



# ST. MOTHER THEODORE GUERIN PARISH

St. Celestine and St. Cyprian Churches

[stguerinparish.org](http://stguerinparish.org)

December 28, 2025

## DWELT IN A TOWN.

— MATTHEW 2:23 —

THE HOLY FAMILY

©LPI

### 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](http://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 27**

**4 PM ST. CYPRIAN**

+Nery Rodriguez  
+Sister Ceil James  
+Joyce Rossi  
+Carl and +Rose Rossi  
**5 PM ST. CELESTINE**  
+Al Fang, Jr., Birthday  
+Larry O'Donnell  
+Carl Braack  
+Angela Englund

**Sunday, December 28**

**7:30 AM ST. CELESTINE**

People of the Parish

**9 AM ST. CYPRIAN**

People of the Parish

**11 AM ST. CELESTINE**

+Roman and +Anna Romanyuk  
+Frank Pudlo  
Turzitti Family

**Monday, December 29**

**8 AM ST. CELESTINE**

+Fr. Bernard White

**Tuesday, December 30**

**8 AM ST. CYPRIAN**

Faithful Departed

**Wednesday, December 31**

**8 AM ST. CELESTINE**

+Marleen Blando

**4 PM ST. CYPRIAN**

People of the Parish

**Thursday, January 1**

**9 AM ST. CELESTINE**

+Geraldine Lustro

**Friday, January 2**

**8 AM ST. CELESTINE**

+Joan Psak

+Mia Juliet Scola

+Bruce Rybarczyk, Birthday

**Saturday, January 3**

**4 PM ST. CYPRIAN**

+Carl and +Rose Rossi

**5 PM ST. CELESTINE**

+Frank and +John Kucera

**Sunday, January 4**

**7:30 AM ST. CELESTINE**

+Marcy Krzysko

+Angela Castronovo, Birthday

**9 AM ST. CYPRIAN**

+William Hoeflich

+Josephine Hoeflich

**11 AM ST. CELESTINE**

+Frank McGuire, Anniversary

+Frank Pudlo



## 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](http://stguerinparish.org).

Need help? Many services are provided by **Catholic Charities**. Call 312-655-7700 or go to [catholiccharities.net](http://catholiccharities.net).

Alcohol and Drug Abuse  
1-800-821-4357  
Child Abuse  
1-800-252-2873  
National Domestic Violence  
1-800-799-SAFE  
National Sexual Assault  
1-800-656-4673  
Compulsive Gambling Hotline  
1-410-332-0402  
Poison Control  
1-800-222-1222  
Suicide Prevention  
1-800-273-8255  
Elder Abuse  
1-800-252-8966  
[www.AddictionResource.net](http://www.AddictionResource.net)  
1-844-597-0006



## 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

## Bulletin Deadlines

Please send information to Kim at [khagerty@stguerinparish.org](mailto:khagerty@stguerinparish.org).

**January 18** is due on Wednesday,  
January 7 at 9 AM

**January 25** is due on Wednesday,  
January 14 at 9 AM

## From the Pastor's Desk: Fr. Paul Cao

**A Special Christmas Thanks** Last week, we celebrated Christmas together in our parish community. It was a great celebration as we gathered to worship our Lord Jesus who came from heaven as the Son of God to be born and live among us. It was good to see many people in church and to see many families gathered together in both worship sites. Christmas is such a busy time of year with all of the preparation and baking, shopping and gift wrapping, card writing and holiday cheer, and in church with a lot of decorating.

It is a good busy and joyful time because whatever we do is to show our love and joy to the Lord and to one another. In order to live in **JOY**, a three-letter word, we must put **Jesus, Others, before Yourself**. There are many people who sacrificed themselves to make this Christmas more joyful. They are the ones who really put Jesus, Others before themselves, and I would like to acknowledge at least a few in this thank you:

- For the tremendous generosity of so many parishioners and other people of good will—for the multiple ways they gave from their heart:
- For those who helped needy families in our parish and

around us through gift cards donations made via the Giving Tree.

