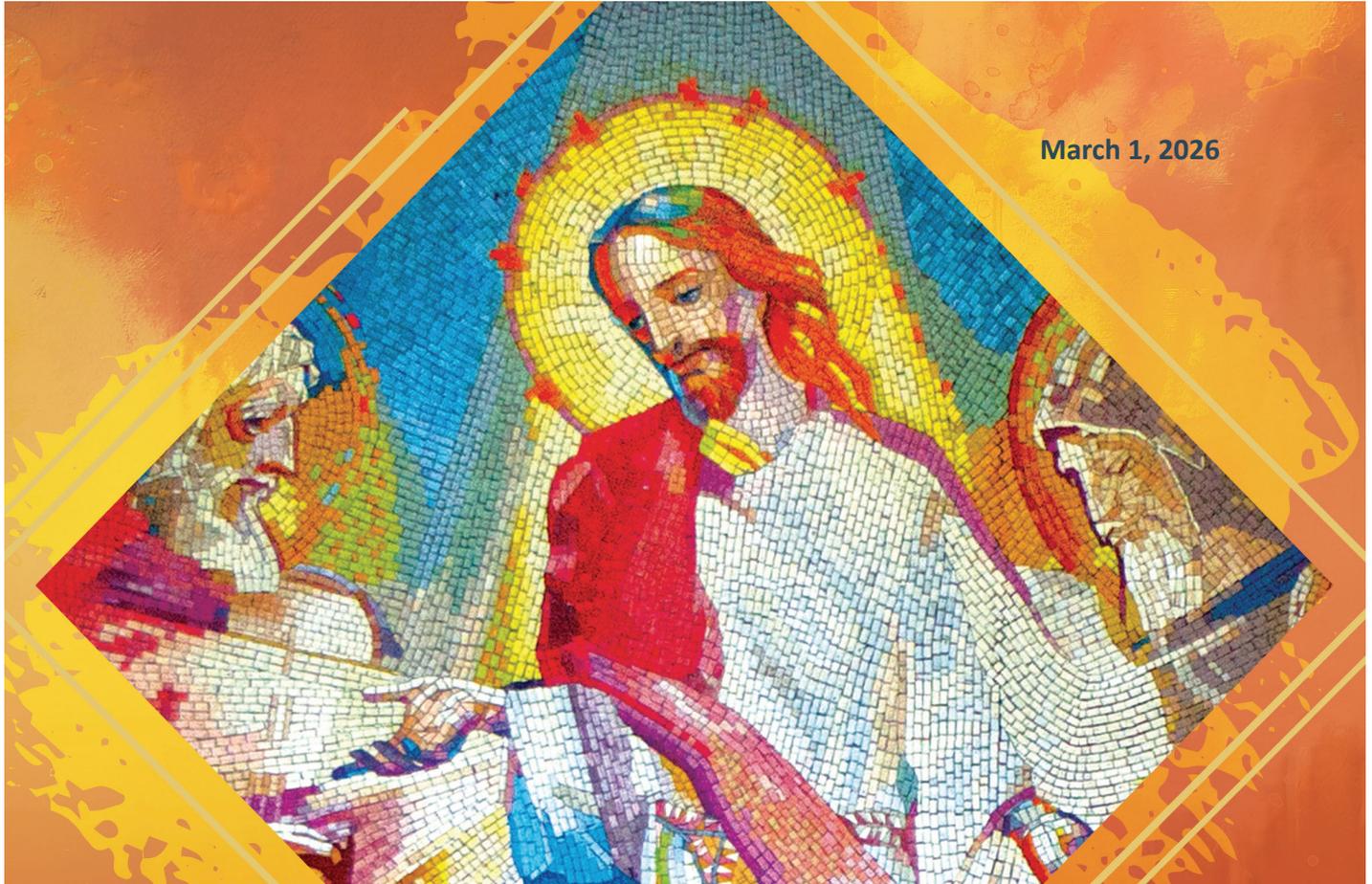




ST. MOTHER THEODORE GUERIN PARISH

St. Celestine and St. Cyprian Churches

stguerinparish.org



March 1, 2026

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, February 28

4 PM ST. CYPRIAN

+Carl and +Rose Rossi

+Nery Rodriguez

5 PM ST. CELESTINE

People of the Parish

Sunday, March 1

7:30 AM ST. CELESTINE

Faithful Departed

9 AM ST. CYPRIAN

+Joseph Morgan, Sr.

11 AM ST. CELESTINE

+Roman and +Anna Romanyuk

+Frank and +Adrienne Pudlo

+Michael Campbell, Anniversary

Monday, March 2

8 AM ST. CELESTINE

+Joven Dioberne B. Gesta, 33rd Birthday

Tuesday, March 3

8 AM ST. CYPRIAN

+Sgt Francis Wiemerslage

Wednesday, March 4

8 AM ST. CELESTINE

+Carol Lynn Rojas

Thursday, March 5

8 AM ST. CYPRIAN

+Frank J. Bradkowski, Birthday

Friday, March 6

8 AM ST. CELESTINE

+Fr. Bernard White

+Joan Psak

Saturday, March 7

4 PM ST. CYPRIAN

+Carl and +Rose Rossi

+Nery Rodriguez

+Anthony Williams

+Norbert Kosinski, 50th Anniversary

+Joseph William Morgan, Sr.

