



ST. MOTHER THEODORE GUERIN PARISH

St. Celestine and St. Cyprian Churches

stguerinparish.org



March 29, 2026

CUT BRANCHES AND STREWED THEM ON THE ROAD.

— MATTHEW 21:8 —

PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

©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 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, March 28

4 PM ST. CYPRIAN

+Carl and +Rose Rossi
+Nery Rodriguez

5 PM ST. CELESTINE

+Kerry Sieck, 2nd Anniversary
+Jesus Moreno
+Josephine Gutkowski, Anniversary
+Gertrude Gutkowski, Birthday and Anniversary

Sunday, March 29

7:30 AM ST. CELESTINE

+Elaine Szyzka, Anniversary

9 AM ST. CYPRIAN

+Geraldine Lustro
+Joseph Morgan, Sr.
+Russ Gedeon

11 AM ST. CELESTINE

+Roman and +Anna Romanyuk
+Frank and +Adrienne Pudlo
+Lillian Swiatkowski, Anniversary

Monday, March 30

8 AM ST. CELESTINE

Medcel Millan, Birthday

Tuesday, March 31

8 AM ST. CYPRIAN

Faithful Departed

Wednesday, April 1

8 AM ST. CELESTINE

+Joan Psak
+Patricia Crimmins, Anniversary

Thursday, April 2

8 AM ST. CYPRIAN

Prayer Service
7 PM St. Celestine
+Nery Rodriguez

Friday, April 3

8 AM ST. CELESTINE

Prayer Service
3 PM ST. CYPRIAN
Prayer Service

Saturday, April 4

8 AM St. CYPRIAN

Prayer Service
7:30 PM PM ST. CELESTINE
+Nery Rodriguez
+Dan Miller
+Theresa Marinello

Sunday, April 5

7:30 AM ST. CELESTINE

+John Cizek, 10th Anniversary
+Dorothy Vessini
In Thanksgiving for the Doyle Family

9 AM ST. CYPRIAN

+Vincent and +Sophia Lukasiewz
+Carl and +Rose Rossi
+Joseph Morgan, Sr.
11 AM ST. CELESTINE
+Roman and +Anna Romanyuk
+Frank and +Adrienne Pudlo
+Teresa Milkowska, Birthday
+Carl Braack
+Stanislawa, +Thomas, and +Frank Ufir
11:30 AM ST. CYPRIAN
People of the Parish



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.

Bulletin Deadlines

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

April 19 is due on Wednesday, April 8 at 9 AM

April 26 is due on Wednesday, April 15 at 9 AM

May 3 is due on Wednesday, April 22 at 9 AM

Need help? Many services are provided by **Catholic Charities**. Call 312-655-7700 or go to catholiccharities.net.

Alcohol and Drug Abuse
1-833-234-6343

Child Abuse
1-800-422-4523

National Domestic Violence
1-800-603-4357

Sexual Assault
1-888-293-2080

Problem Gambling Hotline
1-800-522-4700

Poison Control
1-800-222-1222

Suicide Prevention
Call or text 988

Elder Abuse
1-855-800-1409
www.AddictionResource.net
1-844-597-0006

Calendar

- Sunday, April 12: 12:30 PM **White Elephant Bingo** in the Gym
- Wednesday, April 15: **Book Study and Signing** with Fr. Stan Ilo
- Friday, April 24: 5:30 PM **Bingo** in the gym at St. Celestine
- Sunday, May 3 after 11 AM Mass **May Crowning and Ice Cream Social**
- Sunday, May 17: 11 AM Mass celebrating the **25th Anniversary** of Ordination for Father Paul Cao followed by reception
- Sunday, June 7: 9 AM **Closing Mass** at St. Cyprian Church
- June 7—12: **Totus Tuus**
- Monday, June 8: **Golf Outing** at White Pines in Bensenville
- Sunday, June 14: 11 AM **Farewell Mass** for Fr. Paul Cao
- July 4: **Independence Day Parade** in Elmwood Park
- Sunday, July 26 **Parish Picnic** at Evans Field in River Grove
- Saturday, September 12 4—9 PM **Parish Taste**
- Sunday, October 25 **Craft Fair** 8:30 AM in the Gym and Annex

New Administrator's Announcement

I would like to officially announce that Cardinal Cupich has appointed Fr. Ton Nguyen, currently the Associate Pastor at Holy Name Cathedral, as the new administrator of St. Mother Theodore Guerin Parish, effective July 1, 2026.

Fr. Ton has come here before when he was a seminarian. He is a dedicated, hardworking priest. He works exceptionally well with children and young adults, and I am certain you will enjoy having him here.

As for my next chapter, I will be assigned to Holy Child Jesus Parish on the nNorth side of Chicago. Please keep me and Fr. Ton in your prayers during this transitional time. Please see Fr. Ton's letter on the next page to learn more about him.

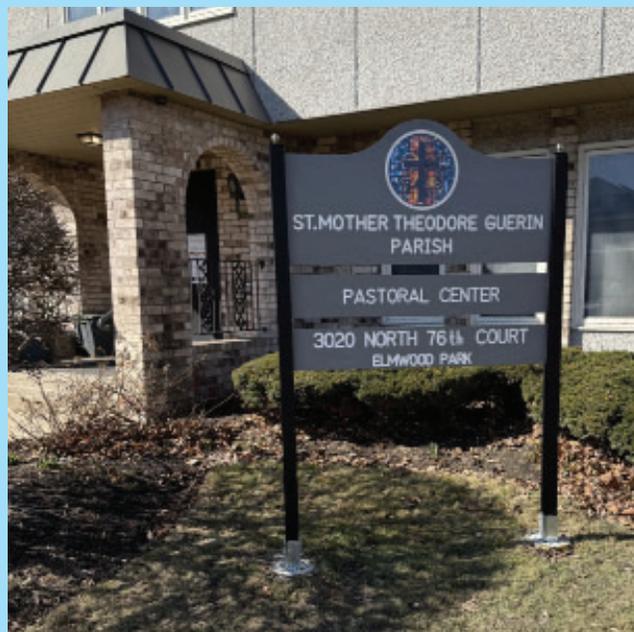
Holy Week This weekend we celebrate Palm Sunday. We celebrate the triumphant entry of Jesus into Jerusalem. Jesus is greeted by hundreds of people who wave palm branches and "Kept crying out saying: 'Hosanna to the Son of David; blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord; hosanna in the highest'" (Mt. 21:9). May these remaining days of Lent reaffirm our faith—and give a new purpose to our lives.

