people attend the 9 AM Mass? Several men have volunteered to drive the parish bus to pick up people



who need a ride to the 9 AM Mass on Sunday. If you would like to help drive, please call the parish and let Lynn know about your availability. We would like to get enough drivers that we could expand our ministry to the 4:30 PM Mass too. School families, you can earn service hours this way, too.

Would you like a ride to the 9 AM Mass? Call Lynn at 708-453-2555 by Friday each week and we will pick you up at your house.

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO



MARRIED IN 1976?

HAVE YOU REGISTERED FOR THE ANNUAL GOLDEN WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS?

Couples celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary from across the Archdiocese of Chicago are invited to gather together for the Golden Wedding Anniversary Mass that will be celebrated by Cardinal Cupich on

Sunday, September 13, 2026 at 2:30 p.m.

The mass will be celebrated at Holy Name Cathedral, 735 North State Street, Chicago, IL 60654.

Please email gwa@archchicago.org or contact your parish office with any questions. To register online, please visit pvm.archchicago.org/events/golden-wedding.

Mother of Perpetual Help Society Devotional

The Mother of Perpetual Help Society invites you to join us for the Mother of Perpetual Help Devotional held every



Tuesday evening in the St. Celestine Chapel. We pray the rosary at 7 PM and then the Mother of Perpetual Help Novena at 7:30 PM. You may join us for either the rosary or the novena or both!

This beautiful and time-honored devotion is a peaceful opportunity to place our needs, our families, and our parish under the loving care of Our Blessed Mother.

All are welcome to come and pray and find comfort, hope and strength through Mary's intercession.

If you have any questions, please contact Nancy Panzarella Konrath at panzkon@gmail.com.

Save the Dates

- Wednesday, September 2 and 9 at 6:30 PM with Fr. Stan ***Dilexi te: A Church Formed by Love*** Book, Bible Study, and Discussion
- Sunday, September 6: **Grandparents Blessings** at all Masses
- Saturday, September 12 4—9 PM **Parish Taste**
- Monday, September 14 6:30 PM in the Chapel **Lectio Divina**
- Sunday, September 20: **Catechetical Sunday**
- Sunday, October 25 **Craft Fair** 8:30 AM in the Gym and Annex
- Tuesday, November 17: Watch **The Chosen Season 6** after 8 AM Mass on Tuesdays

Pray for Them

Sick

Please remember the following people who are seriously ill. If you wish to add a name with the person's permission, please call the parish office. Names remain on the list for 4 weeks.

Michael Binder, Sue Brink, *Tom Busleta, Mary Coronado, Ellison Deehr, Elene Dimperio, Michael Garcia, Tammy Garcia, Maciej Gondek, Dorota Gondek, Thomas Gruber, Grace Hensley, Rachel Hindery, Kathryn Knipp, Kathy Johl, Adele Johnson, Juliette Jimenez, Lisa Kostrzeski, Justine Kucera, Robert Kucera, Kathy Mizejewski, George Moskaliuk, Sandra Moskaliuk, Efrem Munoz, Martha Munoz, Ron Nichols, Gregory Olsen, Carolyn Paprocki, Gerard Palattao, *Elliot Perez, Kathy Sassolino, Morgan Schlanger, Joseph Serwa, John Sheahan, Mary Skelly, Michele Soronto, Sue, , Colleen Schlanger, Thomas, Jeffrey Tomek, Judy Virgilio, Clarence Wagner, Lillian Wardzala, Jim Wazorick, Danyll Wolcotte, *Ron Zalesny

*recently added

Faithful Departed

Andhriy Eruva, Shirley Gorski

Military

Col. Stephen Acosta, Marines; Staff Sgt. Lawrence G. Campbell, Air Force; Senior Airman Cory McCambridge, Air Force; Lt. Col. Peter Anderson, Army; Sgt. Kenneth G. DiCristifano, Army; Spec Michael Migliorisi, Army; Pvt. John Cerrone, Marines; PFC Paul J. Lagoda, Marines; PFC Sophia M. Garcia, Marines; Lt. Robert Reynolds, Army; Staff Sgt. Alberto Boy, Marines; Staff Sgt. Natalie Borrini, Air Force; Cpl. Brian Macaluso, Marines; Lnc. Cpl. Meghan Jennings, Marines; Lnc. Cpl. Michael Casanave, Marines; Pvt. Nicolas Casanave, Marines; ABEAN Melanie Hodges, Navy; PFC Vincent Negron, Marines; Pvt. Matthew Meyer, Army; Master Sgt. Scott A. Cross, Air Force; Dario Rodriguez, Air Force; Ensign Devon Zych, Coast Guard; Lnc. Cpl. Andrew D. Nordlie, Marines; Luis N. Burciaga, Army; PFC Rudy De La O, Marines; Jose Flores, Jr., Air Force; Carmelo Flores, Air Force; AB Ethen N. Ortiz, Air Force; Lnc. Cpl. Michael Joshua Barajas, Marines; Sgt. Cody Krawczyk, Army; Lnc. Cpl. Jake Kola, Marines; Airman Kaden Turocy, Air Force; A1C Rhian Frnzn Vengua, Air Force; Private Nicholas Drust, Jr., Army; Private Jesse J. Mendoza, Army; Lnc. Cpl. Edward Romano, Jr., Marines; A1C Jose Manuel Lagunas, Jr., Air Force; A1C Jordied Velez-Rosado, Air Force; Pvt. Noah Wardisiani, Army; Capt. Montgomery Smith, Air Force

SCRIPTURE SEARCH®

Gospel for August 23, 2026

Matthew 16:13-20

Following is a word search based on the Gospel reading for the Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle A: Jesus sets the foundation of his church. Find words in all directions in the puzzle.