5 PM ST. CELESTINE

+Robert Masciola, Birthday

+Kathryn Babiarz

Sunday, March 8

7:30 AM ST. CELESTINE

+Dorothy Vessini

+Joseph F. Bradkowski, Birthday

9 AM ST. CYPRIAN

+Ted Halinski

+Joseph Morgan, Sr.

11 AM ST. CELESTINE

+Roman and +Anna Romanyuk

+Frank and +Adrienne Pudlo

+Eddie Mizejewski

+Ignazio Gatto

+Maria Kloss and +Natalia Zygmunt



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.

Prayer for Our Journey

Please pray for one another.

Let us embrace the future with the credo of Love, Communion and Mission, trusting that God provides and that the seeds we plant today will bear fruit for generations to come.

Lord Jesus, unite us in Love, Communion, and Mission.

Comfort all who grieve parish changes, strengthen our clergy and leaders, and make our communities generous in welcome.

May the seeds we plant today bear abundant fruit for generations.

In Christ our Life. Amen.

Bulletin Deadlines

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

March 15 is due on Wednesday, March 4 at 9 AM

March 22 is due on Wednesday, March 11 at 9 AM

March 29 is due on Wednesday, March 18 at 9 AM.



Those receiving their First Communion in May came to the 11 AM Mass for a special blessing February 15.

From the Pastor's Desk: Father Paul Cao

Dear Parishioners of St. Mother Theodore Guerin,

After the information session on the future of St. Cyprian Church held on February 7, 2026, the Multisite Review Team—along with the Parish Pastoral Council and Finance Council—met on February 10, 2026, to determine the best path forward.

After much prayer, serious discernment, and thoughtful dialogue, we are recommending that we end regular Sunday worship at St. Cyprian Church on June 7, 2026. We have received word that this recommendation has been accepted by the Archdiocesan Multisite Review Senior Leadership team and will be reviewed by the Archdiocesan Presbyteral Council in March 2026.

This is a very difficult moment in the life of our parish. We understand that this decision will cause hurt, sadness, anger, and confusion. I ask that we hold in prayer all the current and former parishioners of St. Cyprian Church who will be affected by this closure. As your Pastor, it is my responsibility to look after the spiritual well-being of all parishioners who worship at both sites. This responsibility does not end when a site closes.

I want to develop ways to help

those who currently worship at St. Cyprian Church to remain connected to the Church beyond June 7. Some emerging ideas include combining the 4 PM and 5 PM Saturday Masses into one 4:30 PM Mass, adding a 9 AM Mass on Sunday at St. Celestine Church, and getting drivers to use the church bus to pick up seniors on Sunday to bring them to Mass. How these suggestions will be implemented has yet to be determined.

While I hope all parishioners who worship at St. Cyprian will join us at the St. Celestine site, I know this may not be realistic for everyone. Our staff will work with families to identify the best way to stay connected to the life of the Church, even if it is not at St. Celestine. We are also open to meeting and praying individually with those affected by this loss.

The life of a disciple and the mission that Jesus entrusted to His Church do not end when a church building closes. While the days ahead will be difficult, we must do all we can to ensure we remain connected so that the Gospel of Jesus can continue to be preached and lived out in the Chicago, Elmwood Park, and River Grove areas. His mission of love, service, and forgiveness must go on.

Let us stay close in faith and prayer as we walk this journey together.

Fr. Paul

Polish School Registration

Registration is now open for St. Albert Chmielowski Polish School, located at 2600 North Sayre Avenue, Chicago! We are very close to you!

St. Albert Chmielowski Polish School invites families to enroll for the upcoming school year and become part of a vibrant community dedicated to Polish language, culture, and traditions. Sign-ups will take place on March 5, 6 and

March 20, 21, 2026 at our school. We welcome new and returning students of all ages to join us for engaging classes, cultural enrichment, and a strong connection to Polish heritage. For more information about registration requirements and class schedules, please visit us during the listed dates or visit <https://szkolabrataalberty.org>. We look forward to welcoming your family!

Mother of Perpetual Help Society Devotional

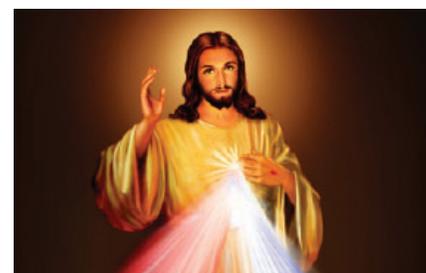
We, a local Mother of Perpetual Help Society, warmly invite the parishioners of St. Mother Theodore Guerin Parish to join us for the Mother of Perpetual Help Devotional, to be held weekly in the St. Celestine chapel.