This weekend, we receive palms at church to take home and to place in a significant area in order to remind us of this celebration and that we celebrate Jesus as our Savior. This weekend is also the beginning of Holy Week. We will celebrate Holy Thursday, the institution of Eucharist, Good Friday, the crucifixion and death of Jesus, and the Easter Vigil, the day on which we rejoice in Christ's

victory over death and sin. These days are known as the Triduum. We are encouraged to spend this week in prayerful preparation for the great feast of the Resurrection. Please take this opportunity to come spend time with the Lord during Holy Week:

- **Monday of Holy Week** At 7 PM we will gather for our parish Reconciliation Service at St. Celestine Church. I would like to invite you to take this opportunity to come to the Sacrament of Reconciliation to renew ourselves with the Lord. The Sacrament of Reconciliation is an encounter of forgiveness, healing, and renewal with the Lord. Through the sacrament, entrusted to the Church by Christ, God offers us the assurance of the forgiveness of our sins and the strength to become more faithful followers of Jesus. Please don't miss this opportunity! Jesus never disappoints you!!!
- **Labyrinth on March 29—April 3** in the Gym and Annex at St. Celestine from Palm Sunday through Good Friday.
- **Wednesday of Holy Week** At 7 PM we will hold a Taizé Prayer service at St. Cyprian.
- **Holy Thursday—Easter Sunday** Please see page 8 for a schedule of the times and events leading us to the Easter celebration.

An ongoing journey Please keep in your prayers all those who have journeyed through the Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA) process since last September



and who will either enter the Catholic Church or complete their Sacraments of Initiation at the Easter Vigil on April 4 at 7:30 PM. In particular, please remember from our parish: Makayla Franks, Angela Heredia, Lilian Heredia, Mia Hernandez, Destiny Marroquin, Myla Medina, Lizbeth Ortega, Sandra Derrico, Ariyani Diaz, Emiliano Diaz, Jaiden Jaramillo, Troy Morales, Emily Moris, Isabella Moris, Abigail Ortiz-Ferrer, Benjamin Santos, Nelson Santos, Anabelle Castrejon, Samantha Escalera, Ethan Porter, Joycelynn Reyes, and Eleni Rodriguez.

Thank you to Scouts I would like to thank Jerry Lis and his son Justin Lis for the beautiful new parish sign in front of the Pastoral Center on 76th Court. The sign was part of Justin's Eagle Scout project. We are grateful for this sign and now it will be easier to find the office!

May you have a peaceful and prayerful Holy Week!

*In prayer,
Fr. Paul*

From the Future Administrator's Desk: Father Ton Nguyen

Dear Parishioners of St. Mother Theodore Guerin,

Peace and blessings to you. My name is Fr. Ton Nguyen, and with great joy and gratitude I write to you as the priest who has been appointed to serve as your new administrator beginning July 1, 2026.

When I received the news, the words of St. Paul come to mind: "I give thanks to my God at every remembrance of you, praying always with joy... because of your partnership for the Gospel... I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work in you will continue to complete it until the day of Christ Jesus" (Philippians 1:3-6).

First, I would like to express my heartfelt thanks to Fr. Paul for his faithful shepherding of this parish community. I know he has served you with dedication and love. Following a pastor who has cared so deeply for his parish is both an honor and a humbling responsibility. These are big shoes to fill, but I trust that with God's grace—and with your prayers, support, and collaboration—we will continue the beautiful journey of faith that has already been nurtured here.

A little about myself: I was born and raised in Vietnam and later answered God's call to the priesthood in the United States.

A fun fact: Fr. Paul is actually the one who introduced me to the Archdiocese of Chicago and helped me with the application to the seminary. I completed my formation at Mundelein Seminary and was ordained for the Archdiocese of Chicago in 2019. During my seminary years I served as an intern at St. Bernadette Parish in Evergreen Park and as a deacon at Mary, Seat of Wisdom Parish in Park Ridge. After ordination, I served as associate pastor at St. Julie Billiart Parish, and I am currently assigned to Holy Name Cathedral.

As I have begun learning about St. Mother Theodore Guerin Parish, I have already been inspired by the many strengths of this community: a vibrant parish school, dedicated staff and ministry leaders, active liturgical life, and a parish family that cares deeply for one another. Like every parish community, you have also walked through moments of change and challenge. Yet such moments often become opportunities for renewal, growth, and deeper trust in God's guidance.

Our patroness, St. Mother Theodore Guerin, teaches us something essential for that journey. When she arrived in Indiana in the 1800s, she faced uncertainty, hardship, and many challenges. Yet she trusted deeply in God's providence and moved forward



with courage, faith, and love. Her example reminds us that when we place our trust in the Lord and walk together, God can do beautiful things.

