



ST. MOTHER THEODORE GUERIN PARISH

St. Celestine and St. Cyprian Churches

stguerinparish.org

December 14, 2025

3rd SUNDAY OF ADVENT

“This is the one about
whom it is written:
Behold, I am sending
my messenger ahead
of you; he will prepare
your way before you.”
- Mt 11:10

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

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

3020 North 76th Court
Elmwood Park, Illinois 60707
Phone: 708-453-2555

MASSES

Saturday 5 PM
Sunday 7:30 AM
11 AM

Monday, Wednesday, and Friday 8 AM

Reconciliation Saturday 4—4:45 PM



ST. CYPRIAN CHURCH

2601 North Clinton Street
River Grove, Illinois 60171

MASSES

Saturday 4 PM
Sunday 9 AM
Tuesday and Thursday 8 AM

Reconciliation Saturday 3:30—3:50 PM

ST. CELESTINE SCHOOL

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

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.

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, and community."

Mass Intentions

Saturday, December 13

4 PM ST. CYPRIAN

+Nery Rodriguez, Birthday

+Sister Ceil James

+Joyce Rossi

+Carl and +Rose Rossi

+Joseph Sweeney

+Kathleen Kuroski

+Gordon Hetland

+James Hyland

5 PM ST. CELESTINE

+Joan Psak, Anniversary

+Robert Gutkowski, 2nd Anniversary

+Al Fang, Jr.

+Joseph and +Bette Wesol

+Louis and +Juliana DaPrato and the
deceased members of the
DaPrato family

Sunday, December 14

7:30 AM ST. CELESTINE

+Lynn Johnson

9 AM ST. CYPRIAN

+Harace Lee

+Linda Papesh

+Padre Aldo Vinci

+Craig Bastek

11 AM ST. CELESTINE

+Roman and +Anna Romanyuk

+Frank Pudlo

+Robert Paprocki

+Bob Jurasz

+John Orsi

+Carl Braack

+Jeffery Thien Nguyen

+Jean Chlypniaz, Birthday

+Tomasz Wojtulewicz, 1 Month
Anniversary

Monday, December 15

8 AM ST. CELESTINE

People of the Parish

Tuesday, December 16

8 AM ST. CYPRIAN

Faithful Departed

Wednesday, December 17

8 AM ST. CELESTINE

+Fr. Bernard White

Thursday, December 18

8 AM ST. CELESTINE

People of the Parish

Friday, December 19

8 AM ST. CELESTINE

Faithful Departed

Saturday, December 20

4 PM ST. CYPRIAN

+Nery Rodriguez, Birthday

+Sister Ceil James

+Joyce Rossi

+Carl and +Rose Rossi

+Ted Eirick

+Evelyn Jajko

5 PM ST. CELESTINE

+Marian Egan

+Ronald Gutkowski, Birthday

+Al Fang, Jr.

Deceased Members of the Bellapanni
Family

+Frank and +John Kucera

+Evelyn Pontikis

Sunday, December 21

7:30 AM ST. CELESTINE

People of the Parish

9 AM ST. CYPRIAN

+Pearl T. Tristano

+Madeline V. Paldo

11 AM ST. CELESTINE

+Roman and +Anna Romanyuk

+Frank Pudlo

+Judy Kaner



St. Mother Theodore Guerin Parish

Welcome! If you are new to our churches or just visiting, please introduce yourself. We are happy to share in this celebration of the Eucharist. If you do not have a church home, or your church is not home to you, we are open to anyone looking for a spiritual home. We invite you to become a part of our parish. Register by calling the parish office at 708-453-2555 or online on our website, stguerinparish.org.



Pray the Rosary

8:30 AM Monday, Wednesday, Friday after Mass at St. Celestine
7:30 AM Tuesday and Thursday before Mass at St. Cyprian
Second Wednesday of the month 7 PM at St. Celestine

Mass Intentions

During the Prayer of the Faithful at Mass, we hear that this Mass is being offered for the repose of the soul of someone who has died, or for someone requesting prayers for a particular intention.

If you would like a Mass offered, please call either office to schedule a Mass for your particular intention. The usual donation is \$10. Mass cards are available as well.

Bulletin Deadlines

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

December 28 is due on Tuesday,
December 16 at 9 AM

January 4 is due on Wednesday,
December 17 at 9 AM

January 11 is due on Tuesday,
December 30 at 9 AM

From the Pastor's Desk: Fr. Paul Cao

Reconciliation Service

Please come to the Sacrament of Reconciliation in order to prepare yourself to celebrate the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ on Monday, December 15 at 7 PM at St. Cyprian Church. Confessions with a Polish-speaking priest are also available on Saturday December 20 at 3:30 PM at St. Celestine.