- For those who provided food for the tables of the growing number of people who come to our Food Pantry.
- For those who, in spite of their own financial struggles, dug deep into their pockets to support the efforts of the parish itself.
- For the selfless giving of countless volunteers who week in and week out bless our parish with their generous service, but especially during this Advent/Christmas season.
- To the lectors, cantors, Eucharistic Ministers, Craig Kamptner, our Music Director, Jeanne Schneider, the choirs, musicians, altar servers, and ushers.
- To Danny Hesslau and Jolene Wrobel who help put the slides on the screens every weekend at St. Celestine Church.
- To our Sacristans Linda Santelli, Patricia Rinella, Tony Cannizzaro, Nancy Krzys from both worship sites.
- To those who decorated the churches inside and out to make them look beautiful, especially Jolene Wrobel, Jeanne Schneider, and the many others who helped. I also would like to thank



Jerry Lis and Ray and Paulette Maraviglia, for putting out the Christmas lights, and decorating outside the Pastoral Center at St. Celestine Church, and for all who participated in the Christmas Trees Trimming.

- To the cleaning ministry team who work very hard to make sure our churches are clean.
- To all of our parish staff and so many other volunteers who made our Christmas Masses at two worship sites so beautiful—we give thanks!

THANK YOU!!! THANK YOU!!!  
THANK YOU!!!

May God bless you always and May the Lord grant you good health and a blessed New Year! Happy New Year 2026!!!

*Peace and love!*  
*Fr. Paul*

## Town Hall Meeting Saturday, February 7 at 10 AM at St. Cyprian Church

Seven years ago, St. Cyprian and St. Celestine were combined into a new parish, St. Mother Theodore Guerin, with one school, St. Celestine, and two churches, St. Cyprian and St. Celestine, as part of the Renew My Church process. The Archdiocese requires us to review the process every five years, and that is going on now. St. Celestine School, with 390 students, is self-supporting and is not part of this review.

Mid-August, Fr. Paul Cao invited parishioners from both sites to meet with a team from the Archdiocese who have guided us in the process of reviewing the state of the parish.

As part of the process, the team has been looking at the history of our parish combination, our ministries, our finances, and has toured all the buildings on both campuses to see how the facilities are used and what repairs need to be made.

We would like to invite all to a Town Hall Meeting on Saturday, February 7 at 10 AM in St. Cyprian Church, where our recommendations will be presented to the parish. After that, Fr. Paul, with the aid of the Parish Pastoral and Finance Councils, will make a decision to present to our Vicar, Bishop José María García-Maldonado and the Archdiocese as to plans for the future of our parish.



# Weekly Prayer

## Sunday's Readings

### First Reading:

Whoever honors his father atones for sins,  
and preserves himself from them. (Sir 3:3)

### Psalm:

Blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways.  
(Ps 128)

### Second Reading:

And whatever you do, in word or in deed,  
do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus,  
giving thanks to God the Father through him. (Col 3:17)

### Gospel:

He rose, took the child and his mother,  
and went to the land of Israel. (Mt 2:21)

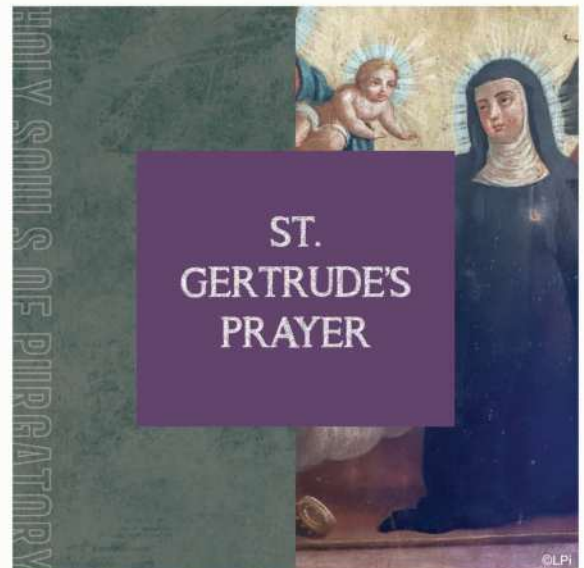
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## Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