My hope is that together we will continue to grow as a Christ-centered parish—rooted in prayer, nourished by the Eucharist, welcoming to all, and committed to forming disciples of Jesus Christ. I look forward to listening to your stories, learning the history of this parish, supporting the school and ministries, and discerning together where the Holy Spirit is leading us. While I look forward to joining you soon, I warmly invite you—if you happen to be in the city—to visit Holy Name Cathedral and say hello while I am still here. Please know that I am already praying for you, and I ask for your prayers as well. I love being a priest and I look forward to meeting you, learning your stories, and walking together as disciples of Jesus Christ.

*JMJ,
Fr. Ton Nguyen*



Worship & Meditation

Readings for the week of March 29, 2026

Sunday:

Mt 21:1-11 (37)/Ps 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24/Is 50:4-7/Phil 2:6-11/Mt 26:14-27:66 or 27:11-54

Monday:

Is 42:1-7/Ps 27:1, 2, 3, 13-14/Jn 12:1-11

Tuesday:

Is 49:1-6/Ps 71:1-2, 3-4a, 5ab-6ab, 15 and 17/Jn 13:21-33, 36-38

Wednesday:

Is 50:4-9a/Ps 69:8-10, 21-22, 31 and 33-34/Mt 26:14-25

Thursday:

Ex 12:1-8, 11-14/Ps 116:12-13, 15-16, 17-18/1 Cor 11:23-26/Jn 13:1-15

Friday:

Is 52:13-53:12/Ps 31:2 and 6, 12-13, 15-16, 17 and 25/Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9/Jn 18:1-19:42

Saturday:

Easter Vigil: Gn 1:1-2:2 or 1:1, 26-31a/Ps 104:1-2, 5-6, 10, 12, 13-14, 24, 35 (30) or Ps 33:4-5, 6-7, 12-13, 20-22 (5b)/Gn 22:1-18 or 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18/Ps 16:5, 8, 9-10, 11 (1)/Ex 14:15-15:1/ Ex 15:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 17-18 (1b)/Is 54:5-14/Ps 30:2, 4, 5-6, 11-12, 13 (2a)/Is 55:1-11/Is 12:2-3, 4, 5-6 (3)/Bar 3:9-15, 32-4:4/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11 (Jn 6:68c)/Ez 36:16-17a, 18-28/Ps 42:3, 5; 43:3, 4 (42:2)/Rom 6:3-11/Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23/Mt 28:1-10

Next Sunday:

Acts 10:34a, 37-43/Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23 (24)/Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6b-8/Jn 20:1-9 or Mt 28:1-10 Or Lk 24:13-35

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



Gospel Meditation

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

Just prior to this week's Passion narrative in St. Matthew's Gospel, there is a small, striking story describing a woman's scandalous action toward Jesus: **"A woman came up to him with an alabaster jar of costly perfumed oil, and poured it on his head" (Matthew 26:7)**. The ointment was pure nard, worth more than 300 denarii. A year's wages. Maybe a dowry, maybe a family inheritance. In any case, she breaks it. She does not measure or ration. She pours it all out, irreversibly, over Jesus. Why does this image begin Holy Week?

Because what she does with the jar, Jesus will soon do with his life. The jar must be broken so the fragrance can be released. Jesus' body will be broken so his priceless divine and human love can be poured out. She gives everything, just as he is about to give everything. And He sees it: **"She has done a good thing for me" (Matthew 26:10)**. Her act is lavish, impractical, scandalous in its apparent wastefulness. And he loves it. It is what Holy Week is all about.

What jar are you still holding onto? Your time? Your comfort? Your plan for how life should go? Don't just wave palms today. Let yourself be broken open so your love, too, can be poured out.

Lenten Challenge: Offer something costly to Jesus this Holy Week — not out of guilt, but love. Your attention. Your forgiveness. Your time. Break the jar. Trust that nothing poured out for him is ever wasted.

— *Father John Muir*

*Say to daughter
Zion,
“Behold, your king
comes to you,
meek and riding on
an ass,
and on a colt, the
foal of a beast of
burden.”*
- Mt 21:5

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

Questions of the Week

Invite Parishioners to Reflect and Respond to Scripture

First Reading:

Isaiah speaks of his obedient response to God’s call despite his suffering. Have you ever suffered for your faith?

Second Reading:

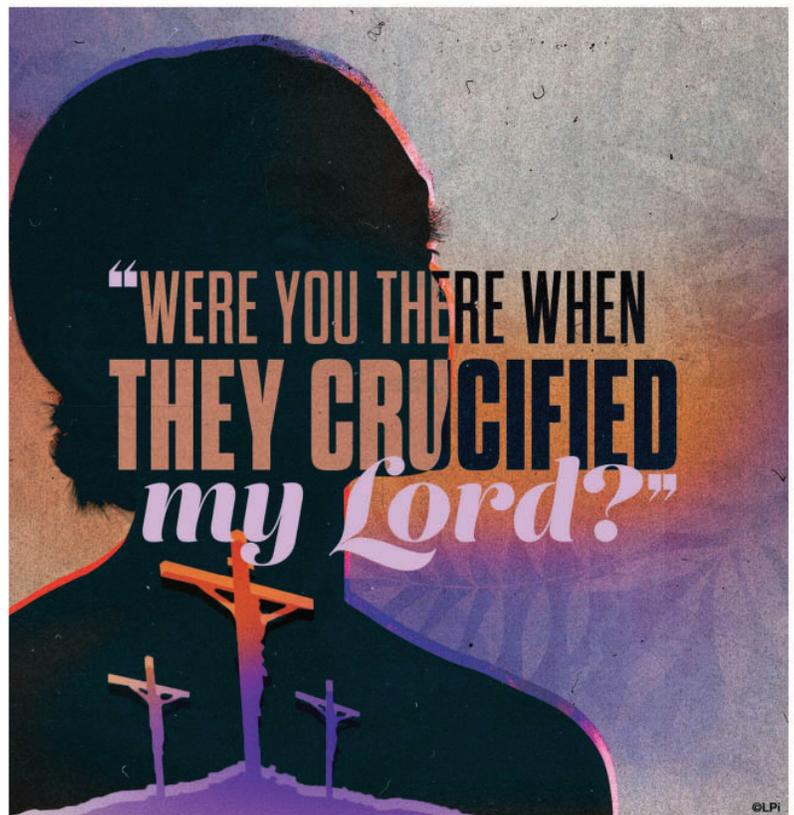
Paul recounts how Jesus’ life was characterized by humility and obedience. In what ways do you live by these virtues?