Let us come to the sacrament to experience God's love and to seek forgiveness in our lives. Jesus is waiting for you in the Sacrament of Reconciliation, so please take this opportunity to come clean your spiritual house in order to have a better place for Jesus to come during this Christmas Season.

Simbang Gabi

Be sure to join us, along with the Filipino members of our parish community, as we celebrate Simbang Gabi at the 5 PM Mass next Saturday, December 20 at St. Celestine Church. Simbang Gabi

("Masses of the Night") is a novena of Marian Masses that are celebrated on nine days immediately preceding the Masses of Christmas. Everyone is also invited to a meal of Filipino delights in the gym and annex immediately following the Mass. I would like to thank Deacon Roland, the Domingo and Arenga families and those who help to make this beautiful celebration possible.

Rejoice Sunday

This weekend we celebrate the Third Sunday of Advent, which is traditionally known as Gaudete Sunday, a name taken from the Latin word for "Rejoice!" Joy is the central theme of our liturgy, highlighted by the rose-colored candle lit on our Advent wreath. It is a joyful pause, reminding us that the Lord's coming is drawing near.

In only 10 more days we will celebrate Christmas. It is a day of rejoicing and of "joy to the world." Love came down at Christmas, as one seasonal song goes, and with it came



joy, the ability for us to overcome sin and sadness, because our Lord loved us enough to become one like us. As in the chorus of the song we sing, "Rejoice and be glad. Blessed are you, holy are you. Yours is the kingdom of God."

May joy be ours at this special season!

Happy Advent!!!

Fr. Paul Cao

Watch The Messengers: Christmas Episode of *The Chosen*



Join us on Tuesday, December 16 after the 8 AM Mass at St. Cyprian to watch a special Christmas episode of *The Chosen*. Experience the first Christmas through the eyes of Joseph and Mary. We will meet in the rectory at St. Cyprian and coffee and coffeecake will be served!

The Chosen Adventures

There is a new cartoon series on Amazon Prime called *The Chosen Adventures*. Each episode is about 10 minutes long, and follows 9 year old Abby and her best friend Joshua, who meet Jesus of Nazareth in Capernaum around 30 AD. *Adventures* was developed by one of the writers of the TV series *The Chosen*, and it features the voices of many cast members, including Jonathan Roumie as Jesus.

This is the kind of screen time parents can get behind. This series combines the wisdom of the Bible with stories kids will love, and it has certainly been well-received by the bulletin editor's 11, 10, and 8 year old grandchildren who kept asking to watch just one more episode.

Weekly Prayer

Sunday's Readings

First Reading:

Those whom the LORD has ransomed will return
and enter Zion singing,
crowned with everlasting joy;
they will meet with joy and gladness,
sorrow and mourning will flee. (Isa 35:10)

Psalm:

Lord, come and save us. (Ps 146)
OR
Alleluia.

Second Reading:

Be patient, brothers and sisters,
until the coming of the Lord. (Jas 5:7)

Gospel:

Jesus said to them in reply,
"Go and tell John what you hear and see:
the blind regain their sight,
the lame walk,
lepers are cleansed,
the deaf hear,
the dead are raised,
and the poor have the good news proclaimed to them."
(Mt 11:4-5)

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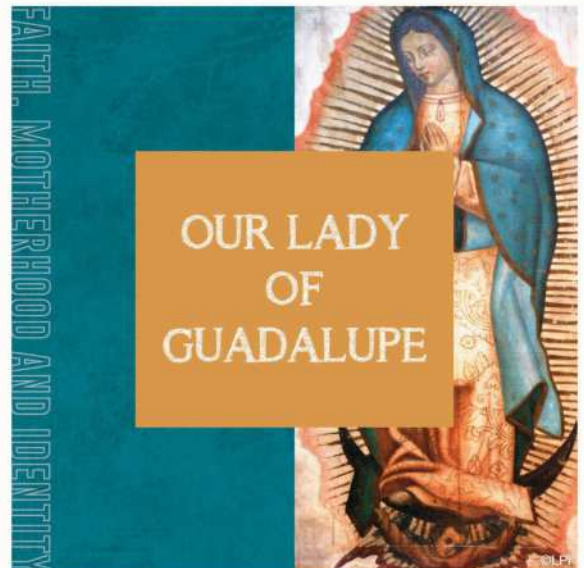
Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

"Go and tell what you have seen and heard,"
Jesus says. When it comes to proving who he
is, he always lets his actions do the talking. We
have heard. We have seen. We must go and
tell. Let's let our actions do the talking. Who
do we think Jesus is?

