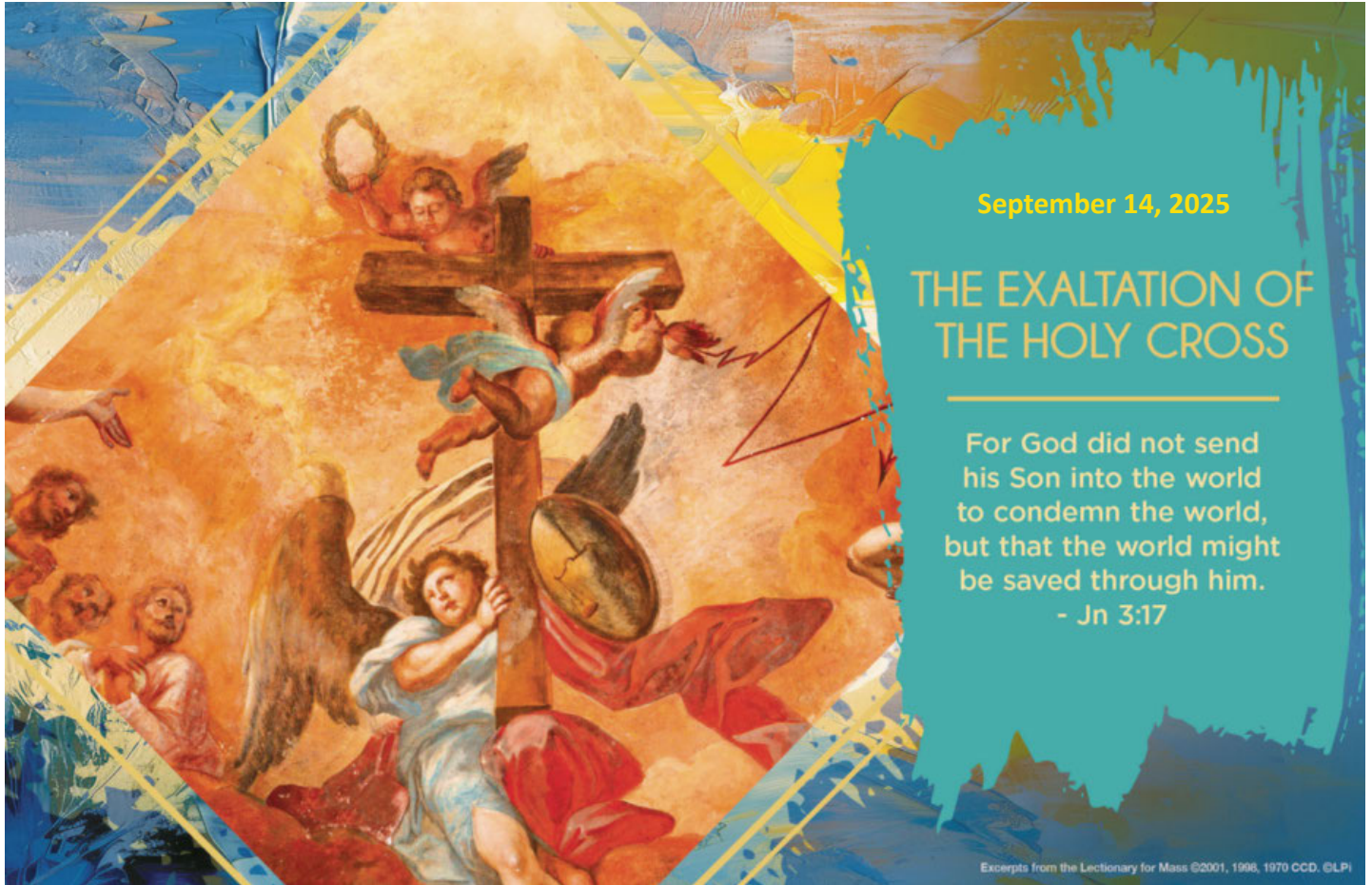




# ST. MOTHER THEODORE GUERIN PARISH

St. Celestine and St. Cyprian Churches

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



September 14, 2025

## THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him.  
- Jn 3:17

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. ©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, September 13**