God created the Holy Family with a great sense of purpose, because he knew that Jesus would be defined by the woman and man who raised him. Who is our "Holy Family" — the people who will define us? Who has God placed within our lives for a specific purpose?

## Observances for the week of December 28, 2025

- Sunday:** The Holy Family
- Wednesday:** St. Sylvester I, Pope; *New Year's Eve*
- Thursday:** Mary, The Holy Mother of God,  
New Year's Day, World Day of Peace
- Friday:** Sts. Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen,  
Bishops and Doctors of the Church
- Saturday:** The Most Holy Name of Jesus
- Next Sunday:** The Epiphany of the Lord



## Devotions, *Explained!*

St. Gertrude's Prayer is a petition said on behalf of the Holy Souls of Purgatory, offering the Blood of Christ in reparation for the sins of the departed.

## Family Blessing

May God bless, protect, unite, mend, and renew our family. Help us to be instruments of healing and holiness, breaking generational curses, rewriting scripts, overcoming tribulation, joining in gratitude, and growing in joy ... together. Amen.

# Worship & Meditation

## Readings for the week of December 28, 2025

### Sunday:

Sir 3:2-6, 12-14/Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17/  
Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5/Mt 2:13-15, 19-23

### Monday:

1 Jn 2:3-11/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 5b-6/  
Lk 2:22-35

### Tuesday:

1 Jn 2:12-17/Ps 96:7-8a, 8b-9, 10/  
Lk 2:36-40

### Wednesday:

1 Jn 2:18-21/Ps 96:1-2, 11-12, 13/Jn 1:1-18

### Thursday:

Nm 6:22-27/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6 and 8/  
Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21

### Friday:

1 Jn 2:22-28/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/  
Jn 1:19-28

### Saturday:

1 Jn 2:29-3:6/Ps 98:1, 3cd-4, 5-6/  
Jn 1:29-34

### Next Sunday:

Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13/  
Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12



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## Gospel Meditation

### Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

When I was ten, my dad gathered our family around the table in small-town Vermont and told us we were moving to the big desert city of Phoenix, Arizona. We were leaving behind family, friends, and everything familiar. None of us knew what to expect.

But something beautiful happened. As we made the move together, our family grew closer. In retrospect, I'm amazed at my parents' courage to go on that adventure. Even as a kid I realized our family found, in that challenge, a deeper unity and mutual love.

In today's Gospel, Joseph is told: **"Rise, take the child and his mother, and flee..." (Matthew 2:13, 20)**. First to Egypt, then later to Israel. The Holy Family is frequently challenged to move and change, to adapt to God's will for them, in order to find safety in the midst of threat. It's not just an idiosyncratic story about survival. It's a spiritual pattern for all of us. Every Christian family is called to be a kind of sanctuary, especially in a world full of noise, busyness, and fear.

May I make a practical application for us? The Lord's Day, Sunday, is perhaps the most practical way we imitate this dynamic we see in Joseph and his family. Sunday is not meant to be just like every other day, filled with errands and stress. It's meant to be a day set apart; a holy "escape" into rest, worship, joy, and peace. A day to rise, take your family, and flee, into God's presence

— Father John Muir



## (PRACTICING) CATHOLIC

**Mini Reflection:** If any four-word sentence encapsulates what we can expect from the Christian life, it is this: God had other plans.

### Other Plans

I don't know exactly what kind of life Mary and Joseph envisioned when they were first betrothed — back in those simple times when they were just like any other couple who had hopes, dreams and no angels telling them what to do.