Observances for the week of December 14, 2025

Sunday: 3rd Sunday of Advent

Next Sunday: 4th Sunday of Advent



Devotions, *Explained!*

Our Lady of Guadalupe appeared to Juan Diego in Mexico City in 1531. The Patroness of the Americas, Our Lady of Guadalupe is a beloved symbol of faith, motherhood and identity. Her feast day is Dec. 12.

Prayer for Advent - New Growth

Dear God,
Bring new life! Your love creates
and cultivates.
Bring Your power into the places I
think of as "deserts"
and your grace to the prayers I
fear may be "deserted."
You can redeem and restore,
bring a new song to my heart.
Amen.

Worship & Meditation

Readings for the week of December 14, 2025

Sunday:

Is 35:1-6a, 10/Ps 146:6-7, 8-9, 9-10
(see Is 35:4)/Jas 5:7-10/Mt 11:2-11

Monday:

Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a/Ps 25:4-5ab, 6 and
7bc, 8-9/Mt 21:23-27

Tuesday:

Zep 3:1-2, 9-13/Ps 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-18,
19 and 23/Mt 21:28-32

Wednesday:

Gn 49:2, 8-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4ab, 7-8, 17/
Mt 1:1-17

Thursday:

Jer 23:5-8/Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19/
Mt 1:18-25

Friday:

Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-
17/Lk 1:5-25

Saturday:

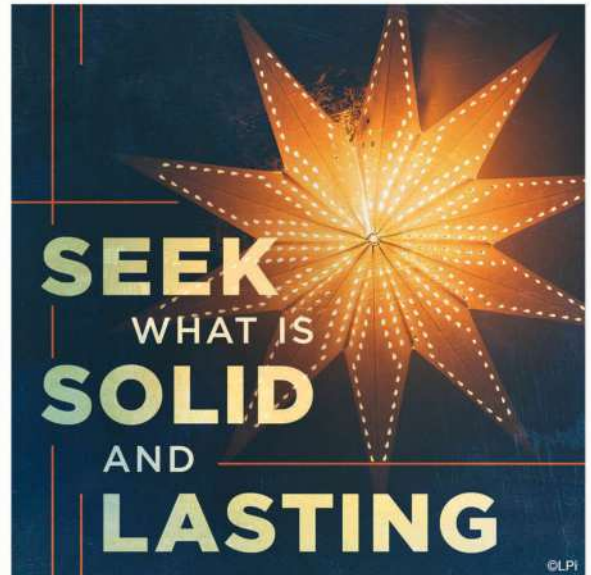
Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6/
Lk 1:26-38

Next Sunday:

Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 (7c, 10b)/
Rom 1:1-7/Mt 1:18-24



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Gospel Meditation

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

When I was 11, I was riding my bike on a Friday night in Scottsdale, Arizona. I saw giant spotlights swirling in the sky. Something amazing had to be happening. I pedaled after them with excitement. Sweaty and tired, I arrived, only to find a used car lot. Bright lights, flapping banners, inflatable balloon men swaying wildly in the wind. I stood there, heart sinking. All that spectacle, and all my effort ... for this?

As life proceeds, we learn what it is like to pursue promising but fruitless searches. This week we hear Jesus ask the crowds regarding John the Baptist: **“What did you go out to the desert to see? A reed swayed by the wind?” (Matthew 11:7).** He’s not just describing the crowd’s mis-aimed pursuit. He’s naming our tendency to chase after what’s flashy but flimsy.

What are our swaying reeds? For me, it is endless video reels on my phone, worldly pleasures, entertainment in sports, and the good opinion of others. Inflated distractions that bend whichever way the wind blows. But they can’t satisfy my soul. What are your flimsy reeds?

John the Baptist wasn’t a swaying reed. He was rooted, grounded, unafraid to speak the solid truth. The people went to see him because, deep down, they were starving for something real.

This Advent, the Church asks us to reassess: What are we really looking for? Are we chasing the dazzling but hollow? Or are we seeking what is solid and lasting — that which points to Christ?

— *Father John Muir*

(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC

Mini Reflection: We go to Mass. We go to Confession. We pray. We read Scripture. In doing all these things, again and again, we go out to the desert. Why? What are we expecting to see?