**4 PM ST. CYPRIAN**

+Phyllis Gossy

**5 PM ST. CELESTINE**

+Joseph and +Bette Wesol

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

60th Anniversary of St. Celestine  
Class of 1965

+Casimir (Casey) Czaja, Birthday

+Kathleen Kuroski

+Eugene Klich, 20th Anniversary

+Gary Broz

+Danilo Domingo

**Sunday, September 14**

**7:30 AM ST. CELESTINE**

+Loreto M. Gaspar, Jr., 5 year  
anniversary

**9 AM ST. CYPRIAN**

+Irene Neuenfeld

+Andrea Trupiano

**11 AM ST. CELESTINE**

+Roman and +Anna Romanyuk

+Frank Pudlo

+Zygmunt Ignaczuk

+Frank and +John Kucera

+Teresa Milkowska

+Patrick Reilly

**Monday, September 15**

**8 AM ST. CELESTINE**

+Mary Caporale

**Tuesday, September 16**

**8 AM ST. CYPRIAN**

+ Michael Sheahan, Birthday

**Wednesday, September 17**

**8 AM ST. CELESTINE**

People of the Parish

**Thursday, September 18**

**8 AM ST. CYPRIAN**

Faithful Departed

**Friday, September 19**

**8 AM ST. CELESTINE**

+Fr. Bernard White

**Saturday, September 20**

**4 PM ST. CYPRIAN**

+Phyllis Gossy

+Esther Romano

Michael Medrano, Birthday

**5 PM ST. CELESTINE**

+Albert Maggio

+Maria and +Kazimier Zygmunt

+Concetta and +Sabatino DiCianno,  
Anniversary

+Nick DiCianni

+Linda Maibusch

Deceased members of the Bellipanni  
Family

**Sunday, September 21**

**7:30 AM ST. CELESTINE**

+Harry A. Egan, Anniversary

+Richard Grisius

**9 AM ST. CYPRIAN**

+Ross Pollina

**11 AM ST. CELESTINE**

+Roman and +Anna Romanyuk

+Frank Pudlo

+Jeanne Panuncialman

+Teresa Milkowska

+Harry D. Schinski, 50th Anniversary  
of death



## 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

## Bulletin Deadlines

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

**September 28** is due on Wednesday,  
September 17 at 9 AM

**October 5** is due on Wednesday,  
September 24 at 9 AM

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

### Shooting at Annunciation Catholic Church in Minneapolis

It was a very sad day for our country on August 27 during a morning Mass attended by young students and parishioners at Annunciation Church in Minneapolis, when a senseless act of violence claimed the lives of two innocent children and injured many others. The pain and sorrow reverberating through that community are unimaginable, and as members of the body of Christ, we share in their grief.

In moments like these, we are reminded of the fragility of life and the urgent need for compassion, prayer, and unity. Let us lift up the families of the victims, the wounded, and all those traumatized by this tragedy. May our prayers be a source of strength and healing for them.

As we reflect on the heartbreaking event, let us recommit ourselves to being instruments of peace in our own community. Let us teach our children the values of love, respect, and nonviolence. Let us also work

together to end gun violence in our country. Let us be vigilant in caring for one another, especially the vulnerable among us.

Last week Mrs. Sheila Klich and I had a meeting right after the shooting to find the best solution for the safety of our students. After the meeting, our principal sent a letter to the parents of the children at St. Celestine School:

Thank you for your prayers and support for Catholic schools, particularly St. Celestine. Please keep the Minneapolis Catholic schools in your prayers as they recover from the horrific events of this week.

Please read this letter regarding changes to student Mass attendance that are effective immediately.

#### WEEKLY MASS ATTENDANCE

- *The Wellington doors will remain permanently locked for Mass.*
- *The 76th Court outer doors will have parish and staff members between the doors to "check in" regular Mass attendees.*
- *At 8 AM, the 76th Court doors will be locked.*



- *All students attending weekly Mass will report to the gym and be led to the church by teachers.*
- *The teachers will lead them and ensure that the church is secure and safe for prayers.*
- *Teachers and parish staff will remain in the back of church throughout Mass to monitor safety.*
- *Students will sit in the center sections of the pews, away from the windows.*

We may implement other measures as recommended by the Archdiocese for the safety of the people of the parish.

May God bless you and your loved ones.

*In prayer,  
Fr. Paul*

## Multi-site Review Process Begins

All parishes who have gone through the Renew My Church process are required by the Archdiocese to have a review of the state of the parish every five years. As one of the first parishes to be combined over seven years ago, it is time for St. Mother Theodore Guerin parish to go through the process.