Every Tuesday, beginning on March 3, we will pray the rosary at 7 PM followed by the Mother of Perpetual Help Novena at 7:30 PM. Feel free to join us for either the rosary or the novena or both! This is a wonderful hour of prayer to offer to our Blessed Mother.

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. Whether you have prayed this novena for years or are new to it, all are welcome to come, 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.

Holy Hour March 6



A Holy Hour will take place at St. Celestine Church on Friday, March 6 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.

Jesus took Peter, James, and John his brother, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. And he was transfigured before them; his face shone like the sun and his clothes became white as light. And behold, Moses and Elijah appeared to them, conversing with him.
- Mt 17:1-3

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Questions of the Week

Invite Parishioners to Reflect and Respond to Scripture

First Reading:

Trusting in the Lord, Abram is obedient to the directive to leave his land and home. When have others had to place their trust in you?

Second Reading:

Paul instructs Timothy to draw on the strength God gives us when facing hardships. Can you think of a difficult time when you relied on God's strength to help you?

Gospel:

In the transfiguration of Jesus, Peter, James, and John are fearful when they hear God's voice speak from the cloud. As the season of Lent continues, what are some fears you are facing?



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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.



Weekly Prayer

Sunday's Readings

First Reading:

I will make of you a great nation,
and I will bless you;
I will make your name great,
so that you will be a blessing. (Gn 12:2)

Psalm:

Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you. (Ps 33)

Second Reading:

Bear your share of hardship for the gospel
with the strength that comes from God.
He saved us and called us to a holy life. (2 Tm 1:8-9)

Gospel:

Jesus took Peter, James, and John his brother,
and led them up a high mountain by themselves.
And he was transfigured before them;
his face shone like the sun. (Mt 17:1-2)

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Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

“Go forth,” God told Abram. We hear that message again in the Transformation: go forth. We cannot always remain where we are comfortable. We cannot always remain where things are simple. We must go forth.

Observances for the week of March 1, 2026

- Sunday:** 2nd Sunday of Lent
Tuesday: St. Katharine Drexel, Virgin
Wednesday: St. Casimir
Saturday: Sts. Perpetua and Felicity, Martyrs
Next Sunday: 3rd Sunday of Lent;
Daylight Saving Time begins



Virtues, Explained!

Self-control flows from the cardinal virtue of temperance, and it's really all about boundaries. Through self-control, a gift of the Holy Spirit, we avoid surrendering too much of ourselves to our passions.

Blessing of Hope

In Your goodness Lord, bless us.
Help us to know Your abundance
and Your gifts.
Help us to hear Your voice and
know Your assurance.
Help us remember what You have
done,
and look forward to what You will
do.
Amen.

(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC

Mini Reflection: It's not our job to bring the world to the Truth. It's our job to bring the Truth into the world. What a tragedy it would be, if Truth only lived on the mountaintop.

Three Tents

You guys, I was *such* a good Catholic at the National Eucharistic Congress.

Mass every day? Check. Rosary every day? Check (and check — we said a lot of rosaries). Deep thoughts and deep conversations about God with total strangers? Check. Hours in adoration reflecting on the state of my soul? Check.

When I went to Indianapolis in the summer of 2024 to cover the NEC for our archdiocesan newspaper, I knew it would be a fun and spiritually rich experience. But I didn't expect that it would make me think differently about my whole life (and afterlife). And when people ask me why — "What happened in Indianapolis that changed you?" — I can only tell them this: I spent time with God.

Of course, I do all these things in my regular life at home, too. I try to be a good Catholic here. But good grief, it's a lot harder. In Indianapolis, I didn't have a calendar full of appointments and to-do lists that filled me with dread. I didn't have the world crowding around me, grasping at my attention and my will.

Indianapolis was the mountain, and if I could have, I would have built three tents.

So I understand Peter's feelings at the Transfiguration. He's thrilled — he sees it all clearly now. Here is the fullness of Truth, revealed in all its glory, and he's ready to start bringing groups of tourists up to see it. He's ready to bring people to Christ. But in the blood-soaked, fear-filled days to come, Peter will realize that it's not his job to bring the world to the Truth. His job is to bring the Truth into the world.

What a tragedy it would be, if Truth only lived on the mountaintop.

So build three tents, strong and durable shelters for the Truth to dwell. But build them in your heart. And then, the Transfiguration won't be just an event, something that happened at a certain time and a certain place. It'll be a reality that lives within us all. And we will bear it with us wherever we go.

— Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Why do we do that? Catholic Life Explained

Question:

What is the Christian attitude towards violent conflicts?