What We See in the Desert

I've always wanted to see a real desert.

I know all about frigid, snowy winters and warm, wet summers. I grew up on rich soil that yields lush vegetation and bountiful harvests. But I've never experienced a desert, not in my own country or abroad, and I'm curious.

I know there must be something magical about the desert for it to feature so heavily in Scripture, for it to provide a backdrop to so many crucial moments of salvation history. The Israelites following the cloud, the temptation of Christ, the voice crying out: "Prepare the way for the Lord."

Why do these moments have to happen in a desert? Why do they make so much less sense in a tropical rainforest or a verdant forest?

I think it's because the desert doesn't have anything to offer us, at first glance. No one longs for the physical sensation of a dry heat and a beating sun. But the vast emptiness and the almost mystical harshness — even if we don't desire and delight in it, this is a setting that we understand, somehow, intrinsically. We know it deep within our soul. God is there.

We go to Mass. We go to Confession. We pray. We read Scripture. In doing all these things, again and again, we go out to the desert.

Why? What are we expecting to see?

If we expect to be entertained, we will be disappointed. If we expect reassurance, we will be disappointed. If we expect to feel pleasant and safe and sheltered, we will be disappointed.

The desert is there to challenge us. The desert is there to show us who we are, and who we can be.

So go.

— Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Why do we do that? **Catholic Life Explained**

Question:

Our prayer group has been reading the lives of some saints, and we were struck by how some of them thought they were such sinners. Why would someone so holy think they had such serious sin?

Answer:

As Professional athletes practice the fundamentals of their sport over and over again, reaching for better form, consistency, and performance. They focus on the basics, review past performances, and visualize greater success. Practice makes better, if not perfect!

Spiritual masters such as the saints also looked for perfection. They practiced their faith in the search for holiness, grace, and virtue. Through sacraments, prayer, study, good works, and penance, they raised their level of awareness and their sensitivity to the presence of God, the demands of the Gospel, and the workings of the Holy Spirit. They examined their consciences daily, reviewing the day for moments of failure and times that they could have been more virtuous in one way or another. They resolved to do better, be more attentive, and alert!

Therefore, anything that would distract them or interfere with their relationship with God would be like a small black spot on a bright white wall — you can't miss it! The great saints were aware of sin and the presence of evil because they were so tuned into the struggle between good and evil that was fought in their own lives, hearts, and souls.

"This is the one about whom it is written: *Behold, I am sending my messenger ahead of you; he will prepare your way before you.*

Amen, I say to you, among those born of women there has been none greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he."

- Mt 11:10-11

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

Questions of the Week

Invite Parishioners to Reflect and Respond to Scripture

First Reading:

The prophet Isaiah taught his community to "be strong, fear not!" because God has planned a remarkable future where both the people and the land will be restored. Is there a friend or co-worker who needs your encouragement this week?

Second Reading:

James encourages his community to be patient and firm of heart in waiting for the coming of the Lord. What are you waiting for during this Advent season?

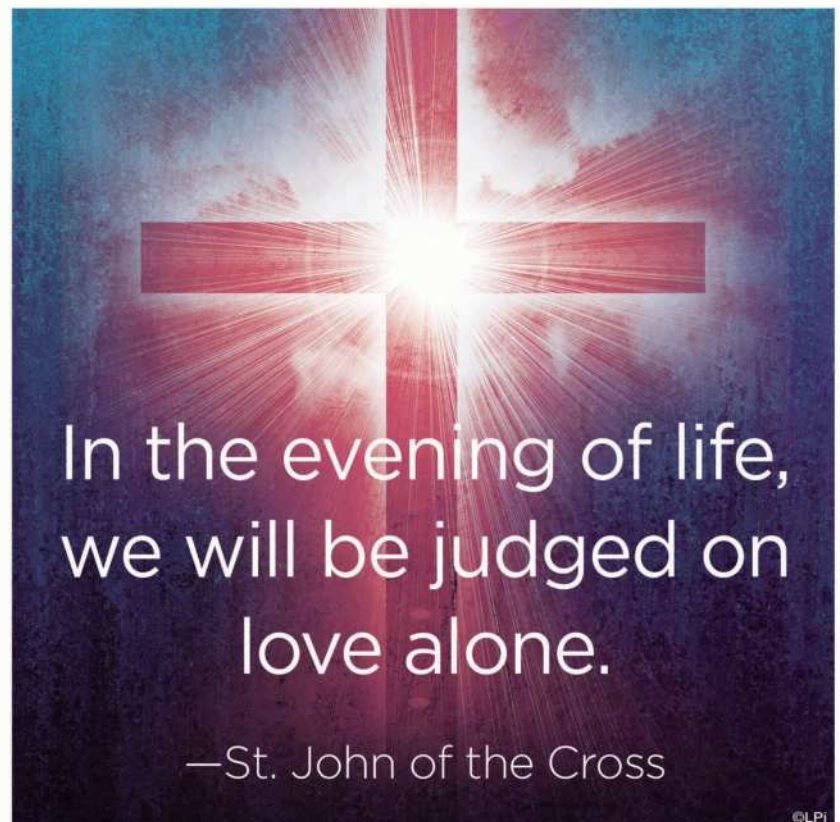
Gospel:

In prison, John the Baptist seemed uncertain about who Jesus is. Who do you talk to when you have questions about Jesus?



Support our local advertisers

Please show your support for your parish by also supporting our advertisers. We wouldn't be able to bring you our bulletin every week without them. Please encourage and remind others to show their support and shop local.





ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE 2025

Tree Trimming	Sunday, December 14 after 11 AM Mass at St. Celestine
Jingle Bell Fun Run	Sunday, December 14 at 2 PM at St. Celestine by the school entrance
Reconciliation Service	Monday, December 15 at 7 PM at St. Cyprian Church
“Keep Christ in Christmas” Talk	Tuesday, December 16 at 7 PM at St. Celestine Church with Craig Kamptner
Taizé Prayer Service	Wednesday, December 17 at 7 PM at St. Cyprian Church
Extended Reconciliation	Saturday, December 20 at 3:30 PM at St. Celestine Church with Polish–speaking priest available
Simbang Gabi	Saturday, December 20 at 5 PM at St. Celestine Church
Christmas Masses	
Family Mass	Wednesday, December 24 at 4 PM at St. Celestine Church
Carol Singing Mass	Wednesday, December 24 at 8:30 PM at St. Cyprian Church
Carol Singing Mass	Wednesday, December 24 at 9 PM at St. Cyprian Church
Carol Singing Mass	Wednesday, December 24 at 10:30 PM at St. Celestine Church
Midnight Mass	Wednesday, December 24 at 11 PM at St. Celestine Church
Christmas Day	Thursday, December 25 at 7:30 AM at St. Celestine Church
	Thursday, December 25 at 9 AM at St. Cyprian Church
	Thursday, December 25 at 11 AM at St. Celestine Church
Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God	
	Wednesday, December 31 at 4 PM at St. Cyprian Church
	Thursday, January 1 at 9 AM at St. Celestine Church



St. Celestine Catholic School

*A Place Where All Are Welcome To
Believe, Achieve And Succeed!*

2025–2026 School Year

Dear Parishioners, Alumni and Friends,

From the very youngest grades, our students are creating and constructing knowledge with technology tools to foster skills in communication, collaboration, critical thinking, problem solving, creativity, and computational thinking.

Your gifts to St. Celestine have made a great impact on our school and the programs we offer our students including iReady, STEAM activities, coding and design, classroom technology and applications, digital citizenship instruction, 1:1 Chromebooks & iPads, technology center, Google Workspace, programming, technology clubs, interactive displays that make the classroom more engaging, and much more.

We are grateful to you for your continued support of gifts and prayers to our annual fund. Because of you, we are a thriving school community and able to offer cutting-edge technologies to our students in addition to the many educational and spiritual experiences, athletic programs and clubs we offer them.

As you know, technology is constantly being upgraded but with your continued support you will help us keep it state-of-the-art for all the children to benefit this school year. Technology costs, as with so many other costs, continue to rise. Your support now is more important than ever!

Gifts to the annual fund directly support the 1:1 technology initiative which provides iPads and Chromebooks as well as other hardware, network infrastructure, security, software applications and licensing for over 550 devices throughout the school. We thank you for supporting the annual fund and more importantly for helping us prepare our children for their future.

Sincerely

Sheila Klich, Principal



Chromebooks in 2nd – 8th grade

Interactive boards in every classroom and technology lab classes for all students



Curriculum follows the ISTE Standards (International Society for Technology in Education)

Digital literacy is essential and necessary to our curriculum development and prepares students at every grade level to communicate and interact in a technology driven society.

STEAM for all levels of learning

Science. Technology. Engineering. Art. Math.



*See reply card on next page
for your level of support!*



St. Celestine School

More than 80 years of Catholic School tradition.