The pastor asks a team of parish leaders to consider the feasibility of continued utilization of parish facilities and how to establish and

implement the goals of the parish. They review the facility holding costs and critical capital project needs and costs, the utilization of parish spaces, and the financial condition of the parish and project the needs of the next five years. After the team has reviewed a variety of information about the parish there will be a Town Hall Meeting to present the findings to the parish as a whole for feedback.

After that there will be a recommendation to the pastor as

to the future of the parish, and with the input and advice of the Parish Finance Council, a decision will be made and implemented.

This is being done under the direction of the Archdiocese, although they are adamant that they do not make the final decisions about the parishes. We will keep you updated as the process continues and let you know when the Town Hall Meeting will be.



# Weekly Prayer

## Sunday's Readings

### First Reading:

"We have sinned in complaining against the LORD and you.  
Pray the LORD to take the serpents from us." (Nm 21:7)

### Psalm:

Do not forget the works of the Lord! (Ps 78)

### Second Reading:

He humbled himself,  
becoming obedient to death,  
even death on a cross. (Phil 2:8)

### Gospel:

For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son,  
so that everyone who believes in him might not perish  
but might have eternal life. (Jn 3:16)

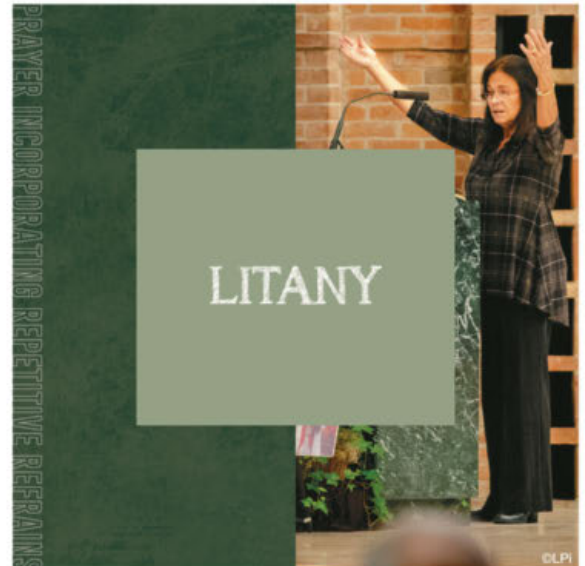
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The English translation of Psalm Responses from Lectionary for Mass © 1969, 1981, 1997,  
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## Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

God did not send his son into the world to condemn it.  
The cross is not a symbol of judgment — the cross is  
what mercy looks like when it is lived out. How will we  
bring the cross into our lives this week? How will we  
live the mercy which has saved us?

## Observances for the week of September 14, 2025

<b>Sunday:</b>	The Exaltation of the Holy Cross
<b>Monday:</b>	Our Lady of Sorrows
<b>Tuesday:</b>	Sts. Cornelius, Pope, and Cyprian, Bishop, Martyrs
<b>Wednesday:</b>	St. Robert Bellarmine, Bishop and Doctor of the Church; St. Hildegard of Bingen, Virgin and Doctor
<b>Friday:</b>	St. Januarius, Bishop and Martyr
<b>Saturday:</b>	Sts. Andrew Kim Tae-gŏn, Priest, and Paul Chŏng Ha-sang, and Companions, Martyrs [M]
<b>Next Sunday:</b>	25th Sunday in Ordinary Time; Catechetical Sunday



## Devotions, *Explained!*

A litany is an ancient form of prayer incorporating repetitive refrains (often "hear our prayer" or "pray for us"). Litanies are used in a variety of liturgical settings and in both private and public acts of devotion.

## Prayer of Love

Dear God,  
Expand my heart in new ways  
today,  
to understand the love You have  
for me,  
to take that love deeply into  
myself,  
and to act from that love.  
Amen.

## (PRACTICING) CATHOLIC

**Mini Reflection:** When the unfaithful of the Israelites were bitten by the serpents, they were healed by looking upon the instrument of their suffering: the serpent itself, mounted on Moses' staff. To heal us, God invites us to look upon the cross.

### The Cross is Not Negotiable

"Holiness isn't for wimps," Mother Angelica famously said. "And the cross isn't negotiable, sweetheart — it's a requirement."

I love Mother Angelica, and I love this quote. Following God is *tough*, and to do it you have to make a decision to be *tough*, to endure tough things — and ultimately, to love the toughness of it all, because within that struggle God meets us with mercy and salvation.

But in light of today's readings, I think Mother Angelica would forgive me for tweaking her words a tiny bit.

Holiness *is* for wimps, *because* the cross isn't negotiable.