Answer:

In the Beatitudes, Jesus teaches us "Blessed are the peacemakers" and to "love your enemies." All human beings are made in God's image and likeness. We are one human family — brothers and sisters despite what divides us. Christians have the obligation to prioritize peaceful means to resolve conflicts. War wreaks a toll on a nation. Civilians bear a disproportionate burden of this cost during the war itself and as the nation rebuilds. However, those in authority have the obligation to protect the innocent.

During the gradual fall of the Roman Empire, theologians began to theorize that war could be just if it was a defensive measure of last resort. The "Just War Theory" was later expanded by St. Thomas Aquinas, who also included moral obligations during the war itself, including the protection of civilians. Those in public authority have the obligation to carefully examine their motives, agendas, and rationale for violent force. Should a cause be just, those who fight and defend under such circumstances must be valued and honored. They deserve our support both during and after the war.

Worship & Meditation

Readings for the week of March 1, 2026

Sunday:

Gn 12:1-4a/Ps 33:4-5, 18-19, 20, 22/
2 Tm 1:8b-10/Mt 17:1-9

Monday:

Dn 9:4b-10/Ps 79:8, 9, 11 and 13/
Lk 6:36-38

Tuesday:

Is 1:10, 16-20/Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21 and
23/Mt 23:1-12

Wednesday:

Jer 18:18-20/Ps 31:5-6, 14, 15-16/
Mt 20:17-28

Thursday:

Jer 17:5-10/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6/Lk 16:19-31

Friday:

Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a/Ps 105:16-17,
18-19, 20-21/Mt 21:33-43, 45-46

Saturday:

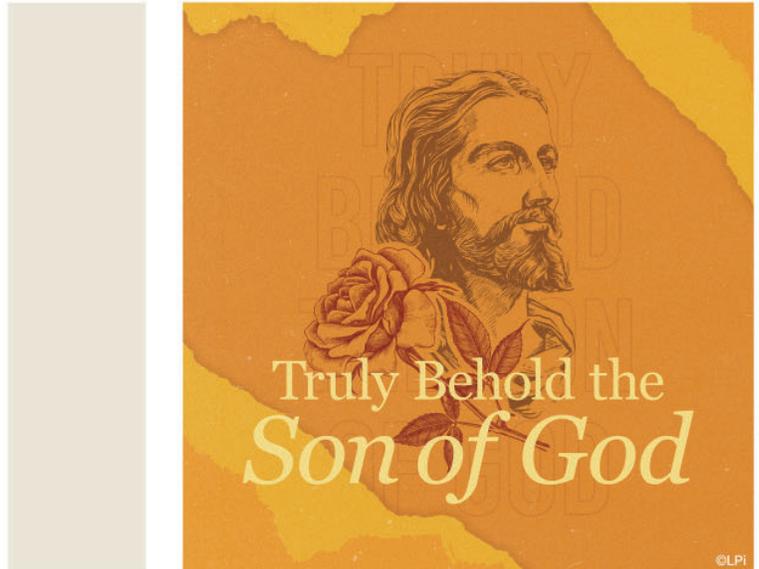
Mi 7:14-15, 18-20/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 9-10,
11-12/Lk 15:1-3, 11-32

Next Sunday:

Ex 17:3-7/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9/Rom 5:1-2,
5-8/Jn 4:5-42 or 4:5-15, 19b-26, 39a,
40-42



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Gospel Meditation

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

When I sit down to answer emails or write a Gospel reflection or return a phone call, I sometimes wonder: Does any of this humdrum work matter? Maybe you ask the same thing about your daily labor. Today's Gospel, the Transfiguration, offers a surprising answer.

Jesus leads Peter, James, and John up a mountain. There, **“his face shone like the sun face and his clothes become white as light” (Matthew 17:2)**. That detail regarding his clothes is worth considering.

We know Jesus' body is inseparably united to the divine nature. But his clothing? That's something made by human hands. It's an artifact. And yet it shines with the same uncreated light. What does this detail mean? The early Church noted that Adam and Eve's first act after the Fall was to make clothing. This clothing symbolizes all human labor that supports our dignity. In Jesus' glorified garments, we see not just the redemption of our body, but of human effort to protect and uplift human dignity.

Parents, your family is your work. Baristas, plumbers, nurses, accountants — your labor, your emails, your phone calls, your spreadsheets — can all become radiant when offered to God in love. The question isn't just do I believe in Jesus' glory, but do I believe he can share it with the work of my hands?

Lenten Challenge: Identify the “artifact” you are making to uplift the dignity of others: your job, your home, your relationships. Consciously bring it to the Lord this Sunday at Mass. Offer it to share in His glory. It will begin to shine.

— *Father John Muir*

Institution into the Ministry of Reader

Congratulations to Danny Hesslau! On March 15, 2026, Most Rev. John Siemianowski will preside at the Rite of Institution into the Ministry of Reader and welcome him into that ministry at the Chapel of the Immaculate Conception, University of Saint Mary of the Lake in Mundelein.