Gospel:

There are numerous unique features to Matthew’s account of the passion of the Lord, including the details of Judas’ suicide. What parts of the passion narrative do you find most engaging?

Easter Memorial Flowers

Our churches look beautiful at Easter and part of that is because of our Easter Gardens. Bring a special flowering plant that represents you and your loved ones to church, in the morning on Good Friday, April 3 for St. Cyprian and Wednesday, April 1 through Good Friday, April 3 for St. Celestine to the chapel. When you bring your plant, fill out one of the slips on the table with your name and the names of the person you are bringing the plant in memory of or in honor of. These names will be printed in the bulletin after Easter as a way of remembering our loved ones at this special time.



(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC

Mini Reflection: The chasm between man and his Creator is an ancient one, and it is driven deep and wide. But this week — this Holy Week — a bridge is built across the chasm. And God reaches out His hand.

The Humanity of Holy Week

We have all sold Jesus out, at one point or another. Some of us have done it more than once, and we've done it for a lot less than 30 pieces of silver.

We have all denied Christ, and we have done it more than three times and under much less pressure than Peter, who feared for his life when he shouted, "I do not know the man!"

We have all struck the face of God — out of anger? Fear? Confusion? All of the above? — screaming, in agony, "Prophecy for me!"

At one point or another, we have all looked at our Lord beaten and betrayed, and we have all said, as Pilate did: "What shall I do with Jesus called Christ?"

And we have all hung on the cross chosen for us, crying out in bewilderment: "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"

Holy Week is a week where we see humanity, in all its vulnerability and ignorance. We see it in the "villains" of the piece, like Judas, and in the morally neutral characters like Pilate and the Jews who have been misled about Jesus. We even see it in the "good guys" like Peter.

In this, the holiest week of the year, we see ourselves at our very worst. The chasm between man and his Creator is an ancient one, and it is driven deep and wide — by the pridefulness of Adam and Eve, yes, but also by every poor choice you and I have ever made.

Every "I don't know the man!"

Every "Prophecy!"

Every "What shall I do with Jesus?"

These cries echo forth from the depths of this chasm.

But this week — this Holy Week — a bridge is built across the chasm. And God reaches out His hand.

— Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Why do we do that? Catholic Life Explained

Question:

What is the difference between a chastisement and a punishment?

Answer:

The distinction between chastisement and punishment is, in many ways, a subtle one, but which is still relevant in our Catholic tradition.

First, chastisement is a concept that is grounded in Sacred Scripture. Here, we see chastisement as a response by God to people's actions that is intended to teach a lesson. As St. John Paul II observed, "chastisement appears to be ... a kind of divine pedagogy, in which the last word is reserved to mercy: He scourges and then shows mercy, casts down to the depths of the nether world, and he brings up from the great abyss" (Tobit 13:2). The idea here is that in order to capture our attention or to highlight how we have not lived out our covenant-relationship with God as we should, there are times when God uses events in life to draw us back to the quality of relationship or faith that we should have.

The concept of punishment, however, has a different sense. The Catechism of the Church observes that punishment is the consequence of a damaging action that "has the primary aim of redressing the disorder" and to protect the community and the common good from further damage or harm (see no. 2266). Although we always hope that someone who is being punished for a crime or some other harmful action will learn from their actions, punishment isn't necessarily intended to teach a lesson in the same way that a chastisement is.

Ultimately, how we make the distinction between chastisement and punishment is a matter of discernment. As with almost everything in life, our experiences can be an opportunity for grace — or for something less — depending on how open we are to recognizing the movement of God's Spirit within them.



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

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

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

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

Good Friday, April 3
8 AM Morning Prayer at St. Celestine
3 PM Service at St. Cyprian
Divine Mercy Novena begins after service
7 PM Shadow Stations at St. Celestine

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

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



Pray the Divine Mercy Novena with Us

The Divine Mercy Novena is prayed starting on Good Friday and ending on Divine Mercy Sunday, April 12. The purpose is to plead for God's mercy for specific groups of souls. It consists of a specific intention for each of the nine days, followed by the Chaplet of Divine Mercy. Jesus told St. Faustina that He would grant "every possible grace to souls" through this Novena.

Daily Intentions: The nine days pray for:

- All, especially sinners.
- Priests and religious.
- Devout and faithful souls
- Those who do not believe in God
- Those who separated themselves from the Church

- Meek and humble souls
- Those who especially venerate His mercy.
- Souls in purgatory
- Lukewarm souls

The Divine Mercy Novena will be led by Deacon Roland, starting on Good Friday, April 3 after the 3 PM Good Friday Service at St. Cyprian. On Holy Saturday, April 4, it will follow the 8 AM Morning Prayer at St. Cyprian. On Easter Sunday, April 5 through Saturday, April 11, it will be prayed at 3 PM at St. Cyprian. The Novena will end on Divine Mercy Sunday, April 12, at 3 PM at St. Celestine with a Holy Hour.