3017 N. 77th Avenue, Elmwood Park, IL 60707
708-453-8234
www.stcelestineschool.org

Thank you very much for your support of St. Celestine School children and the programs you provide them.

- ☐ \$25 - 149.00 Friend
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- ☐ \$300.00 - \$499.00 Principal's Tech Circle
This level will help us at minimum purchase a new iPad or Chromebook for a student.
- ☐ \$500.00+ Silver Circle (gift of 1+ new device)
- ☐ \$1,000.00+ Gold Circle (gift of 2+ new devices)
- ☐ \$2,500.00+ Celtic Circle (gift of 5 new devices)

Contributions are tax deductible as allowed by law.

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Email _____

Enclosed is a check \$_____ Check #_____
payable to: **St. Celestine School.**

Or, to make your gift online visit:
givecentral.org/location/313/event/20175

☐ My employer has a matching gift program. Enclosed is my form.

☐ I would like to start a scholarship fund. Please email me more information.

☐ St. Celestine School is in my Will.



Bring any parish kids to the Jingle Bell 1/2 Mile Fun Run at 2 PM on Sunday, December 14. The race starts and ends in front of St. Celestine School. Register online by December 12 at stguerinparish.org or just show up! Hot chocolate and medals and jingle bells for all!



St. Celestine Pastoral Center Fireside Room

ST. PAUL'S LETTER TO THE ROMANS

Bible Study with
Fr. Stan Ilo

**WEDNESDAYS
AT 6:30 PM**



HOLY
BIBLE

DECEMBER

17



We are excited to invite our Parish and School Community to the Annual Tree Trim. St. Celestine Girl Scouts, Scouting America Troop and Pack 4690, SCS Athletics, St. Celestine Parents' Club, St. Celestine School, SMTG Religious Education, SMTG Men's Club, SMTG Women's Club, and SMTG Parish Council are co-sponsoring these community events.

Giving Tree

We will be collecting gift cards from Jewel, WalMart, and Target to give to people in need in our parish and in Elmwood Park and River Grove. We are also asking for new store-bought or handmade hats, gloves, mittens, and scarves to help a local school in need. You are welcome to write a check payable to St. Mother Guerin parish or give cash and we will purchase the cards for you. You can drop these in the collection basket or bring to the office. We will collect through December 14.

Thank you for your generosity!

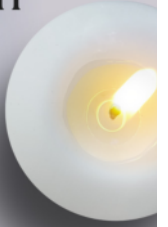


ST. CYPRIAN CHURCH

Reconciliation Service

Monday, December 15 at 7 PM


Reconciliation on Saturday, December 20 at
3:30 PM at St. Cyprian Church
Extended Reconciliation at 3:30 PM at
St. Celestine Church with Polish-speaking
priest available



Simbang Gabi Mass Mass on December 20 at 5 PM

The annual Simbang Gabi Mass will be held at 5 PM at St. Celestine on Saturday, December 20, followed by a reception. This is a beautiful Filipino tradition celebrating a novena of Advent Masses to heighten the preparation of the faithful to welcome the birth of Our Savior, Jesus Christ, and in honor of the Blessed Mother.






*Behold, I am the servant of the Lord;
let it be done to me according to your word.*

Pray the Rosary with Lena Roy

Wednesday, December 17 at 7 PM
St. Celestine Chapel

Enter off of 76th Court





Keep Christ in Christmas

Advent Reflection with
Craig Kamptner
Tuesday, December 16
at 7 PM at St. Celestine Church

JOIN US FOR OUR ANNUAL

BAGS TOURNAMENT

TO RAISE FUNDS FOR ST. CELESTINE SCHOOL ATHLETICS

Sunday, January 18th 2026
11AM Blind Draw
12PM Tournament Start
Located in the gym



**Cash Bar
Split the POT**

For more information contact:
Nicole DiMaggio at
athleticdirector@stcelestineschool.org

**\$30
TICKET PRICE
INCLUDES**

- One entry into the blind draw
- NFL Wildcard Games

CASH PRIZES!!!!

**Tickets can be
purchased in the
Parish Office**



****Must be 21 years and older to attend**

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.

