

ST. MOTHER THEODORE GUERIN PARISH

September 27, 2026

“GO OUT
AND WORK IN
THE VINEYARD.”

— MATTHEW 21:28 —

TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

©LPi



MISSION STATEMENT: *To do God's will as a unified, vibrant parish by fostering an intentional relationship with Jesus Christ through worship, discipleship, community, witness, and service, all grounded in faithful stewardship of our time, talent, and treasure.*

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

3020 North 76th Court, Elmwood Park, Illinois 60707

708-453-2555 stguerinparish.org

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

MASSSES Monday through Friday 8 AM

Saturday Mass 4:30 PM (Reconciliation 3:30 PM)

Sunday Masses 7:30, 9, and 11 AM

Chapel open daily 8:30 AM to 7 PM Monday through

Thursday, 8:30 AM to 5 PM on Friday,

Saturday 8:30 to 6 PM and Sunday, 7 AM to 1 PM



stguerinparish.org

ST. CELESTINE SCHOOL

3017 North 77th Avenue, Elmwood Park, Illinois 60707

stcelestineschool.org 708-453-8234

Follow Us On

Facebook: St. Mother Theodore Guerin Parish

Instagram: @StGuerinParish

YouTube: Subscribe to Saint Mother Theodore Guerin

Mass Intentions

Saturday, September 26

4:30 PM +Carl and +Rose Rossi
+Nery Rodriguez
Halina and +Henry Nowak
+Sophie and +Walter Sadlowski
+Juan Carlos Lopez
+James E. McCarthy,
Anniversary
+Albert Maggio
+Lorraine Hetland

Sunday, September 27

7:30 AM +Guillermo Arellano
+Jose Dioscoro Balio
+Cara Wilk, 2nd Anniversary
9 AM +Joseph Morgan, Sr.
+Geraldine Lustro
11 AM +Roman and +Anna Romanyuk
+Robert Paprocki
+Angelina Alongi
+Steve Gorney
+Stanley Dziadus
+Frank and +John Kucera

8 AM Monday, September 28
Faithful Departed

8 AM Tuesday, September 29
+Theresa Lassalle, Birthday
+Helen Stypinski, Birthday

8 AM Wednesday, September 30
Thua Family
Thuy Family
Tien Family
Duong Family
Lan's Benefactors

8 AM Thursday, October 1
People of the Parish

8 AM Friday, October 2
+Joan Psak

Saturday, October 3

2:30 PM Miranda Ramos Quinceañera
4:30 PM +Carl and +Rose Rossi
+Nery Rodriguez
+Robert Paprocki
+Carl Braack
+James Z. Hantkiewicz,
Anniversary
+Francisco Simpao, Anniversary

Sunday, October 4

7:30 AM +Bernardino Gesta
The Rompala Family
9 AM Thua Family
Thuy Family
Tien Family
Duong Family
Lan's Benefactors
Joseph Morgan, Sr.
11 AM +Eleanor Masciola
+Angelica Alongi
+Frances R. Campagna
+Helena Golab
+Jozefa Powrozek
+Angeline and +Irving Evertsen
+Roman and +Anna Romanyuk
+Steven Gorney
+John Casimiro Palomino
Peter and Flena Rubalcaba
Timothy and Gayane Rubalcaba

Liturgical Ministers

Saturday, October 3

4:30 PM
Servers TBA
Lector Joanne Bieschke
E. M. Barbara Miller
Peggy O'Donnell
Anne Petras
Patricia Rinella
Tom Lepore
Carol Gutkowski

Sunday, October 4

7:30 AM
Servers TBA
Lector Tina Krzysko
E. M. Minnie Reillo
Bill Lesch
Joanne Koziol
Ken Doyle
Mary Kay Macchione
Michelle Doyle

9 AM
Servers TBA
Lector Betty Blonski
E. M. Mary Joost
Danny LaCour
Grisel Lopez
Mary Graf
Doti Geringer
Michael Wittrock
Lynn Loftus

11 AM
Servers TBA
Lector Gissell Araujo
E. M. Ester Lingo
Kim Bartell
Sheila Klich
Ray Maraviglia
Paulette Maraviglia
Kathy Iversen-Jaroch

Parish Weekly Events

Sunday, September 27

9:45 AM Scout Leaders in the Lower Meeting Room
11 AM Scout Mass
Confirmation Retreat in the Church, Gym, and Annex
4 PM Troop 45703 in the Lunchroom

Monday, September 28

4 PM Athletics in the Gym
6:30 PM Lectio Divina with Danny Hesslau in the Chapel
7 PM Athletic Committee in the Lower Meeting Room