A Detailed History of the Walking Labyrinth at SMTG (St. Celestine Location)

In 2000 the Chicago Archdiocese encouraged the parishes to fundraise during the Millenium Project by providing different events to encourage community and spiritual growth. As a member of the Millenium Committee I was approached by our pastor, Larry Sullivan, to look into something another parish was doing to see if we could use it for one of our events. Melody Devine (former DRE) and I researched the Labyrinth and recommended that instead of using it for an “event” that we bring it to the parish as a prayer experience. It took us over a year to coordinate everything and decided to introduce the Labyrinth as part of the Parish Mission in February of 2002.

We rented the original Labyrinth from Resurrection Hospital ministry dept., set up the gym with the labyrinth and candles all around it. We had a few folding chairs and a cross to add to the environment. It was so popular we decided to bring it back for Wednesday through Friday of Holy Week. We decided to have an information table in the annex and a space for people to relax in the gym with some comfortable chairs and couches. In 2003 we added some more environment with framed scripture and meditative sayings. We also started to add fabric as part of the environment settings .In the Annex we added different books, DVD’s and a variety of finger labyrinths.

I asked the Principal, Jeanine Rocchi, if she would like me to take the 7th and 8th graders on it during the school day on Thursday since it was set up in the gym. We thought that since these meditative tools are available in the public setting we could make sure that they knew what it was and how to best use it. As we watched the students embrace the concept of the Labyrinth she said to me that she wished the whole school could experience it. I told her that in order to do it I would have to have the gym for the entire week. She responded with one word... “Done!” In the following years it has become a tradition for the students (PreK—8) to come down and experience the Labyrinth/Meditation Room during Holy Week.

One of the most astounding things that happened is that the children went home and asked their parents to come back in the evening with them (during the public hours)

to pray. At times we have had three generations of family members walking on the Labyrinth.

In 2007 I was asked to bring the Labyrinth experience to the Chicago Catechetical Conference at the Rosemont Convention Center where they have approximately 1,000 attendees over the two days. I contacted Resurrection Hospital for the use of their Labyrinth and prepared to bring it to the Convention. Two weeks before the CCC I found out that they double booked the labyrinth and I couldn’t borrow it! I jumped on the internet and found a larger labyrinth available only 15 minutes from my



husband’s work. I contacted the woman and she said it was available. I told her my husband could pick it up that day. When he went to get it the woman asked him to tell me that she was looking to sell it so if anyone was interested in purchasing it to please let her know. (The rainbow design was one I had been hoping for!) I immediately contacted Fr. Larry and he said we didn’t have the budget for it but I could ask for donations and see how close we could come to the purchase price. We put a request out for donations through the parish and school. The response was very good. We not only covered the purchase price but had enough to get banners for the gym designed

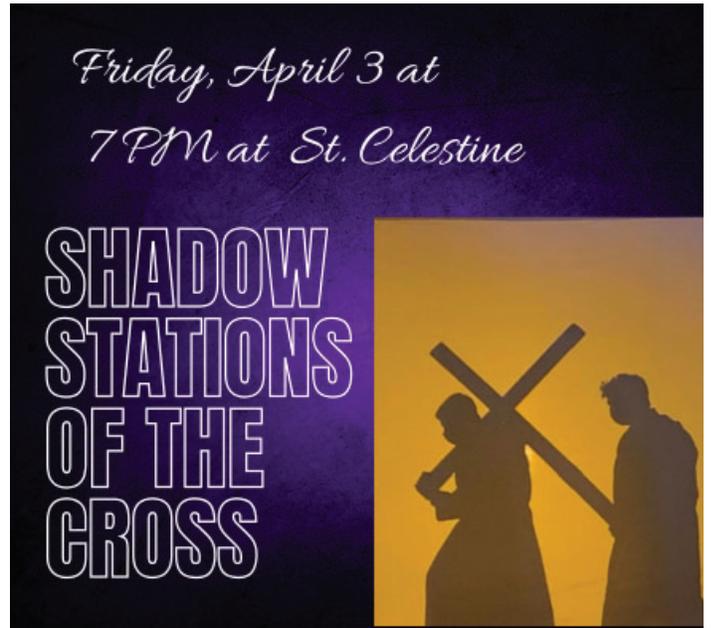
by Donna Vessini (parishioner/teacher) and extra hand held/finger labyrinths for the information room.

Over the years we have offered the Labyrinth at Advent, for special group meetings, vow renewals and even to other parishes. We have volunteers who have repeatedly come every year to ensure a great environment. We have welcomed people from other states who have told me that they planned their trip specifically to see the Labyrinth /Meditation Room at our parish during Holy Week.

Eileen Lepore

Would you like to be a part of the Labyrinth/Meditation Room? We are looking for volunteers who would be available for taking down the Labyrinth/Meditation Room on Good Friday at 9 PM in the Annex at St. Celestine Church. If you would like to help, please leave your name and phone number at the Pastoral Center (708-453-2555).

Also, if you are VIRTUS trained we are looking for people to do one and a half hour shifts during the school day in Holy Week. Please let us know if you’re available in the daytime hours.



Meet the Author April 15



We will meet with Fr. Stan Ilo, author of *Someone Beautiful to God*: on Wednesday, April 15 at 6:30 PM in the Fireside Room at St. Celestine. He will answer questions about the book and sign copies. We do have extra books at the the Pastoral Center if you want to read it on your own or gift it to someone. They are available for \$20.