When the unfaithful among the Israelites were bitten by the serpents, they were healed by looking upon the instrument of their suffering: the serpent itself, mounted on Moses' staff. With a literary flourish that puts Homer and Shakespeare to shame, God inverts that primitive symbol. To heal us, he invites us to look upon the cross — the sacrifice which achieved our redemption.

Jesus came here to die on that cross for us. For the wimps. Because we couldn't do it ourselves, even if we tried. We couldn't right all of our wrongs, not if we had a million years to do it. We would keep screwing it up. We would keep failing. We're wimps; that's what we do.

But the cross — the cross is a magnificent invitation to something more. Divinity Himself, assuming the cloak of flesh and the weight of sin, so that when we look at the cross, we might recognize ourselves. So that we might see what we have been, what we are, what we could be.

And none of it is negotiable.

— Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

## Why do we do that? Catholic Life Explained

### Question:

I have a friend who says she doesn't need to attend Mass because she prays to God every day. What are your thoughts on this justification?

### Answer:

If the only reason for going to church were to talk to God, your friend might be right. Prayer is not something limited to a physical place or even a holy place. If the sole purpose of the Church were prayer, it would be a narrow purpose indeed. The Church is a community of believers, formed by "one Lord, one faith, one Baptism." It is an outward sign of our faith in God instituted by Christ, and the purpose of the Church is to give us grace, that is, a share in God's life.

Coming to Mass is not really for God's sake, but for ours. If we believe that Jesus is truly present in the holy Eucharist, then we will want to be in his presence. We will want to be fed by him. Our daily prayer and good works are strengthened by our authentic encounter with our Lord. For Catholics, it is at Mass that we celebrate the source and summit of our faith. If this is true, why would we ever stay away?



# Worship & Meditation

## Readings for the week of September 14, 2025

### Sunday:

Nm 21:4b-9/Ps 78:1bc-2, 34-35, 36-37, 38/Phil 2:6-11/Jn 3:13-17

### Monday:

1 Tm 2:1-8/Ps 28:2, 7, 8-9/Jn 19:25-27 or Lk 2:33-35

### Tuesday:

1 Tm 3:1-13/Ps 101:1b-2ab, 2cd-3ab, 5, 6/Lk 7:11-17

### Wednesday:

1 Tm 3:14-16/Ps 111:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/Lk 7:31-35

### Thursday:

1 Tm 4:12-16/Ps 111:7-8, 9, 10/Lk 7:36-50

### Friday:

1 Tm 6:2c-12/Ps 49:6-7, 8-10, 17-18, 19-20/Lk 8:1-3

### Saturday:

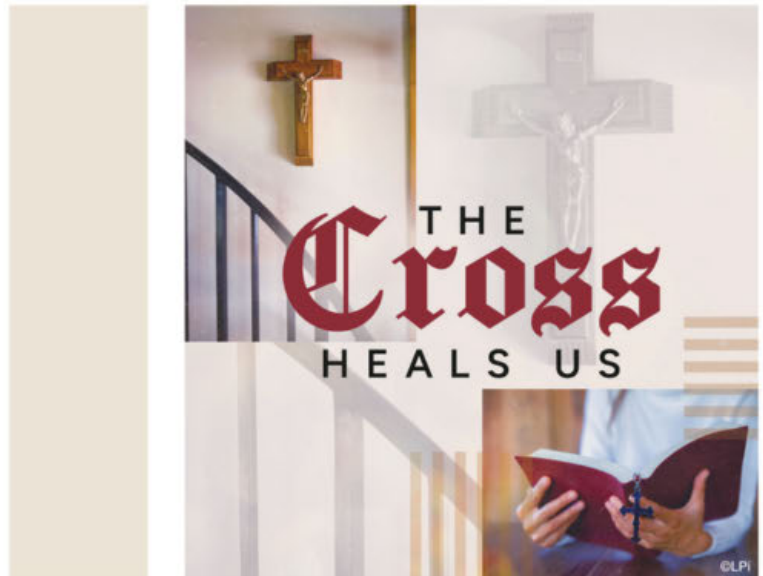
1 Tm 6:13-16/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 4, 5/Lk 8:4-15

### Next Sunday:

Am 8:4-7/Ps 113:1-2, 4-6, 7-8 (see 1a, 7b)/1 Tm 2:1-8/Lk 16:1-13 or 16:10-13



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## Gospel Meditation

### Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

One of my favorite movies is the 1991 comedy *What About Bob?* Bill Murray plays a troubled, paranoid hypochondriac named Bob Wiley who innocently but annoyingly hounds Dr. Leo Marvin, played by Richard Dreyfuss. Bob is paralyzed by his fear of, well, everything, and is convinced the psychologist can heal him. But Dr. Marvin's failed attempts to heal Bob end up driving the doctor to attempt to murder Bob. He fails. The surprise is that, having faced death head on, Bob is suddenly healed. He attributes his healing to Dr. Marvin for breakthrough "death therapy." In facing the cause of his deepest illness and dysfunction, Bob is healed.