At the institution, Bishop Siemianowski will charge that Danny Hesslau be faithful in handing on the Word of God so that it may grow strong in the hearts of His people. Additionally, being an instituted Reader also means “taking on a special office within the Christian community.” Besides proclaiming the word in the liturgical assembly, an instituted Reader is responsible for:

- instructing children and adults in the faith;
- preparing them to receive the sacraments worthily;
- bringing the message of salvation to those who have not yet received it.

This is an awesome responsibility. But it is part of the continuing discernment process as Danny Hesslau moves forward on his journey, listening to God’s plan for him in future ministry.

During formation this year, Danny is attending academic courses which may include Church History, Old Testament, New Testament, Ecclesiology, and Introductory Homiletics. He also participates in Theological Reflection Groups and will attend a cohort retreat prior to his institution as Reader. This year he is engaged in a Service to the Word field education. He attends monthly spiritual direction and is present for numerous formation sessions as he continues his journey on the Candidate Stage toward the Order of Deacon.

Presently, we are blessed to have nearly 550 active deacons in the Archdiocese of Chicago.

Please keep in your prayers Danny, his wife Nina, family, and all candidates in formation, that they might continue to answer God’s call to serve His Church.



What is the Labyrinth?

The labyrinth is a simple walking path used to meditate or quiet the mind. It is a path of reflection, contemplation and clarity. Labyrinths come in many sizes and patterns, but a labyrinth has only one path. The path winds throughout and becomes a mirror for where we are



in our lives. The labyrinth is a wonderful tool for re-connecting the mind, body and spirit. For some, it allows self-realization that provides peace, healing, and comfort.

Labyrinths are currently being used world-wide as a way to quiet the mind, find balance, and encourage meditation, insight and celebration. They are open to all people as a non-denominational, cross-cultural tool of well-being. They can be found in medical centers, parks, churches, schools, prisons, memorial parks and retreat centers as well as in people’s backyards. The labyrinth is not a maze. There are no tricks to it and no dead ends. It has a single circuitous path that winds into the center.

Our parish Lenten Labyrinth/Meditation Room will be open during Holy Week to the public on Palm Sunday from 9 AM—5PM, Monday—Thursday 4—9PM and on Good Friday from 9AM—9PM. Please enter through the Annex door off of the St. Celestine Parking lot.

Fish Fry March 13

We will have a parish Fish Fry on Friday, March 13 from 5 to 7 PM in the Annex and Gym at St. Celestine.

Dinner includes fried fish, tartar sauce, french fries, coleslaw, a roll and butter, coffee, and dessert. Door Prizes and Raffles. Pizza will also be available by the slice. Assorted cold drinks and beer and wine will be available for purchase. To go containers will also be available.

Adults: \$15

Students: \$7 (half portions and dessert).

BAKERS NEEDED:

We will need baked goods for the desserts. Please drop them off at the Pastoral Center on the Thursday before the dinners. We also need: 12 oz. cans of Coke, Diet Coke, Sprite, Diet Sprite and 16–20 oz. bottled water. Cash or checks made out to St. Mother Guerin Parish are helpful for purchasing the paper supplies we will need.

A Pasta Dinner on Friday, March 27 from 5 to 7 PM in the gym and annex of St. Celestine will round out our 2026 Lenten Dinners.

Thank you so much!

Book Discussion March 4

We will discuss chapter 4 of Fr. Stan Ilo's book, *Someone Beautiful to God: Finding the Light of Faith in a Wounded World* on Wednesday, March 4 at 6:30 PM in the Fireside Room at St. Celestine. We do have extra books at the the Pastoral Center if you want to read it on your own. They are available for \$20. We will meet with Fr. Stan for a book-signing and final session on April 15.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Fridays at 7 PM
 March 6 at St. Cyprian
 March 13 at St. Celestine
 March 20 at St. Cyprian
 March 27 at St. Celestine