Whatever their plans were, I think it's safe to say that the future God had in store for Mary and Joseph was not one either of them expected. I would imagine they both anticipated something a little quieter. A little more stable (no pun intended). A little less tumultuous.

It exhausts me simply to read through the chaos of their movements in today's Gospel. Flee to Egypt, return to Israel (but not Judea! Herod's son is there! Divert to Galilee! Divert!). Settle in Nazareth (let me remind you, this is all happening with a baby in tow, and without the aid of a minivan). Take a deep breath, but don't get too comfortable — now it's almost time to lose your kid in Jerusalem. Then you'll have about 20 years off before he starts raising people from the dead, and that's when things start to get *really* crazy.

The story of the Holy Family is the ultimate example of the phrase "God had other plans." If any four-word sentence encapsulates what we can expect from the Christian life, it is this.

I thought I was meant for that job, but God had other plans.  
I thought I would live in this place, but God had other plans.  
I thought I was supposed to become this person, but God had other plans.

We can do all the right things. We can make all the right choices. We can say, over and over again until our voice wears out, "Thy will be done." But all we can know for sure is that God has other plans.

— Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

## Why do we do that? Catholic Life Explained

### Question:

If I go to the Sacrament of Penance and end up repeating the same sins, does that mean I do not have a strong enough intention to amend my life?

### Answer:

There is a popular expression that says, "Be patient. God isn't finished with me yet!" Growing in faith and holiness is an ongoing, life-long project, and our struggle with sin is at the heart of it. As St. Paul says, the good he intends to do, he does not do. The evil he does not intend, he does! It is not always a lack of intention, but more often the allure of evil that makes it difficult to change.

When we confess our sins, we are to come with a fully contrite heart. You need to reflect on your true feelings toward your actions before approaching the sacrament. After confession, there are strategies you can make to avoid falling into the same traps of sin. First, pray for and seek out strength and perseverance through multiple sacraments, charitable work, and personal sacrifice. Second, avoid occasions of sin when you might fail or be sorely tempted. In doing these things, remind yourself daily that it is a spiritual war we wage, and with God's grace, we will succeed.



And because he had been warned in a dream, he departed for the region of Galilee. He went and dwelt in a town called Nazareth, so that what had been spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled, *He shall be called a Nazorean.*

- Mt 2:22b-23

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

## Questions of the Week

Invite Parishioners to Reflect and Respond to Scripture

### First Reading:

Sirach emphasizes the importance of children honoring and respecting their parents. What are some of your favorite memories of your parents?

### Second Reading:

Paul taught the Colossians that families should show mutual respect and love toward one another. How do you encourage these virtues in your family?

### Gospel:

We hear how the Holy Family faced some very dangerous circumstances early on. Can you think of some challenges your family has had to overcome?