Tuesday, September 29

4 PM Volleyball in the Gym
7 PM Mother of Perpetual Help Devotion in the Chapel
Teen OCIA in the Staff Room

Wednesday, September 30

4 PM Athletics in the Gym
6:30 PM Fr. Stan's Book and Bible Study in the Fireside Room

Thursday, October 1

4:30 PM Troop 47943 in the Annex
6:30 PM Boy Scouts Committee in the Lower Meeting Room
7 PM OCIA in the Staff Room

Friday, October 2

3 PM Divine Mercy Holy Hour in the Chapel and Church
4 PM Extended Adoration in the Chapel and Church
6 PM Confession available
7 PM Benediction in the Church

Saturday, October 3

10 AM Special Religious Education in the Gym and Annex
12 PM Pet Blessing in Front of the Church on 76th Court
5 PM Men's Club Open Gym

Sunday, October 4

11 AM Family Mass
Noon Mass and Mingle in the Gym and Annex

Bulletin Deadlines

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

October 11 is due on Wednesday, September 30 at 9 AM

October 18 is due on Wednesday, October 7 at 9 AM

October 25 is due on Wednesday, October 14 at 9 AM

From the Administrator's Desk: Fr. Ton Nguyen



What Is the One Thing?

Brothers and sisters, St. Paul writes, “If there is any encouragement in Christ, any solace in love, any participation in the Spirit, any compassion and mercy,” then “complete my joy by being of the same mind, with the same love, united in heart, thinking one thing.” I love St. Paul! What is the one thing? Actually, it is not really a thing—it is a Person: Jesus Christ. He humbled Himself to become one of us, laid down His life on the Cross, and was exalted so that, with one voice, we may confess: Jesus Christ is Lord! Amen? **Amen indeed!** Then, in this Sunday’s Gospel, Jesus tells the story of two sons responding to their father’s invitation. One says yes but does nothing; the other initially says no but eventually goes. Friends, actions speak louder than words. Oh Yesh!!! Don’t cling to past regrets. Just take the opportunity to become Saints.

After studying our parish survey and having many wonderful conversations—including our Fireside Chats with Your Priests—I am thrilled to share some opportunities for us to grow together. Some are returning; others are new. But they all point us toward the one thing that matters: growing closer to Jesus.

Need some quiet time to listen to Him? Beginning in October, First Friday Adoration will be extended until 7 PM in

the chapel. A priest will also be available for Confession from 6–7 PM. Don’t let your sins weigh you down. Bring them to Confession, get them off your chest, and let God’s mercy lift you up! Do priests go to confession? Yes, I personally try to go once a month. To whom? Another priest, of course!

Our chapel hours Monday through Thursday will also be extended until 7 PM for those finishing work after 5 PM. Stop by and say hello to Jesus. Sometimes the one thing we need most is simply to sit with Him.

Want to know your parish family better? Beginning in October, every first Sunday of the month we will have Mass and Mingle after the 11 AM Mass—coffee, cake, donuts, conversation in the Annex and children can play in the gym. Many of you asked for more opportunities for fellowship. Well... ask and you shall receive, right? Our Fireside Chats with Your Priests will also continue as another opportunity for conversation and community building.

During the week, look for our Midweek Moment, a short Wednesday reflection on our parish YouTube channel to help us slow down, recognize God’s presence, and pray together. We also have Lectio Divina, Bible Study, and many other ministries and small groups. Check the bulletin and parish website and find

a place to begin. Do I listen to your comments and feedback? Well... I hope this list is evidence!

But remember: these are not simply more activities to keep us busy. Adoration, Confession, fellowship, Scripture, and small groups all lead us toward one thing, one purpose, one Person: Jesus Christ. Community is a gift. May we embrace that gift joyfully and help one another keep Christ at the center. I love being a priest, and I love being here.

JMJ,
Fr Ton Nguyen

(Pictured on the left: The Lis Family has helped run the Polish booth at the Parish Taste for many years and this year Fr. Ton tried their food!)

Midweek Moment



Fr. Ton will be posting a Midweek Moment each Wednesday on our YouTube channel, Saint Mother Theodore Guerin. You can view it on Facebook, on our website, or on YouTube.



Midweek Moment

St. Mother Theodore Guerin Parish

St. Celestine Church and Parish Office **708-453-2555**
3020 North 76th Court, Elmwood Park, Illinois 60707
stguerinparish.org

Rev. Ton Nguyen, Administrator x5029
tnguyen@stguerinparish.org
Rev. Paul Eruva, Associate Pastor x5030
peruva@archchicago.org
Rev. Fil Ngwila, Rev. Stan Ilo, Priests-in-Residence
Deacon Michael DeLarco x5031
mdelarco@archchicago.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

Laurie DePillo, Business Manager x5015
lauriedepillo@stguerinparish.org
Lynn Schmidt, Administrative Assistant x5010
lschmidt@stguerinparish.org
Andrea Mayer, Receptionist/Assistant x5010
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Ruthanne Swiatkowski, Director of Lifelong Faith
Formation x5017
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Craig Kamptner, Director of Music Ministry x5016
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Kim Hagerty, Director of Evangelization, Bulletin Editor
khagerty@stguerinparish.org x5012
Eric Mueller and Bob Vessini, Maintenance

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

Lois DeFelice, Ministry of Care
loisdefelice@gmail.com

Michelle Doyle, Food Pantry
mdoyle@stcelestineschool.org. Open 4—6
PM two Thursdays a month. Check
Weekly Events or website for dates.