FISH FRY MARCH 13 5-7 PM

St. Celestine Gym and Annex

Adults \$15
Students \$7

Fish, fries, cole slaw, roll, coffee and dessert. Pizza available by the slice

St. Celestine Girl Scouts

2025–2026 Girl Scout Cookies®

Adventurefuls™ • Real Cocoa Indulgent brownie-inspired cookies with caramel flavored cream and a hint of sea salt Approximately 15 cookies per 6.3 oz. pkg. \$ 6	Lemon-Ups™ • No Artificial Flavors • No Artificial Colors Crispy lemon flavored cookies with inspiring messages to lift your spirits Approximately 12 cookies per 6.2 oz. pkg. \$ 6	Trefoils™ Iconic shortbread cookies inspired by the original GS Scout recipe Approximately 38 cookies per 9 oz. pkg. \$ 6
Do-si-dos™ • Made with Natural Flavors • Real Peanut Butter • Whole Grain Oats Oatmeal sandwich cookies with peanut butter filling Approximately 20 cookies per 8 oz. pkg. \$ 6	Samoas® • Real Cocoa • Real Coconut Crisp cookies with caramel, coconut, and dark chocolate stripes Approximately 15 cookies per 7.5 oz. pkg. \$ 6	Tagalongs® • Real Cocoa • Real Peanut Butter Crispy cookies layered with peanut butter and covered with a chocolate coating Approximately 15 cookies per 6.5 oz. pkg. \$ 6
Thin Mints™ • Made with Vegan Ingredients • Real Cocoa Crisp, chocolatey cookies made with natural oil of peppermint Approximately 30 cookies per 9 oz. pkg. \$ 6	Exploremore™ • Real Cocoa • No Sugar and Artificially Flavored Rocky road ice cream-inspired cookies filled with flavors of chocolate, marshmallow and toasted almond cream Approximately 18 cookies per 7.5 oz. pkg. \$ 6	Toffee-tastic™ • No Artificial Flavors Rich, buttery cookies with sweet, crunchy toffee bits Approximately 14 cookies per 6.7 oz. pkg. \$ 6

Available after all Masses on
Saturday, March 7th & Sunday, March 8th

Welcome all Ladies - WHITE ELEPHANT BINGO



Celebrating the Chinese "Year of the Horse"



Sunday, April 12, 2026

12:30 PM to 3:30 PM St. Celestine's Annex / Gym

\$ 20.00 per person

\$ 20.00 includes: Meal, non-alcoholic beverages, dessert and BINGO.

- Meal Options:
- 1 - Beef and Broccoli with fried rice and egg roll
 - 2 - Chicken Kow (mixed veggies) with fried rice and egg roll
 - 3 - Vegetarian (all vegetables) with white rice and egg roll



Bring your **White Elephant Gift** wrapped or hidden in a gift bag.
 Gift must be worth minimum of \$5; new or gently used
 Ask yourself: "Is this something I would like to get?"
 Any extra gifts you bring will earn you an extra bingo card for each gift.

Bring some cash - "Race to the Finish" countdown \$5 per ticket

Last 3 tickets pulled win the cash prizes

Split the deck games \$2 per ticket or 3 tickets for \$5 - throughout the event

Purchase your tickets soon! No tickets sold after March 27. Get your tickets at the Women's Club meetings on 2/26 or 3/26, at the Pastoral Center, or by contacting Darlene at 708-805-2639. This event is sponsored by the St. Mother Guerin Parish Women's Club.

SAVE
the
DATE

**ST. CELESTINE PARENTS' CLUB
 ANNUAL EVENT
 MARCH 2026**

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21

The Parent's Club will be sponsoring a Dinner Dance celebrating 90 years of St. Celestine School being in existence. The theme is Dancing through the Decades. It will be held at the Elmcrest on Grand Avenue on Saturday evening. Tickets are \$75 each or a table of 10 for \$700. For more info on tickets, please call the school at 708-453-8234 or the parish office 708-453-2555.

Disciple Maker Index Survey Opens

From the Archdiocese:

St. Mother Theodore Guerin parish is on a journey to know, love, and serve Christ in our parish community. This process involves assessing our greatest strengths and opportunities, and that is where the Disciple Maker Index (DMI) comes in. The DMI is a survey tool that invites you to reflect on your discipleship journey here at St. Mother Guerin.

The 10-15-minute survey can be accessed through an online link on the website, stguerinparish.org, or through this one: <https://survey.catholicleaders.org/dmi/survey/p57dg8> until March 29 and will ask you to reflect on your own spiritual growth and enable you to provide your perspective on our parish's efforts to help you grow in relationship with Christ. All responses will be confidential, and the parish will only receive information about the community as a whole. Paper surveys will also be available for those who do not have the ability to complete the survey online.

Thank you for helping with this important project and please continue to pray for this intention and for the growth and protection of our parish.

From Mr. Kamptner:

We are now entering and preparing for the season of Lent. We just finished the season of Advent and another journey begins. These next 40 days we are traveling with our Lord. We are seeing what Jesus went through upon carrying his cross. It is our time now to carry our cross and walk with Jesus and embark on this journey with him. The season is very powerful and is very spiritual as well. This is the reason why we are here today. We see the pain and suffering that Jesus endured on the cross. We reflect on how we as God's people can become closer to God through these days.

Let us take time to reflect and walk with our Lord through these days. It is our time to carry our cross.