Angelo L'Abbate	Justine Kucera	Sarah Rotolo
Michael Binder	Robert Kucera	Warren Sarbacker
Jacqueline Boshell	Larry Lemanski	Kathy Sassolino
Edward Bray	Bart Masi	Morgan Schlanger
Sue Brink	Kathy Mooney	Joseph Serwa
Elene Dimperio	George Moskaliuk	John Sheahan
Cathy Downing King	Sandra Moskaliuk	Mary Skelly
Eleanor	Efrem Munoz	Julie Spaargaren
Tom Ferguson	Martha Munoz	Heidi Stringham
Patsy Galecki	James Nasti	Sue*
Tammy Garcia	Larry Nestor	Brian Swatek
Maciej Gondek	Ron Nichols	Colleen Schlanger Thomas
Dorota Gondek	Sr. Louise Noesen	Judy Virgilio
Peter Gonzalez	Brendan O'Brien	Robert Virnich
Cynthia Guillen	Sherry Olsen	Lillian Wardzala
Lorry Hartnett	Carolyn Paprocki	Jim Waterloo
Grace Hensley	Adrienne Pudlo	Jim Wazorick
Karl Humowiecki	Betty Quartello	Sue Weber
Renee Iman	Sr. Rita Mae	Joshua Wilmes
Kathy Johl	Rabito	Tamycka Ortega Zapata
Adele Johnson	Aida Rivera	Nicholas Zych
Lisa Kostrzeski	Austin Rose	*recently added

Faithful Departed

Dorothy Vessini

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

SCRIPTURE SEARCH®

Gospel for December 14, 2025

Matthew 11:2-11

Following is a word search based on the Gospel reading for the Third Sunday of Advent, Cycle A: signs of the one who is to come. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

OF THE CHRIST	DISCIPLES	LOOK
HEAR AND SEE	BLIND	SIGHT
LEPERS	DEAF	DEAD
RAISED	POOR	GOOD NEWS
BLESSED	SPEAK	THE WIND
MY MESSENGER	BORN	GREATER
THE BAPTIST	LEAST	KINGDOM

HIM?

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

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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
Monty O'Donnel	Air Force

Parish Weekly Events

Sunday, December 14

12 PM ST CEL Tree Trimming after 11 AM Mass
2 PM ST CEL Jingle Bell Fun Run in front of the School

Monday, December 15

5 PM ST CEL Troop 47219 in the Annex
5:30 PM ST CEL Basketball Games in the Gym
7 PM ST CEL Athletic Committee in the Lower Meeting Room
7 PM ST CYP Reconciliation Service in the Church

Tuesday, December 16

8:30 AM ST CYP Christmas Episode of the "The Chosen" in the Rectory
6 PM ST CEL Play-off Games in the Gym
7 PM ST CYP Teen OCIA in the Rectory
7 PM ST CEL "Keep Christ in Christmas" Talk in the Church

Wednesday, December 17

6 PM ST CEL Play-off Games in the Gym
Troop Meetings in the Lunchroom
6:30 PM ST CEL Fr. Stan's Bible Study in the Fireside Room
7 PM ST CEL Rosary in the Chapel
7 PM ST CYP Taizé Prayer Service in the Church

Thursday, December 18

3 PM ST CEL Troop 47441 in the Lunchroom
4 PM ST CEL Food Pantry
4:30 PM ST CEL Troop 45703 in the Lower Meeting Room
5 PM ST CEL Troop 47857 in the Lunchroom
5:30 PM ST CEL Basketball Games in the Gym
7 PM ST CYP OCIA in the Rectory

Saturday, December 20

10 AM ST CEL Special Religious Ed in the Gym and Annex
5 PM ST CEL Simbang Gabi Mass and Reception in Gym to follow

Save the Dates!

- December 14 noon at St. Celestine: Christmas **Tree Trim**
- December 14 at 2 PM in front of school: **Jingle Bell Fun Run**
- December 15 at 7 PM at St. Cyprian: **Reconciliation**
- December 16 at 7 PM at St. Celestine: **Advent Talk** with Craig Kamptner
- December 17 at 6:30 PM at St. Celestine: **Bible Study with Fr. Stan**
- December 17 at 7 PM at St. Cyprian: **Taizé Prayer**
- December 17 at 7 PM at St. Celestine: **Rosary**
- December 20 at 5 PM at St. Celestine Church: **Simbang Gabi**
- Sunday, January 18 at noon in the gym **Bags Tournament**
- Friday, January 30 **Bingo** in the gym
- Saturday, February 7 at St. Cyprian 10 AM: **Parish Town Hall Meeting**
- May 17: **Dinner Dance** honoring Fr. Paul's 25 years as a priest
- June 7—12: **Totus Tuus**