Underneath this light-hearted comedy is a dead-serious resonance with this week's feast: the Exaltation of the Holy Cross. Christ is lifted up on the cross to force us to face the truth of sin and death. In that reckoning we find healing. Like Moses' snake on a pole, the cross says: this is what is causing your sickness – rebellion, disobedience, sin. Look at it! Don't run from it. Now seeing it exposed, we see life. We see our physician mercifully healing us. In this sense, we are all like Bob Wiley. The "death therapy" of the cross is our only hope for healing.

This week I invite you to "exalt the cross." If you don't have one in your house, get one. Use it for prayer. Gaze on it frequently. It teaches us to not be afraid. It heals us.

— Father John Muir

Jesus said to Nicodemus: “No one has gone up to heaven except the one who has come down from heaven, the Son of Man.” For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him. - Jn 3:13, 17

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

## Questions of the Week

Invite Parishioners to Reflect and Respond to Scripture

### First Reading:

In their desert wanderings, the Israelites learned that repentance leads to healing. What needs healing in your life?

### Second Reading:

Paul taught the Philippians that the humility and obedience of Jesus — even to the point of death by crucifixion — led to Jesus' exaltation. When have you been challenged to be humble and obedient?

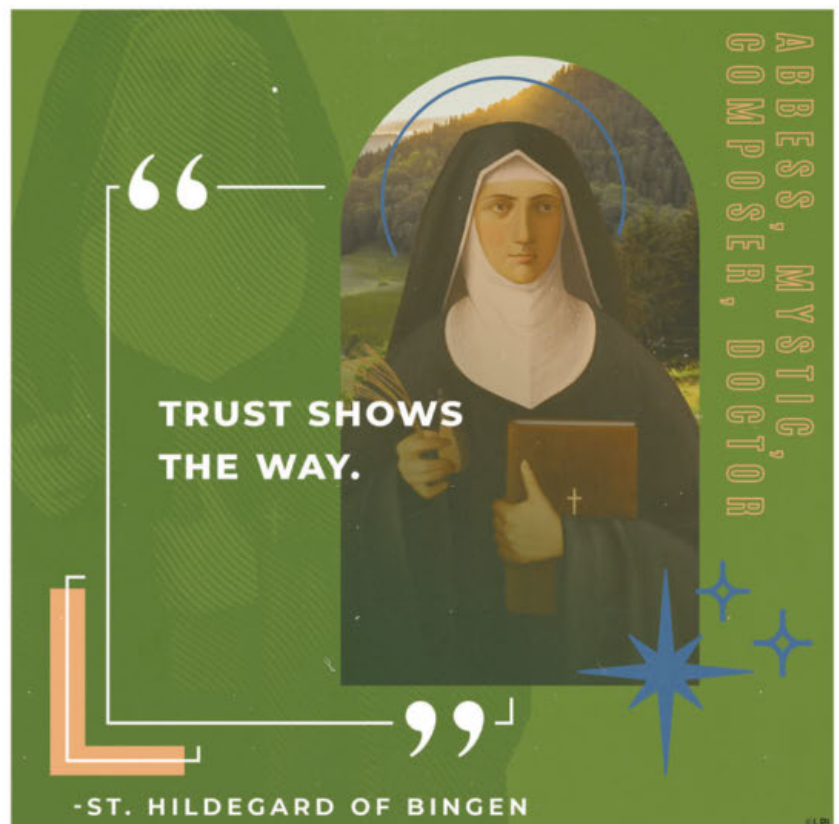
### Gospel:

Jesus reveals to Nicodemus that his death on the cross would lead believers to eternal life and save the world. What have you been taught about the meaning of the cross?



### 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

God, you are my power  
and my strength.

## Mission for the Week

Every morning, I will  
remember to tell Jesus  
that I believe in him.