STATIONS OF THE CROSS Fridays at 7 PM
 March 6 at St. Cyprian
 March 13 at St. Celestine
 March 20 at St. Cyprian
 March 27 at St. Celestine

Holy Thursday, April 2
 8 AM Morning Prayer at St. Cyprian
 7 PM Mass of the Lord's Supper at St. Celestine, followed by Church Visits

LENTEN DINNERS Fridays at 5 PM at St. Celestine
 February 27, March 13, and March 27

Good Friday, April 3
 8 AM Morning Prayer at St. Celestine
 3 PM Service at St. Cyprian
 7 PM Shadow Stations at St. Celestine

HOLY WEEK

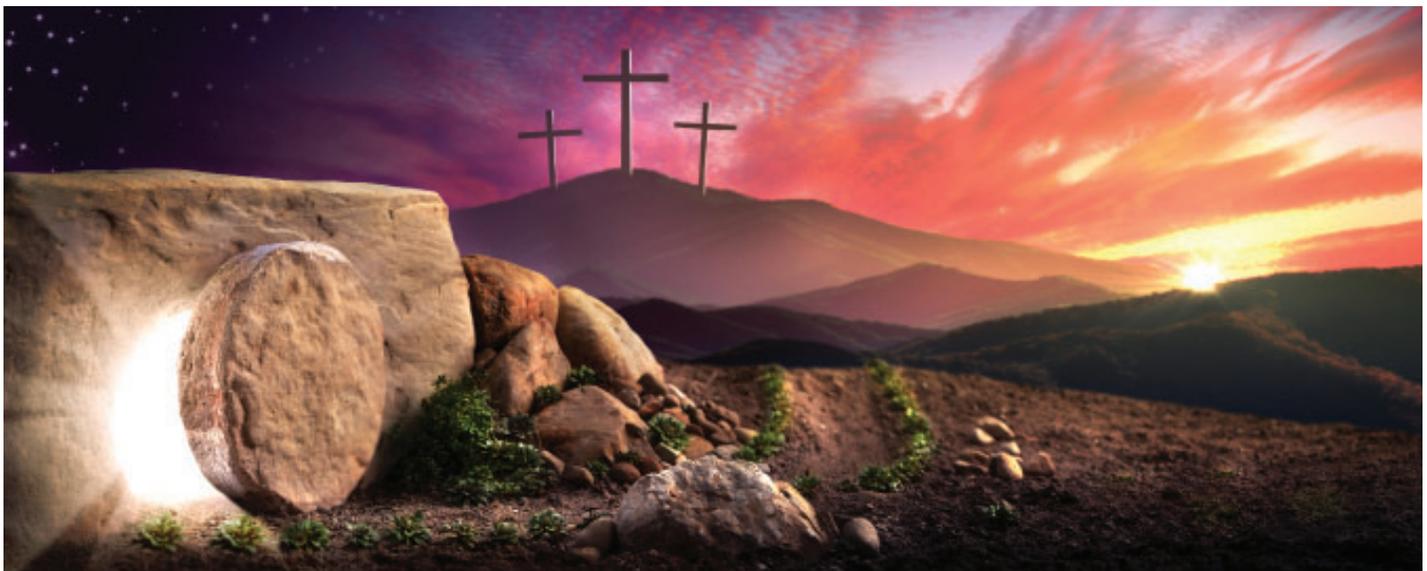
LABYRINTH March 29—April 3 in the Gym and Annex at St. Celestine from Palm Sunday—Good Friday.
 Palm Sunday, March 29, Noon—5 PM; March 30—April 2: 4—9 PM, and April 3, Good Friday 9 AM—9 PM

Holy Saturday, April 4
 8 AM Morning Prayer at St. Cyprian
 11 AM Easter Basket Blessing at St. Cyprian
 Noon Easter Basket Blessing at St. Celestine
 7:30 PM Easter Vigil at St. Celestine

Monday, March 30
 7 PM Parish Reconciliation Service at St. Celestine

EASTER SUNDAY, April 5 Masses
 7:30 AM at St. Celestine
 9 AM at St. Cyprian
 11 AM at St. Celestine
 11:30 AM at St. Cyprian

Wednesday, April 1
 7 PM Taizé Prayer at St. Cyprian



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, Michael Binder, Jacqueline Boshell, Julie Boyce, Edward Bray, Sue Brink, Brian Cunningham, Ellison Deehr, Elene Dimperio, Cathy Downing King, Eleanor, Tom Ferguson, Tammy Garcia, Maciej Gondek, Dorota Gondek, Lorry Hartnett, Grace Hensley, Karl Humowiecki, Kathy Johl, Adele Johnson, Lisa Kostrzeski, Justine Kucera, Robert Kucera, Larry Lemanski, Bart Masi, Kathy Mooney, George Moskaliuk, Sandra Moskaliuk, Efrem Munoz, Martha Munoz, James Nasti, Larry Nestor, Ron Nichols, Sr. Louise Noesen, Carolyn Paprocki, Sr. Rita Mae Rabbitoy, Lucia Ramirez, Aida Rivera, Sarah Rotolo, Kathy Sassolino, Morgan Schlanger, Joseph Serwa, John Sheahan, Mary Skelly, Sue, Brian Swatek, Colleen Schlanger Thomas, Judy Virgilio, Robert Virnich, Lillian Wardzala, Jim Waterloo, Jim Wazorick, Danyll Wolcotte, 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; 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