Liturgical Ministers

Saturday, December 20

4 PM St. Cyprian

Presider	Fr. Paul Eruva
Altar Servers	Isaac M. Diego M.
Lector	Beverly Parylack
Eucharistic Ministers	Peg Gurnig Ruben Monterroso

5 PM St. Celestine

Presider	Fr. Paul Cao
Altar Server	JC S. CJ S. Macaria T.
Lector	Sylvia Stacey
Eucharistic Ministers	Perlita Domingo Ann Giannini Patricia Rinella Mike Miller Maria Mojek Peggy O'Donnell Carol Gutkowski

Sunday, December 21

7:30 AM St. Celestine

Presider	Fr. Paul Eruva
Altar Servers	TBA
Lector	Florence Smith
Eucharistic Ministers	Minnie Reillo Bill Lesch Mikenna Doyle Michelle Doyle Mary Kay Macchione Larry Skelly

9 AM St. Cyprian

Presider	Fr. Fil Ngwila
Altar Servers	David D. Marco D. Matthew D.
Lector	Valerie McCluskey
Eucharistic Minister	Tony Cannizzaro

11 AM St. Celestine

Presider	Fr. Paul Cao
Altar Servers	Christian C. Nickolas F.
Lector	Timothy Orr
Eucharistic Ministers	Mary Sullivan Lynn Loftus Skip Marcucci Mary Princivalli Kathy Iversen-Jaroch Mary Graf

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St. Mother Theodore Guerin Parish

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St. Celestine Church and Parish Office 708-453-2555 3020 North 76th Court, Elmwood Park, Illinois 60707
St. Cyprian Church 2601 North Clinton Street, River Grove, Illinois 60171 stguerinparish.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



Holy Hour: First Friday of each month at 3 PM at St. Celestine Church.

Baptisms: To schedule, contact Ruthanne Swiatkowski at rswiatkowski@stguerinparish.org or call 708-453-2555 x 5017. Baptisms take place at 12:30 PM on the second and fourth Sundays monthly at St. Celestine and the third Sunday of the month at St. Cyprian. Baptismal Prep classes take place on most first Wednesdays of each month at 7 PM at St. Cyprian; please call the office to sign up for the class.

Masses: See cover.

Reconciliation: Saturdays 3:30 PM at St. Cyprian and 4 PM at St. Celestine.

Weddings: Engaged couples are encouraged to call a year in advance of a preferred date. The couple must talk to Deacon Mike DeLarco before a wedding date can be reserved. Participation in marriage preparation is essential.

Rosary: Second Wednesday of the month at 7 PM in the chapel at St. Celestine, after the 8 AM Mass Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays at St. Celestine, at 7:30 AM before the 8 AM Mass on Tuesdays and Thursdays at St. Cyprian.

Contact Information

Priests

Rev. Paul Cao, Pastor
pcao@stguerinparish.org 708-453-2555 x5029
Rev. Paul Eruva, Associate Pastor
peruva@archchicago.org 708-453-2555 x5013
Rev. Eugene Gratkowski, Pastor Emeritus, St. Cyprian
Rev. Fil Ngwila, **Rev. Stan Ilo**, **Rev. Kenneth Ekekwe**,
Rev. Andrew Ezechiugo, Priests-in-Residence
Rev. Ron Navoy, Weekend Associate

Deacons

Michael DeLarco 708-453-2555 x5031
Call Deacon Mike to schedule a wedding.
Rolando Merced 708-453-2555
rmerced@archchicago.org

Staff

Laurie DePillo, Business Manager
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Ruthanne Swiatkowski, Director of Lifelong Faith Formation
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Kim Hagerty, Director of Evangelization and Bulletin Editor
khagerty@stguerinparish.org 708-453-2555 x5012
See inside bulletin for deadlines.

Eric Mueller and **Bob Vessini**, Maintenance 708-453-2555 x4025

Ministries

Mary Murphy, Coordinator of Religious Education for Children and Adults with Special Needs murphyme2000@gmail.com

Lois DeFelice, Ministry of Care 708-453-2555
loisdefelice@gmail.com

Food Pantry 708-453-2555
The Food Pantry opens from 4 to 6 PM on two Thursdays each month.
Check Weekly Events in the bulletin or stguerinparish.org for the dates.

St. Celestine School

708-453-8234
3017 North 77th Avenue, Elmwood Park, Illinois 60707
Sheila Klich, Principal sklich@stcelestineschool.org
Jennifer Ebervein, Secretary
Nicole Nayder, Financial Secretary