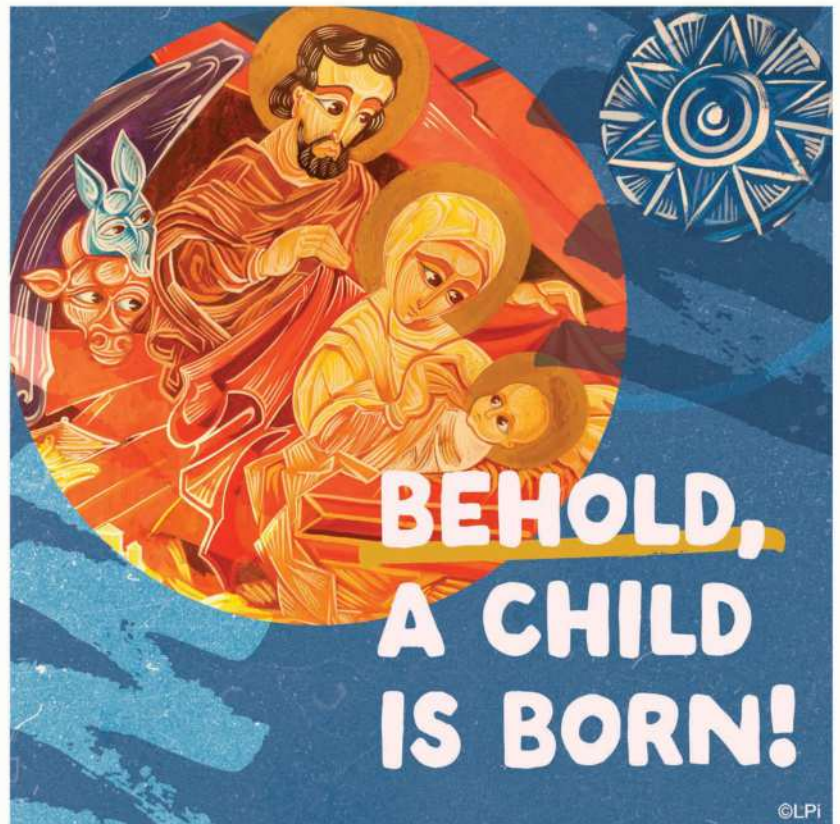
**SHOP LOCAL.**

**EAT LOCAL.**

**ENJOY LOCAL.**

### 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.



## Prayer

Dear God, thank you for keeping Jesus safe when he was a little baby.

## Mission for the Week

If you were not safe, and if you had to move away in the middle of the night, list three small things you would want to bring along.

## Sharing the Gospel

After King Herod found out that Jesus had been born, little Jesus was no longer safe. Herod did not want any other kings around, even baby kings like Jesus. In a dream, God warned Joseph that their little family needed to move far away from Herod. Joseph took Mary and Jesus and got out of Bethlehem as quickly and as quietly as they could. God protected little Jesus. God wants you to be safe, too.

Now color  
the picture!



Unscramble words from today's Gospel:

listed  
Joseph  
Mary

engaged  
traveled  
baby

sheep  
Savior  
angels

lstedi	<u>l</u> <u>i</u> <u>s</u> <u>t</u> <u>e</u> <u>d</u>
byab	_____
Jephos	_____
shepe	_____
Mrya	_____
Siorav	_____
enagedg	_____
anlsge	_____
traledve	_____







# 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. 77<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Elmwood Park, IL 60707  
708-453-8234  
[www.stcelestineschool.org](http://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
- ☐ \$150.00 - \$299.00 Supporter
- ☐ \$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](http://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.

## Holy Hour January 2



A Holy Hour will take place at St. Celestine Church on Friday, January 2 at 3 PM.

A Divine Mercy Holy Hour takes place on the first Friday of each month at St. Celestine Church. Included are the Divine Mercy prayers, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, and time for quiet Adoration. The hour concludes with Benediction.

Please join us for this opportunity to pray in the presence of the Lord.

JOIN US FOR OUR ANNUAL

# BAGS TOURNAMENT

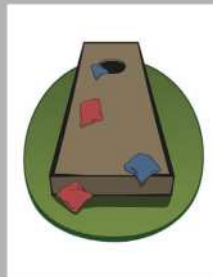
TO RAISE FUNDS FOR ST. CELESTINE SCHOOL ATHLETICS

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](mailto: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**



## Food Pantry

Our parish Food Pantry needs food donations. Can you help? We need canned goods, cereal, peanut butter, jelly, cans of fruit, cans of soup, and non-perishable goods. Other suggested donations are cooking oil, tuna, salt, pepper, and spices, cake mix and frosting for birthdays, sugar, flour, coffee, and tea. Donations of cash or checks made out to St. Mother Guerin parish are great so we can buy meat and fresh foods.

Please drop off at the Pastoral Center or in the back of the churches. Thank you!