## Sharing the Gospel

The Hebrew people  
were being bitten by  
serpents in the desert.  
God told Moses to  
make a serpent out of  
bronze and put it on  
a pole. Everyone who  
looked at it would be  
healed. God put an  
end to the serpents  
and helped the Hebrew  
people. Many years  
later, Jesus was lifted  
up on the cross. We  
look at him and know  
that Jesus is our  
strength, our hope, and  
our healing. Look at the  
cross and say, "Jesus, I  
believe in you."

**Now color  
the picture!**



Which picture name begins with this letter?  
Circle the picture that starts with that sound.

S



C



J





## "The Ladies are Back in Town"



Ladies of the  
Parish:  
You are invited  
to come and join  
the  
St. Mother Guerin  
Women's Club

Don't let the onset of Fall & Winter keep you inside:

**Come check us out**

**On Thursday, September 25, 2025 at 7 pm**  
In the Annex (off the parking lot) at St. Celestine  
(Doors open at 6:30 pm)

**Come meet us as we enjoy some light refreshments:**  
**Pulled-Pork Sandwiches, Cole Slaw, Chips,**  
**Refreshments and Desserts!**

The Women's Club offers you...

- ~A night out - for you and maybe a lady friend
- ~No membership dues
- ~No commitment - you attend when you can
- ~A chance to get to know other ladies of the parish
- ~Share some light refreshments
- ~Share our Faith
- ~Share ideas for service and fun projects
- ~Learn new things
- ~Work on service projects
- ~Occasionally play a game or two
- ~Door prizes
- ~Raffle & Split-the-Pot prizes

**If you're looking for a ladies' night out and  
can spare an hour and a half, once a month to have a  
little fun? Then please, Come check us out!**

**Hope to see you on Sept. 25<sup>th</sup>!**

**NO MEMBERSHIP DUES!**

**CHIPOTLE FUNDRAISER FOR  
ST. CELESTINE  
PARENT'S CLUB**

25% OF EVENT SALES GET DONATED TO THE CAUSE

**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17TH | 4-8PM**  
500 W NORTH AVE, MELROSE PARK, IL, 60160

ORDER ONLINE FOR PICKUP USING CODE **3AH8C4A**  
OR SHOW THIS FLYER IN RESTAURANT

**CHIPOTLE**

For online orders to count towards the fundraiser, they must be placed for pickup only from the restaurant location of, and during the hours of, the fundraiser. Delivery orders and gift cards do not qualify. \$150 minimum event sales required to receive any donation.

**An Evening of Song**  
with renowned liturgical composer & songwriter  
**Dan Schutte**

**5:30 pm Reception**  
**7:00 pm Concert**  
**September 25, 2025**

Holy Name Cathedral  
735 N State Street, Chicago, IL

in Celebration of  
IVC Chicago's  
25th Anniversary

**Tickets \$25**

Schutte's music has been a pulse in the heartbeat of many churches for more than 50 years, including "Here I Am," "City of God," and "You Are Near."

**Celebrating 25 Years**  
IVC Chicago

THE IGNATIAN VOLUNTEER CORPS [www.ivicusa.org/chicago-schutte](http://www.ivicusa.org/chicago-schutte)

## Queen of Hearts

Are you interested in restarting the Queen of Hearts raffle for St. Celestine School? Come to a planning meeting Wednesday, September 17 at 7 PM at St. Celestine School.

## Religious Education and Catechist Openings!

The St. Mother Guerin Religious Education Program helps our students build their connections to God through prayer, incorporate God into their everyday lives, and recognize opportunities to enhance their relationship with God. We welcome children to learn about Jesus, the Catholic faith and prepare for the Sacraments of Baptism, Reconciliation, Communion and Confirmation.

Religious Education is offered to students in Grades 1—8 who during the week attend a public or home school setting. Students meet at St. Celestine School twice a month on Saturdays from 9:30 to 11:30 AM. Classes start September 13.

Registration for the 2025—2026 school year is available online. The link to register online is: <https://stguerinparish.org/religious-education/> and registration forms are also available in the St. Celestine Pastoral Center.

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

## OCIA

The Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA) is a process by which adults explore the Catholic faith and ordinarily become members of the Church.

The program consists of several months of instruction in the teachings, beliefs, customs, and practices of the Catholic faith. Those who complete the process receive the sacraments, usually Baptism, First Communion, and Confirmation, or a combination of those, at Easter.