Vases for a Mission

This is a great time to get rid of your unwanted vases...
(Any size, any shape, any color)

The Women's Club will be collecting vases at each of the worship sites. The money collected from Quasthoff's for the vases will then be donated to the

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SCRIPTURE SEARCH®

Gospel for March 1, 2026

Matthew 17:1-9

Following is a word search based on the Gospel for the Second Sunday of Lent, Cycle A: The Transfiguration of Jesus to Peter, James and John. Words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

PETER
MOUNTAIN
WHITE
LORD
THREE
PLEASED
AFRAID

JAMES
BEFORE THEM
LIGHT
IS GOOD
A VOICE
LISTEN
ALONE

JOHN
LIKE THE SUN
ELIJAH
IF YOU WISH
BELOVED
HEARD
RAISED

HIGH MOUNTAIN

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

- Friday, March 13 5—7 PM at St. Celestine: **Fish Fry**
- Saturday, March 21 **Dinner Dance** for St. Celestine School's 90th Anniversary
- Friday, March 27 5—7 PM at St. Celestine: **Pasta Dinner**
- Sunday, April 5: **Easter Sunday**
- Wednesday, April 15: **Book Study and Signing** with Fr. Stan Ilo
- Friday, April 24: **Bingo** in the gym at St. Celestine
- Sunday, June 7: **Closing Mass** at St. Cyprian
- June 7—12: **Totus Tuus**
- Monday, June 8: **Golf Outing at White Pines**

Liturgical Ministers

Saturday, March 7

4 PM St. Cyprian

Altar Servers TBA
Lector Karen Moretti
Eucharistic Minister Anna Petras

5 PM St. Celestine

Altar Server Sarah P.
Lector Nick Kaspar
Eucharistic Ministers Pat Strabley, Barbara Miller,
Carol Gutkowski, Mary
Joost, Mike Miller, Peggy
O'Donnell, Tom Lepore

Sunday, March 8

7:30 AM St. Celestine

Altar Servers Nickolas F.
Lector TBA
Eucharistic Ministers Minnie Reillo, Bill Lesch,
Maria Mojek, Ken Doyle,
Michelle Doyle, Lynn
Schmidt

9 AM St. Cyprian

Altar Servers David D., Marco D.,
Matthew D.
Lector Valerie McCluskey
Eucharistic Minister Maryann Dibari

11 AM St. Celestine

Altar Servers Andrea R.
Lector Brad Wdowiak
Eucharistic Ministers Mary Princivalli, Alice
Carella, Leonora Palattao,
Doti Geringer, Charlie Roy,
Lena Roy

Parish Weekly Events

Sunday, March 1

12 PM ST CEL Knights of Columbus Corned Beef Dinner in the Annex and Gym

Monday, March 2

6 PM ST CEL Lion, Tiger, and Wolf Meetings in the Lower Meeting Room

Tuesday, March 3

7 PM ST CEL Mother of Perpetual Help Devotional in the Chapel

7 PM ST CYP OCIA for Teens in the Rectory

Wednesday, March 4

6 PM ST CEL Troop Committee in the Lower Meeting Room

6:30 PM ST CEL Book Study in the Fireside Room

Thursday, March 5

4:30 PM ST CEL Troop 47943 in the Annex
Troop 45703 in the Lower Meeting Room

6 PM ST CYP OCIA in the Rectory

7 PM ST CEL Boy Scout Committee in the Lower Meeting Room

Saturday, March 7

9:30 AM ST CEL Religious Education in the School

1 PM ST CEL Men's Club Open Gym

Sunday, March 8

7:30 AM BOTH Girl Scout Cookie Sale After Mass



We loved seeing our new server, Marshall, at Mass with his family. Would your child or grandchild like to become a server? Call the office at 708-453-2555 to find out about training.

2026 Annual Cash Raffle
1st Prize - \$5,000
2nd Prize - \$2,000
3rd Prize - \$1,000
Drawing after the 11 AM Mass on Easter Sunday, April 5, 2026
stguerinparish.org 708-453-2555
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ANNUAL PARISH RAFFLE

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Drawing after 11 AM Mass on Easter Sunday

1st Prize \$5,000	2nd Prize \$2,000	3rd Prize \$1,000
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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 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
lauriedepillo@stguerinparish.org 708-453-2555 x5015
Lynn Schmidt, Administrative Assistant
lschmidt@stguerinparish.org 708-453-2555 x5010
Andrea Mayer, Receptionist
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Ruthanne Swiatkowski, Director of Lifelong Faith Formation
rswiatkowski@stguerinparish.org 708-453-2555 x5017

Craig Kamptner, Director of Music Ministry
ckamptner@stcelestineschool.org 708-453-2555 x5016
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
Michelle Doyle, Coordinator mdoyle@stcelestineschool.org
The Food Pantry opens from 4 to 6 PM on two Thursdays each month. Check Weekly Events in the bulletin or stguerinparish.org for 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