PEOPLE	SON OF MAN	THE BAPTIST
OTHERS	ELIJAH	THE PROPHETS
SIMON PETER	SON OF JONAH	FLESH
BLOOD	REVEALED THIS	ROCK
BUILD	CHURCH	THE GATES
GIVE	THE KEYS	BIND
ON EARTH	ORDERED	TO TELL

THE ROCK

A	H	H	A	N	O	J	F	O	N	O	S
E	S	E	T	A	G	E	H	T	K	I	T
L	E	I	B	U	I	L	D	C	H	H	E
I	L	K	M	O	M	P	S	T	E	R	H
J	F	E	J	O	D	O	D	B	O	K	P
A	D	K	T	O	N	E	A	R	T	H	O
H	N	W	O	L	P	D	C	H	O	R	
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R	O	C	K	C	H	O	E	K	S	S	L

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Mark Olech from LPi, our bulletin printer, will be securing new ads for our church in the coming weeks. As a valuable member of the business community, we invite you to expand your reach and grow your business with a print ad in our parish bulletin and/or a digital ad featured on ParishesOnline.com.

YOUR AD HERE

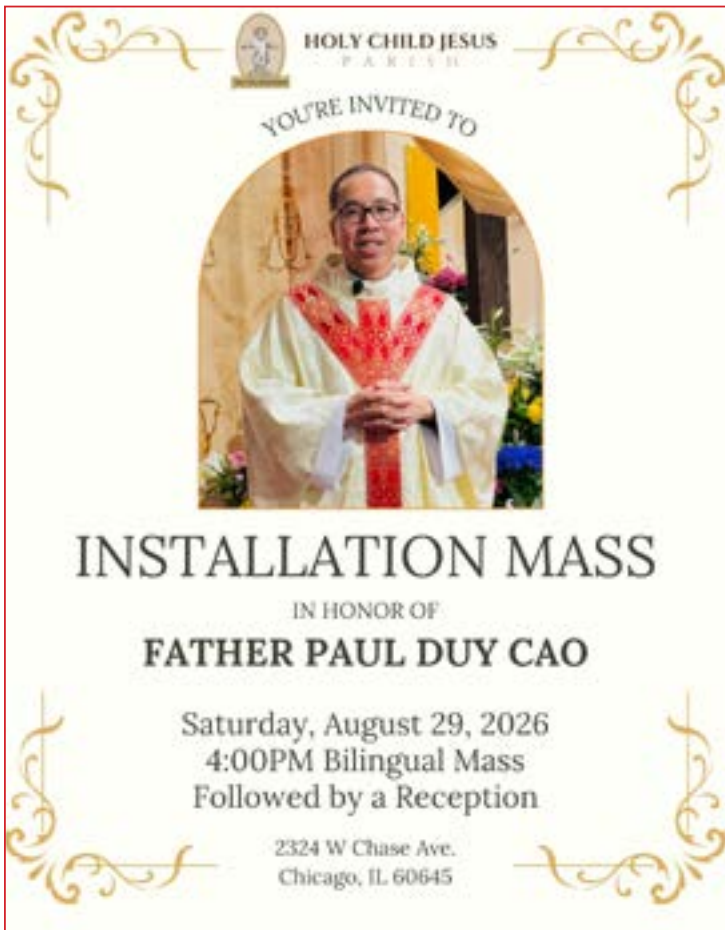
LPi Mark Olech
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molech@4lpi.com

Secular Franciscan Order

"The Mass has ended, go in peace to love and serve the Lord."

How do we do that? Since 1959, members of the St. Juliana Fraternity of the Secular Franciscan Order have sought to follow the spirit of St. Francis of Assisi by "going from Gospel to life and from life to Gospel." If following the Rule of St. Francis might interest you, the SFO fraternity at St. Juliana meets once each month. For more information or just to visit, please contact Bob Mitchell at robertpmitchell1@gmail.com.

Fr. Paul Cao invites his former parishioners to attend his Installation Mass as he becomes pastor of Holy Child Jesus Parish in Rogers Park on August 29 at 4 PM.