Baptisms and Baptism Preparation Classes: Contact
Ruthanne Swiatkowski, x5017. Baptisms
are at 12:30 PM on the 2nd and 4th
Sundays of the month. Class held on the 1st
Wednesday of each month at 7 PM.

Masses, Reconciliation, Chapel hours: see cover.

Weddings: Please call a year in advance of preferred
date and talk to Deacon Mike DeLarco
before a wedding date can be reserved.
Participation in marriage preparation is
essential.

Holy Hour: First Friday of each month at 3 PM

Extended Adoration: First Friday of the month from 4
to 7 PM with Confession available from 6 to
7 PM

Mother of Perpetual Help Devotional Tuesdays at 7
PM in the Chapel.

Rosary: Second Wednesday of the month at 7 PM in
the chapel and after the morning masses.

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

**Weekly Scripture**

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time / September 27, 2026

First Reading:

But if he turns from the wickedness he has committed, he does what is right and just, he shall preserve his life. (Ez 18:27)

Psalms:

Remember your mercies, O Lord. (Ps 25)

Second Reading:

That at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, of those in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. (Phil 2:10-11)

Gospel:

Jesus said to them, "Amen, I say to you, tax collectors and prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God before you." (Mt 21:31)

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.

WEEKLY READINGS for the week of September 27, 2026

Sunday: Ez 18:25-28/Ps 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9/Phil 2:1-11 or 2:1-5/Mt 21:28-32

Monday: Jb 1:6-22/Ps 17:1bcd, 2-3, 6-7/Lk 9:46-50

Tuesday: Dn 7:9-10, 13-14 or Rv 12:7-12ab/Ps 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 4-5/Jn 1:47-51

Wednesday: Jb 9:1-12, 14-16/Ps 88:10bc-11, 12-13, 14-15/Lk 9:57-62

Thursday: Jb 19:21-27/Ps 27:7-8a, 8b-9abc, 13-14/Lk 10:1-12

Friday: Jb 38:1, 12-21; 40:3-5/Ps 139:1-3, 7-8, 9-10, 13-14ab/Mt 18:1-5, 10

Saturday: Jb 42:1-3, 5-6, 12-17/Ps 119:66, 71, 75, 91, 125, 130/Lk 10:17-24

Next Sunday: Is 5:1-7/Ps 80:9 and 12, 13-14, 15-16, 19-20/Phil 4:6-9/Mt 21:33-43

Observances for the week of September 20, 2026

Sunday: 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time; Priesthood Sunday

Monday: St. Wenceslaus, Martyr; St. Lawrence Ruiz and Companions, Martyrs

Tuesday: Sts. Michael, Gabriel and Raphael, Archangels

Wednesday: St. Jerome, Priest and Doctor of the Church

Thursday: St. Thérèse of the Child Jesus, Virgin and Doctor of the Church

Friday: The Holy Guardian Angels

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO



Office of the Archbishop
835 North Rush Street
Chicago, IL 60611-2030
312.534.8230
archchicago.org

Dear Parishioners and Catholic School Families,

As our children head back to the classrooms, I am writing to you about a significant opportunity to find additional funds to both public and nonpublic schools in our state. Congress passed a new federal tax credit program for 2027 that could generate hundreds of millions of additional dollars for both public and nonpublic school students in Illinois. For Illinois to participate in the program, Governor Pritzker must opt in.

As an advocate not only for Catholic education, but also for the education of all Illinois children, I ask that you contact the Governor to ask him say "yes" to this program. It will give Illinois taxpayers the choice to contribute to programs that will help all children in our state and receive a federal tax credit for their donation. These funds are truly needed. They could help Catholic school families cover tuition, after-school programming, supplies, technology or other much needed items. Donations could also be directed to support programming and other needs for public school students and their families. It could benefit just about every child and every school in our state.

If Governor Pritzker does not opt in, you can still donate to programs such as this, but to receive the tax credit, you will need to donate to a school program in another state. Recent polling suggests that in one year, as much as \$2 billion could be generated to boost education programming in our state. According to that same poll, if Illinois does not opt in, Illinois taxpayers may send as much as \$1 billion for educational services in other states.

The program allows taxpayers a 100% federal tax credit for contributions up to \$1,700. Any family earning up to 300% of the regional median income may qualify for scholarship assistance. This means more than 90% of all K-12 students would be eligible for support in Illinois.