## 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.

## Save the Dates!

- Sunday, December 28 at 9 AM at St. Cyprian and 11 AM at St. Celestine: **Blessing** for couples married 25 or more years
- Friday, January 2 at 3 PM at St. Celestine: Divine Mercy **Holy Hour**
- Sunday, January 18 at noon in the gym: **Bags Tournament**
- Sunday, January 25 at 11 AM at St. Celestine: **Mass with Cardinal Cupich** to celebrate Catholic Schools Week and the 90th anniversary of St. Celestine School
- Friday, January 30 in the gym: **Bingo**
- Saturday, February 7 at St. Cyprian Church at 10 AM: **Parish Town Hall Meeting**
- June 7—12: **Totus Tuus**

## SOLEMN VESPER

for  
**MARY, MOTHER OF GOD**



TRADITIONAL MONASTIC CHANT  
WITH POLYPHONIC MASTERWORKS  
BY

**SCHOLA LAUDIS**

CONDUCTED BY KEVIN ALLEN

**WEDNESDAY  
DECEMBER 31  
5:15 p.m.**

Featured music:

**Funk:** Virga lesse floruit

**Josquin:** Mystical Antiphons

**Lassus:** Ave maris stella

**Lobo:** Magnificat Secundi Toni

**Palestrina:** Alma Redemptoris Mater

**Allen:** Ave Virgo sanctissima



*Monastery of the Holy Cross*

Benedictine Monks of Chicago

3111 South Aberdeen Street  
Chicago, IL 60608-6503  
[www.chicagomonk.org](http://www.chicagomonk.org)



**Fenwick High School**

**WINTER CARNIVAL**

**January 25, 2026 • 12 to 2 p.m.**

Games / Food / Family Fun

Register: [fenwickfriars.com/winter-carnival-2026](http://fenwickfriars.com/winter-carnival-2026)

For more information, contact Dawn Swanson at [dswanson@fenwickfriars.com](mailto:dswanson@fenwickfriars.com) or 708-948-0323.

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	Brian Swatek
Tammy Garcia	Larry Nestor	Colleen Schlanger Thomas
Maciej Gondek	Ron Nichols	Donna Toriani*
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	Danyll Wolcotte*
Adele Johnson	Aida Rivera	Tamycka Ortega Zapata
Lisa Kostrzeski	Austin Rose	Nicholas Zych
		*recently added

Faithful Departed

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

SCRIPTURE SEARCH®

Gospel for December 28, 2025  
Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23

Following is a word search based on the Gospel reading for the feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph, Cycle A. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

AN ANGEL	THE LORD	MOTHER
FLEE	EGYPT	HEROD
SEARCH	DESTROY	DEATH
PROPHET	CALLED	MY SON
ISRAEL	HEARD	ARCHELAUS
RULING	JUDEA	AFRAID
WARNED	GALILEE	NAZARETH

OUT OF EGYPT

G	J	O	S	U	A	L	E	H	C	R	A
A	S	N	A	Z	A	R	E	T	H	F	C
L	L	E	N	G	N	I	L	U	R	L	A
I	S	R	A	E	L	D	E	A	L	E	L
L	Y	A	N	R	W	K	I	D	H	E	L
E	E	R	G	L	C	D	L	D	T	G	E
E	M	M	E	D	E	H	R	E	A	Y	D
N	M	O	L	S	H	N	E	N	E	P	R
A	Y	T	T	H	E	L	O	R	D	T	A
N	S	R	P	H	C	H	O	A	O	H	E
A	O	J	U	D	E	A	B	W	D	D	H
Y	N	L	I	L	P	R	O	P	H	E	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
Capt. Montgomery Smith	Air Force



## Parish Weekly Events

### Wednesday, December 31

4 PM ST CYP Solemnity of Mary Mass (Holy Day of Obligation)

### Thursday, January 1

9 AM ST CEL Pastoral Center Closed  
Solemnity of Mary Mass (Holy Day of Obligation)

### Friday, January 2

3 PM ST CEL Holy Hour in the Chapel

### Saturday, January 3

9:30 ST CEL Religious Education in the School  
3 PM ST CEL Men's Club Open Gym

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### The Vicar for Deacons

Have you ever considered the call to be a Deacon of the Catholic Church?