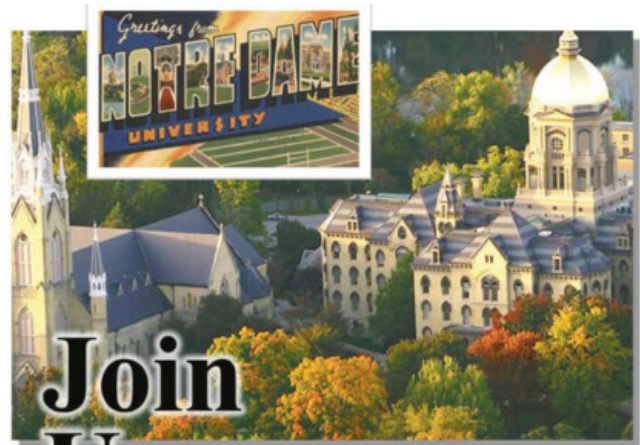
### WHO IS THE OCIA INTENDED FOR?

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

Teen Classes meet on Tuesdays from 7 to 8:30 PM in St. Cyprian Rectory beginning on September 23. Adult Classes meet on Thursdays from 7 to 8:30 PM in the St. Cyprian Rectory beginning on September 25. The Sacraments are celebrated at the Easter Vigil.

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

## Notre Dame Pilgrimage



**Join Us** Tuesday, September 30<sup>th</sup>

**\$50** Bus Fee

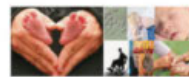
7am returning Early Evening

- ✦ Leave St. Celestine Church at 7 AM
- ✦ The Tour is a 1 ½ mile walk around the Campus
- ✦ Celebration Mass with Father Paul
- ✦ Lunch Stop at a local restaurant

We hope you are able to join us.

A sign-up sheet is located at the Parish Office.

*A non-refundable payment is due at the time of registration*



MOTHER THEODORE GUERIN PARISH  
RESPECT LIFE MINISTRY

## Relive the glory years

Join the **St. Celestine school Alumni Committee.**

Help plan events & activities.

**Attend our first meeting!**

Open to all St. Celestine School Alum's  
Contact Sheila Klich  
[sklich@stcelestineschool.org](mailto:sklich@stcelestineschool.org) with any questions

St. Celestine School  
Sept 23  
7pm



## St. Mother Theodore Guerin Women's Club Annual Coat Drive

- When:** October 11—19
- Where:** St. Cyprian Cry Room  
St. Celestine at the back of church
- What:** Any gently used or new coats, jackets, hats, gloves, and scarves (men's, women's, and children's)
- Who:** Donations will be given to St. Malachy + Precious Blood, our sharing parish
- Why:** To help people who are less fortunate than we are.

Thank you for your generosity!



### WANTED

**TO PLAY BINGO!!**

**NEW SENIOR MEMBERS**

- Meet new friends
- Enjoy coffee and refreshments
- Play BINGO!!

**WHERE:** Hiawatha Park

8029 W. Forest Preserve Dr., Chicago

**WHEN:** Every Thursday 10:am-1pm

Yearly Membership Dues: \$10.00

Weekly Fee: \$3.00

Bingo Cards: 2 for \$1.00

**PLEASE JOIN US!**

## St. Mother Theodore Guerin Parish BINGO NIGHT

*Join us for an evening of fun, concessions, raffles, and cash prizes!*

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 3**

**\$25 TO PLAY**  
8 REGULAR AND  
2 SPECIAL BINGO GAMES

Doors open at 5:30 PM,  
games start at 6:30 PM  
Win \$100 regular games  
\$200 special games

 **3020 NORTH 76<sup>TH</sup> COURT  
ENTER OFF PARKING LOT**

[WWW.STGUERINPARISH.ORG](http://WWW.STGUERINPARISH.ORG)

WE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO  
CHANGE PRIZE AMOUNTS  
BASED ON ATTENDANCE



## 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	Morgan Schlanger
Michael Binder	Robert Kucera	Joseph Serwa
Julie Boyce	Larry Lemanski	Mary Skelly
Edward Bray	James Nasti	Julie Spaargaren
Elene Dimperio	Larry Nestor	Heidi Stringham
Cathy Downing King	Ron Nichols	Brian Swatek
Eleanor	Sr. Louise Noesen	Colleen Schlanger Thomas
Patsy Galecki	Brendan O'Brien	Dorothy Vessini
Tammy Garcia	Carolyn Paprocki	Judy Virgilio
Maciej Gondek	Robert Paprocki	Robert Virnich
Peter Gonzalez	Adrienne Pudlo	Lillian Wardzala
Grace Hensley	Betty Quartello	Jim Waterloo
Karl Humowiecki	Sr. Rita Mae Rabitoy	Jim Wazorick
Renee Iman	Aida Rivera	Sue Weber
Cindy Indurante	Austin Rose	Joshua Wilmes
Kathy Johl	Sarah Rotolo	Tamycka Ortega Zapata
Adele Johnson	Mary Rzepka	
Judy Kaner	Warren Sarbacker	
Lisa Kostrzeski	Kathy Sassolino	