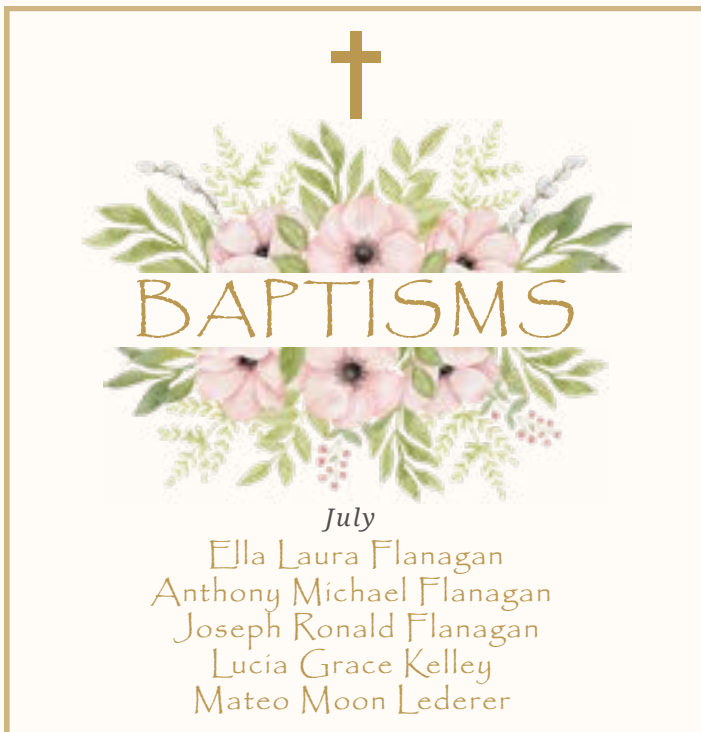


Students attending college soon were blessed at the masses on the weekend of August 9—10. We wish them a great academic year!

Memorial Gardens



Have you seen the beautiful Memorial Gardens on 76th Court? There is one for our deceased love ones right next to the Pastoral Center and one for our pets who are no longer with us under the trees by the church sign. If you would like a stone hand-lettered with the name of your loved one on it, please drop a note in the collection basket or call or come into the parish office and one will be made for you. The suggested donation is \$10. Thanks to the Maraviglia family so making this garden so beautiful!





St. Mother Theodore Guerin Parish Taste
Food Fest and Entertainment
Saturday, September 12 from 4 to 9 PM
 St. Celestine Church 3020 N. 76th Court, Elmwood Park
American, Filipino, Italian, Mexican, Polish, and Vietnamese food
 Raffles (Win a 65 inch TV!), music, fun for kids!

CAN YOU HELP?

The parish is seeking donations for our upcoming fundraiser, the Parish Taste, on Saturday, September 12. This has always been a wonderful community-building event, and we hope you will be a part of it in some way.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Can you give a few hours of your time to helping at the Taste? We'll need people to help set up, to clean up and take down the tables and chairs, to bake desserts, and to staff the food booths. Call the parish office to volunteer. School parents, you can get hours for helping.

BEVERAGE DONATIONS NEEDED

Please drop beverage donations in the back of the church or at the Pastoral Center. Beverages needed: 12 ounce cans of Coke, Diet Coke, or Sprite and 16–20 ounce bottles of water.

DONATIONS NEEDED

Do you want to donate to the Taste? We will recognize donors of \$100 with signs at the Taste, on the website, on Facebook and Instagram, and in the bulletin. You can choose to help subsidize one of the food booths, entertainment, the drinks, the raffles, or provide other needed supplies or donate where it is needed. Contact our Business Manager, Laurie DePillo, at 708-453-2555 or email lauriedepillo@stguerinparish.org.

BAKERS NEEDED

We need cookies, bars, and cupcakes for the Sweets Table at the Taste. Please bring your donations to the Pastoral Center on Friday, September 11 by 5 PM or on the day of the Taste by noon. Questions about desserts? Call Lynn Schmidt for more information at 708-453-2555 or email lschmidt@stguerinparish.org.

GIFT CARDS NEEDED

We are looking for gift cards to be donated for use in the raffle baskets for the Taste. You may drop them off in the collection basket at church or at the parish office.

Parish Staff Spotlight: Deacon Mike DeLarco

A long-time member of St. Celestine and now St. Mother Theodore Guerin parish, Mike DeLarco has served as Deacon since he was ordained in 1994. Deacon Mike and his late wife Jackie had 3 children, all who attended the parish school. Deacon Mike is the proud grandfather of nine and has eight great-grandchildren. He attended St. Genevieve grammar school and Calvin Park and Elmwood Park High Schools. He worked for State Farm before retiring.



Deacon Mike enjoys reading and working on cars. His passion has always been motorcycles, and he and Jackie spent many years enjoying riding and traveling all over the country.

Some of his duties as a deacon include preparing

couples for marriage, witnessing and blessing marriages, presiding over funeral and burial services outside of Mass, proclaiming the Gospel, and preaching monthly. He is also very involved in the Men's Club.

Deacon Mike has a quiet friendly demeanor and parishioners look forward to his straightforward and practical sermons. His kind, friendly manner makes him very approachable.

Mike's favorite part of being a deacon is interacting with people in their journey with the sacraments.



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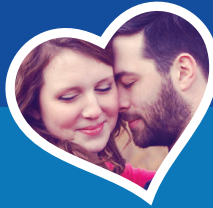
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