Join us at **7 p.m.** on  
**January 19, 2026** at:  
**Office of the Diaconate**  
816 Marengo  
Forest Park, IL 60130



We will provide an overview of the **Deacon Formation Program, the application process and information on the ministry of a deacon.** Men, single or married, are invited to attend. Wives are strongly encouraged to accompany their husbands. For more information and to register for this session, contact the Office of the Diaconate at **708.366.8900**.

**"Whom shall I send? Who will go for us? 'Here I am, send me!'" –Isaiah 6:8**

## 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.

## Liturgical Ministers

### Saturday, January 3

#### 4 PM St. Cyprian

Altar Servers Isaac M.  
Diego M.  
Karen Moretti  
Anna Petras  
Ruben Monterroso

Lector

Eucharistic Ministers

#### 5 PM St. Celestine

Altar Server TBA  
Lector Betty Blonski  
Eucharistic Ministers Pat Strabley  
Maryann Dibari  
Bob Mitchell, O.F.S.  
Peggy O'Donnell  
Carol Gutkowski  
Tom Lepore  
Patricia Rinella

### Sunday, January 4

#### 7:30 AM St. Celestine

Altar Servers TBA  
Lector Michelle Doyle  
Eucharistic Ministers Mary Kay Macchione  
Ken Doyle  
Florence Smith  
Maria Mojek  
TBA  
TBA

#### 9 AM St. Cyprian

Altar Servers David D.  
Marco D.  
Matthew D.  
Valerie McCluskey  
Anthony Cannizzaro

Lector

Eucharistic Minister

#### 11 AM St. Celestine

Altar Servers TBA  
Lector Timothy Orr  
Eucharistic Ministers Alice Carella  
Kim Bartell  
Greg Derlacki  
Lena Roy  
Charlie Roy  
Doti Geringer



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St Mother Theodore Guerin, Chicago, IL

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# St. Mother Theodore Guerin Parish

stguerinparish.org

**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](http://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](mailto: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](mailto:pcao@stguerinparish.org) 708-453-2555 x5029  
**Rev. Paul Eruva**, Associate Pastor  
[peruva@archchicago.org](mailto: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](mailto:rmerced@archchicago.org)

### Staff

**Laurie DePillo**, Business Manager  
[lauriedepillo@stguerinparish.org](mailto:lauriedepillo@stguerinparish.org) 708-453-2555 x5015  
**Lynn Schmidt**, Administrative Assistant  
[lschmidt@stguerinparish.org](mailto:lschmidt@stguerinparish.org) 708-453-2555 x5010  
**Andrea Mayer**, Receptionist  
[amayer@archchicago.org](mailto:amayer@archchicago.org) 708-453-2555 x5010

**Ruthanne Swiatkowski**, Director of Lifelong Faith Formation  
[rswiatkowski@stguerinparish.org](mailto:rswiatkowski@stguerinparish.org) 708-453-2555 x5017

**Craig Kamptner**, Director of Music Ministry  
[ckamptner@stcelestineschool.org](mailto:ckamptner@stcelestineschool.org) 708-453-2555 x5016

**Kim Hagerty**, Director of Evangelization and Bulletin Editor  
[khagerty@stguerinparish.org](mailto: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](mailto:murphyme2000@gmail.com)  
**Lois DeFelice**, Ministry of Care 708-453-2555  
[loisdefelice@gmail.com](mailto: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](http://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](mailto:sklich@stcelestineschool.org)  
**Jennifer Ebervein**, Secretary  
**Nicole Nayder**, Financial Secretary