\*recently added

### Faithful Departed

Susan Shotsberger

### 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

## SCRIPTURE SEARCH®

Readings for September 14, 2025

Philippians 2:6-11 / John 6:43-49

Following is a word search based on the Second and Gospel readings for the feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, Cycle C. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

FORM OF GOD  
EMPTIED  
CROSS  
EARTH  
LORD  
RAISE  
BY GOD

EQUALITY  
OBEDIENT  
EXALTED HIM  
TONGUE  
GLORY  
LAST DAY  
BREAD

GRASPED  
DEATH  
HEAVEN  
JESUS  
CAN COME  
TAUGHT  
DESERT

### GOD TEACHES

```

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

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## Parish Weekly Events

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### Wednesday, September 17

6 PM ST CEL Troop Committee Meeting in the Lower Meeting Room

### Thursday, September 18

4 PM ST CEL Food Pantry

### Friday, September 19

6 PM ST CEL Pack Night in the Lunchroom

### Saturday, September 20

9:30 AM ST CEL Religious Education in the School

### Sunday, September 21

Noon ST CEL Confirmation Retreat in the Annex and Gym

## Save the Dates!

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- **Catechetical Sunday** September 21 at 11 AM at St. Celestine
- **OCIA for Teens** begins Tuesday, September 23 at 7 PM at St. Cyprian
- **OCIA for Adults** begins Thursday, September 25 at 7 PM at St. Cyprian
- **Pilgrimage to Notre Dame** September 30 at 7 AM at St. Celestine
- **Bingo** Friday, October 3 at 6:30 PM at St. Celestine
- **Pet Blessings** Saturday, October 4
- **Craft Fair** Sunday, October 26 at 8:30 AM at St. Celestine
- **Parish Dinner Dance** Sunday, May 17, 2026 to celebrate Fr. Paul's 25th anniversary as a priest.

## Secular Franciscan Order

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## Liturgical Ministers

---

### Saturday, September 20

#### 4 PM St. Cyprian

Presider	Fr. Andrew Ezechiugo
Altar Servers	Isaac M. Diego M.
Lector	Beverly Parylak
Eucharistic Ministers	Peg Gurnig Ruben Monterroso

#### 5 PM St. Celestine

Presider	Fr. Paul Cao
Altar Servers	Axel R. Robert O.
Lector	Sylvia Stacey
Eucharistic Ministers	Perlita Domingo Ann Giannini Patricia Rinella Mike Miller Maria Mojek Maryann Dibari Mary Princivalli

### Sunday, September 21

#### 7:30 AM St. Celestine

Presider	Fr. Paul Cao
Altar Servers	Laura G. Griffin G.
Lector	Florence Smith
Eucharistic Ministers	Minnie Reillo Bill Lesch Ken Doyle Michelle Doyle Mary Kay Macchione Larry Skelly

#### 9 AM St. Cyprian

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

#### 11 AM St. Celestine

Presider	Fr. Ron Kalas
Altar Servers	Nickolas F. Macaria T. Amelia H.
Lector	Danny Hesslau
Eucharistic Ministers	Mary Sullivan Lynn Loftus Skip Marcucci Sandra Mazzeffi Kathy Iversen-Jaroch Kim Bartell

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# St. Mother Theodore Guerin Parish

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**St. Celestine Church and Parish Office** 708-453-2555 3020 North 76th Court, Elmwood Park, Illinois 60707  
**St. Cyprian Church** 2601 North Clinton Street, River Grove, Illinois 60171 [stguerinparish.org](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. Eugene Gratkowski**, Pastor Emeritus, St. Cyprian  
**Rev. Fil Ngwila**, **Rev. Stan Ilo**, **Rev. Kenneth Ekekwe**,  
**Fr. 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  
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**Ruthanne Swiatkowski**, Director of Lifelong Faith Formation  
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**Craig Kamptner**, Director of Music Ministry  
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**Kim Hagerty**, Director of Evangelization and Bulletin Editor  
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*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