St. Mother Theodore Guerin Parish
BINGO NIGHT
 Join us for an evening of fun, concessions, raffles, and cash prizes!
FRIDAY, APRIL 24
\$25 TO PLAY
 8 REGULAR AND
 2 SPECIAL BINGO GAMES
 Doors open at 5:30 PM,
 games start at 6:30 PM.
 Hot dogs, pizza, and chips available.
 Win \$100 regular games
 \$200 special games
 Must be 21 to play
3020 NORTH 76TH COURT
ENTER OFF PARKING LOT
 WWW.STGUERINPARISH.ORG
 WE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO CHANGE
 PRIZE AMOUNTS BASED ON ATTENDANCE

Mother of Perpetual Help Society Devotional



The Mother of Perpetual Help Society invites you to join us for the Mother of Perpetual Help Devotional held every Tuesday evening in the St. Celestine Chapel. We pray the rosary at 7 PM and then the Mother of

Perpetual Help Novena at 7:30 PM. You may join us for either the rosary or the novena or both!

This beautiful and time-honored devotion is a peaceful opportunity to place our needs, our families, and our parish under the loving care of Our Blessed Mother. All are welcome to come and pray and find comfort, hope and strength through Mary's intercession. If you have any questions, please contact Nancy Panzarella Konrath at panzkon@gmail.com.

Parish **GOLF** Outing

JUNE 8, 2026 \$125/golfer



Our annual Golf Outing will take place on Monday, June 8 at White Pines Golf Club in Bensenville with registration at 8 AM and a shotgun start at 9 AM. \$125/per person or \$500 for a foursome includes 18 holes of golf, cart, lunch on the course, and a BBQ dinner in the clubhouse. Great raffles and door prizes! Businesses and organizations are invited to sponsor a hole. Go to stguerinparish.org and click on Golf Outing to register.

stguerinparish.org

REGISTRATION FORM

Name: _____ Phone: _____ Email: _____

_____ I would like to reserve _____ foursome(s) @ \$125/golfer* (includes 18 holes, carts, lunch and dinner).

*Total due for 1 foursome = \$500

_____ I would like reservations for _____ golfer(s) @ \$125/golfer (includes 18 holes, carts, lunch and dinner).

_____ I would like reservations for _____ guest(s) @ \$50/guest for dinner only.

_____ I don't golf, but would like to sponsor a hole for \$100.

_____ I would like to make a cash or raffle donation.

Raffle donation: _____

Golfer #1 _____ Golfer #2 _____

Golfer #3 _____ Golfer #4 _____

SPONSORSHIP FORM

This fundraiser is a great place to advertise your business while highlighting your support of St. Mother Guerin Parish.

Name: _____ Title: _____

Company: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____ Website: _____

Sponsorship Levels and Benefits

_____ Hole-in-One: \$250.00: Logo on entrance banner at outing, lawn sign, recognition in our church bulletin, recognition on our parish website, in addition to recognition on our parish's social media.

_____ Eagle: \$200.00: Lawn sign, recognition in our church bulletin, along with recognition on our parish website.

_____ Birdie: \$150.00: Lawn sign and recognition in our church bulletin.

_____ Tee Off: \$100.00: Lawn sign with your name at designated hole.

Pay online at www.givecentral.org/GolfOuting, or mail checks payable to St. Mother Theodore Guerin Parish and to the attention of Laurie DePillo, St. Mother Guerin Parish, 3020 N. 76th Ct., Elmwood Park, IL 60707.

St. Mother Guerin thanks you for your kind consideration of a donation to our Golf Outing Fundraiser. We are a 501(c)(3) tax-deductible charity. Upon request we can provide our sponsors with a tax receipt for their donation. Please email Laurie DePillo at lauriedepillo@stguerinparish.org when requesting a tax receipt for your donation or if you have any questions. You may also call her at 708-453-2555.

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, Juliette Jimenez, * 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 Rabitoy, 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

Angelito Paguia Manzano

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

Reflection from Craig Kamptner

As we are nearing our journey through Lent and entering the most holiest days of the year have we thought of how we did from Ash Wednesday till now? Have we done what we said we were going to do during Lent? Jesus calls us to a deeper meaning during this time. He is calling us to examine our hearts and minds and become closer with him during this journey. If we have not reached our goal and fell short Jesus is always saying you can start now. It's never too late. Jesus knows that it is difficult. That is why Jesus forgives. For me this time of year is so meaningful. It is the reason why we are here.

This is what we believe. "This is our faith" as Fr. White always said. The gospel readings are so powerful, the song

SCRIPTURE SEARCH®

Gospel for March 29, 2026

Matthew 21:1-11

Following is a word search based on the Processional Gospel for Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion, Cycle A. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

BETHPAGE
SPOKEN
ZION
BROUGHT
BRANCHES
THE NAME
JESUS

A COLT
PROPHET
KING
CLOAKS
HOSANNA
HIGHEST
NAZARETH

UNTIE
DAUGHTER
FOAL
LARGE CROWD
BLESSED
CITY
GALILEE

ZION'S KING

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

© 2026 TRI-C-A Publications; tri-c-a-publications.com

"My God, my God, why have you forsaken me" are so powerful. They should echo through our minds and hearts this weekend. It stops us in our tracks and reminds us of who we should become. The Triduum is our moment to take a deeper look in ourselves and realize what Jesus did for us. It is a cycle that comes to us every year. The ashes 40 days ago mean something to us.

Imagine yourself being at the Lord's table on Holy Thursday? Imagine yourself being there on Good Friday? Imagine running to the tomb on Easter morning and seeing the tomb empty?

Have we carried our cross this season of Lent and if we fell short it is never too late to begin again.

Parish Weekly Events

Sunday, March 29

12 PM ST CEL Labyrinth in the Gym and Annex

Monday, March 30

4 PM ST CEL Labyrinth in the Gym and Annex

7 PM ST CEL Reconciliation Service in the Church

Tuesday, March 31

4 PM ST CEL Labyrinth in the Gym and Annex

7 PM ST CEL Mother of Perpetual Help Devotional in

Wednesday, April 1

4 PM ST CEL Labyrinth in the Gym and Annex

7 PM ST CYP Taize Service in the Church

Thursday, April 2

8 AM ST CYP Morning Prayer in the Church

4 PM ST CEL Labyrinth in the Gym and Annex

7 PM ST CEL Holy Thursday Mass

8 PM ST CEL Church Visits

12 AM ST CYP Night Prayer in the Church

Friday, April 3

8 AM ST CEL Morning Prayer in the Chapel

9 AM ST CEL Labyrinth in the Gym and Annex

3 PM ST CYP Service in the Church followed by Divine Mercy Novena

7 PM ST CEL Shadow Stations of the Cross in the Church

Saturday, April 4

8 AM ST CYP Morning Prayer in the Church followed by Divine Mercy Novena

11 AM ST CYP Easter Basket Blessing

12 PM ST CEL Easter Basket Blessing

7:30 PM ST CEL Easter Vigil Mass

Easter Sunday, April 5

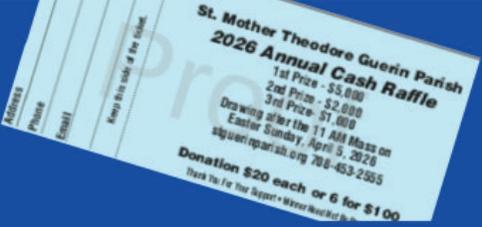
7:30 AM ST CEL Mass

9 AM ST CYP Mass

11 AM ST CEL Mass

11:30 AM ST CYP Mass

3 PM ST CYP Divine Mercy Novena in the Church



ANNUAL PARISH RAFFLE

Tickets \$20 each or 6/\$100!
Drawing after 11 AM Mass on Easter Sunday

1st Prize \$5,000	2nd Prize \$2,000	3rd Prize \$1,000
-----------------------------	-----------------------------	-----------------------------

stguerinparish.org

Buy or turn in your tickets in at the office or drop the tickets and payment in the collection basket.

PILGRIMAGE TO POLAND

IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF ST. JOHN PAUL II AND DIVINE MERCY

COPENHAGEN LAYOVER (TOUR) - WARSAW - NIEPOKALANÓW - ŚWINICE WARCKIE - WROCŁAW - CZĘSTOCHOWA - KRAKÓW - WADOWICE - AUSCHWITZ-BIRKENAU - WIELICZKA - ZAKOPANE






**12 DAYS
JULY 13 - 24, 2026
SPIRITUAL GUIDANCE
FR. MAREK SMOLKA
PASTOR OF ST. FRANCIS BORGIA**

The price includes:

- Accommodation in a high-standard tourist's hotel in double rooms
- Single Room extra charge - €500 EURO
- Transportation by air-conditioned motor coach
- Tour Guide - Professional Catholic English-Speaking Guides
- Personal sound system/ headphones for each participant in the required locations.
- Medical group insurance.
- Round-trip airfare
- 1 Checked Bag with the Airlines
- All airport taxes & fuel surcharges
- Breakfast and Dinner daily
- Group size pilgrimage is 30 people.

Not included - Lunch, Tips to your guide & driver.

For more information:
St. Francis Borgia
8033 W. Addison Street,
Chicago, IL 60634
773-625-1118 or mamolka@borgiachicago.org
www.borgiachicago.org

\$3350



**SAINT FRANCIS BORGIA
CATHOLIC CHURCH
CHICAGO, IL**

Advertise Here!

Engage with consumers in your neighborhood.



ADT-Monitored Home Security

Get 24-Hour Protection From a Name You Can Trust

- Burglary
- Fire Safety
- Flood Detection
- Carbon Monoxide



ADT Authorized Provider | SafeStreets

833-287-3502

Say Good-bye to Clogged Gutters!



\$99 Installation*

Receive a \$100 Visa gift card with your FREE in-home estimate

All participants who attend an estimated 60-90 minute in-home product consultation will receive a \$100 Visa gift card. Retail value is \$100. Offer sponsored by LeafGuard Holdings, Inc. Limit one per household. Company process, sells, and installs seamless gutter protection. This offer is valid for homeowners over 18 years of age, if married or involved with a life partner, both cohabitating persons must attend and complete presentation together. Participants must have a photo ID and be legally able to enter into a contract. The following persons are not eligible for this offer: employees of Company or affiliated companies or entities, their immediate family members, previous participants in a Company in-home consultation within the past 12 months and all current and former Company customers. Gift may not be extended, transferred, or substituted except that Company may substitute a gift of equal or greater value if it deems it necessary. Gift card will be mailed to the participant via first class United States Mail within 10 days of receipt of the promotion terms. Not valid in conjunction with any other promotion or discount of any kind. Offer not sponsored and is subject to change without notice prior to reservation. Offer not available in the states of CA, IN, PA and MI. Expires 10/31/22.



LeafGuard® is guaranteed never to clog or we'll clean it for FREE*

- Seamless, one-piece system keeps out leaves, pine needles, and debris
- Eliminates the risk of falling off a ladder to clean clogged gutters
- Durable, all-weather tested system not a flimsy attachment

ENGLERT LeafGuard®
Get it. And forget it.™

Call today for your FREE estimate and in-home demonstration

CALL NOW 708-462-6373

*Guaranteed not to clog for as long as you own your home, or we'll clean your gutters for free.



Made you look.

Advertise here to reach your local audience.

Scan to get started!



Visit 4lpi.com/advertising-solutions

ILLINOIS CANCER SPECIALISTS
Our Only Care Is You



773.774.0042
Working Towards a Cure

Specializing In Cancer And Blood Disorders

Little space. Big impact.

Advertise here
Call 800-950-9952

Advertise in Our Church Bulletin!

Contact Mark Olech
molech@4lpi.com
(800) 950-9952 x5965



Let Go.
Let God.

WE'RE PROUD TO SUPPORT ST MOTHER THEODORE GUERIN CHURCH

WINTRUST BANK

Chicago

CHICAGO'S NEIGHBORHOOD BANKS

3050 N Harlem | Chicago, IL 60634

773-622-5301 | www.wintrustbank.com



Support Our Advertisers!

Salerno Galewood CHAPELS

1857 N. Harlem Ave.
Chicago, IL 60707

Contact Us
773-889-1700

Pre Arranged Funerals & Cremation Services Available
www.galewoodchapels.com



Family Owned & Operated
for Over 90 Years



WE'RE HIRING

Ad Sales Executives

- Paid Training
- Some Travel
- Work-life Balance
- Full-time with Benefits
- Serve Your Community

Visit www.4lpi.com/careers

FREE AD DESIGN WITH PURCHASE OF THIS SPACE

Call 800.950.9952



For ad info. call 1-800-950-9952 • www.4lpi.com

St Mother Theodore Guerin , Chicago, IL

01-4008

**Our Family
Serving Your
Family**



Cremation Services Available

Scott Johnson, Parishioner
Belmont Funeral Home
7120 W. Belmont Ave.
(773) 286-2500

Resident of Elmwood Park
Peterson-Bassi Chapels
6938 W. North Ave.
(773) 637-4441

PRO PLUMBING

- PLUMBING
- SEWER
- WATERTANK
- RODDING

10% OFF Parishioner Discount
847-671-7300

Professional Neighborhood Handyman

HOME REPAIRS

- Electrical • Plumbing • And More!

Ask for Roy
773-792-0275 773-386-5313

PAINTING PRO



INTERIOR EXTERIOR
DRYWALL & REPAIRS
312-543-0490

 **Esperanza**
Home Health Care

2048 N. 72nd Ct. • Elmwood Park, IL 60707
Tel: 708-452-7610 • esperanzahhc.com

Providing Nurses, PT, OT, ST, and Aides right at your home. We will assist with Visiting Providers/Doctors if needed. Contact our office for any questions.

Little space.
Big impact.

Advertise here
Call 800-950-9952

Anthony's
HEATING & COOLING INC.

Summer Special
\$79.95
Furnace or Central Air
16 pt. Clean & Tune

NEW CENTRAL AIR
Starting at \$2,895!

Senior/Veteran Discounts
24 Hour Service
MAJOR CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED
773-231-5124



**FREE AD DESIGN
WITH PURCHASE
OF THIS SPACE**

Call 800.950.9952

Does your organization need a newsletter?
We'll cover the printing costs!

Learn more at lpcommunities.com



 **SAX-TIEDEMANN**
Funeral Home & Crematorium

FAMILY OWNED. FAMILY FOCUSED.
847.678.1950
www.sax-tiedemann.com

9568 Belmont Ave., Franklin Park, IL 60131

**Ed the Plumber
Ed the Carpenter**
708.652.1444
Best Work • Best Rates
PARISHIONER DISCOUNT

PRO PAINTING

- PAINTING
- DRYWALL
- INTERIOR
- EXTERIOR

10% OFF Parishioner Discount
847-721-6368

IF YOU LIVE ALONE

MDMedAlert!™ STARTING AT \$19.95/mo.

- ✓ Ambulance
- ✓ Police/Fire
- ✓ Family/Friends
- ✓ GPS & Fall Alert

CALL NOW! **800.809.3570** *md-medalert.com



Dr. Lawrence T. Jacobs

Family Dental Care

8235 W. Grand Ave.
River Grove
708-453-0250

Advertise in Our Church Bulletin!

Contact Mark Olech
molech@4lpi.com
(800) 950-9952 x5965



Never miss our bulletin!

Get this bulletin delivered straight to your inbox every week.

Scan to subscribe on parishesonline.com



**VIA GALANTE
CEMENT CONTRACTORS, INC.**

Patios • Sidewalks • Stairs
Driveways • Garage Floors
Concrete Power Washing & Sealing
773-589-9893

**NOTHING IS IMPOSSIBLE
NOTHING IS IMPOSSIBLE WITH GOD.
NOTHING IS IMPOSSIBLE**

NUZZO SEWER & PLUMBING INC.
708-456-7300 Power Rodding 773-625-6280

All Sewer & Plumbing Repairs & Installation
Specializing in Flood Control • Correcting Low Water Pressure
Video Sewer & Locating Service
www.nuzzoplumbing.com

**VIA GALANTE
CEMENT CONTRACTORS, INC.**

Patios • Sidewalks • Stairs
Driveways • Garage Floors
Concrete Power Washing & Sealing
773-589-9893



22 W. Conti Parkway • Elmwood Park, IL
708.708.5179

**Parishioner discount with bulletin
10% OFF Catering**

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. Mother of Perpetual Help Devotion weekly Tuesday nights at 7 PM in the Chapel. **Rosaries:** During the week, before Mass at St. Cyprian, after Mass at St. Celestine, and 7 PM on the second Monday of the month in the Chapel at St. Celestine. **Mother of Perpetual Help Devotional** Tuesdays at 7 PM in the Chapel.

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.

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
lauriedepillo@stguerinparish.org 708-453-2555 x5015
Lynn Schmidt, Administrative Assistant
lschmidt@stguerinparish.org 708-453-2555 x5010
Andrea Mayer, Receptionist
amayer@archchicago.org 708-453-2555 x5010
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, Social Media 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 mduoye@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