According to our polling data, Illinois taxpayers will contribute to the program regardless of whether Illinois opts in or not. Shouldn't Illinois dollars benefit Illinois school children?

Please visit <https://www.ilcatholic.org/federal-scholarship-tax-credit-program/> for more information and to learn how to send a message to the Governor and ask him to opt-in to the Federal Scholarship Tax Credit. You can also call the Governor's office directly at 217.782.6830.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Monseigneur Cardinal Cyprien
Archbishop of Chicago

OPT IN FOR OUR KIDS

Stronger Together. **Better for Illinois.**

A federal tax credit scholarship program for K-12 Education

- **Benefits ALL types of schools.** Can add up to almost \$2 billion in new resources to public and private schools. **It doesn't take from existing funding.**
- **Supported by Illinoisans.** Nearly 7 in 10 Illinoisans support opting into this program.
- **Keeps Illinois dollars here.** If Illinois doesn't opt in, it has been reported that people will donate up to \$1 billion to schools in other states to receive the tax credit.
- **Opportunity** for public and private school families to work together for a common goal – **to support ILLINOIS kids.**



It's a tax credit. It's voluntary. It's popular. It works.

HOW IT WORKS

- Taxpayer contributes to a scholarship granting organization which uses the funds to support scholarships for K-12 students.
- Taxpayer receives tax credit for their donation.

WHO BENEFITS

- Students from ALL backgrounds
- Kids in public, private and faith-based schools.

Call Governor Pritzker today!

Tell him: **OPT in for Illinois KIDS!** Call **217.782.6830**
or visit gov.illinois.gov/contact-us/voice-an-opinion.html



Learn more about the Federal Scholarship Tax Credit and how it helps Illinois families.



Catholic Conference
of Illinois

Holy Hour and Extended Adoration October 2



A Divine Mercy Holy Hour will take place at St. Celestine Church on Friday, October 2 at 3 PM. A Divine Mercy Holy Hour takes place on the first Friday of each month at St. Celestine Church. Included are the Divine Mercy prayers, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, and time for quiet Adoration.

Adoration will be extended until 7 PM now on First Fridays and everyone is invited to stop in any time

and be in the presence of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. If you would like to go to Confession, there will be a priest available from 6 to 7 PM. We will close with Benediction.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

FIRST FRIDAY

October 2

3pm - 4pm: Divine Mercy, Rosary and Scripture Reflection.

4pm-7pm: Silent Prayer

6pm-7pm: Confession Available.

7pm: Benediction

St. Mother Theodore Guerin Chapel
3020 N 76th Ct, Elmwood Park, IL 60707

"Come to me, all of you who are weary and loaded down with burdens, and I will give you rest."
Mt. 11: 28.

Finding Hope in the Shadow of the Cross

A 4 Week Catholic Bereavement Journey

If you are mourning the loss of a loved one—whether your loss is recent or from years past—you do not have to walk this path alone. Join our parish community for a sacred journey of healing, prayer, and mutual support rooted in our Catholic faith.

Event Details

- Led by Fr. Paul Eruva
- Mondays from 6—7:30 PM
- All four Mondays in October (October 5, 12, 19, and 26, 2026)
- Fireside Room

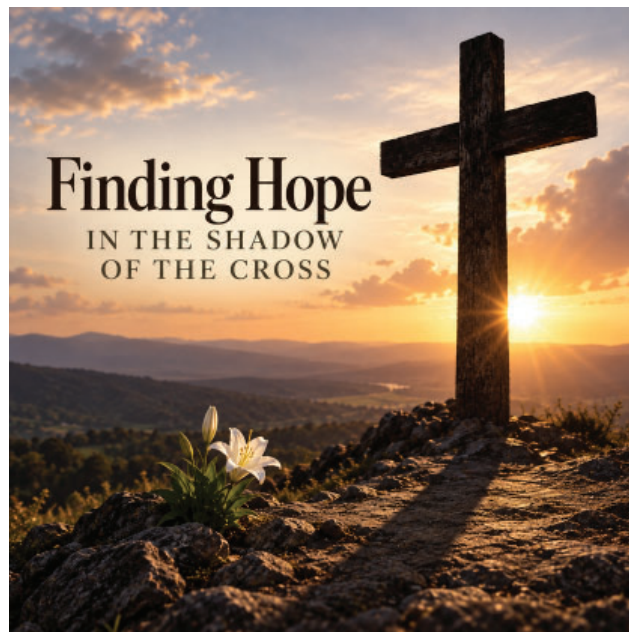
Our purpose

Grief can feel like a heavy cross to carry. The purpose of these sessions is to provide a safe, prayerful space to acknowledge your pain, find comfort in scripture, and discover hope through the Resurrection and the Communion of Saints. Guided by Fr. Paul Eruva, each evening will feature

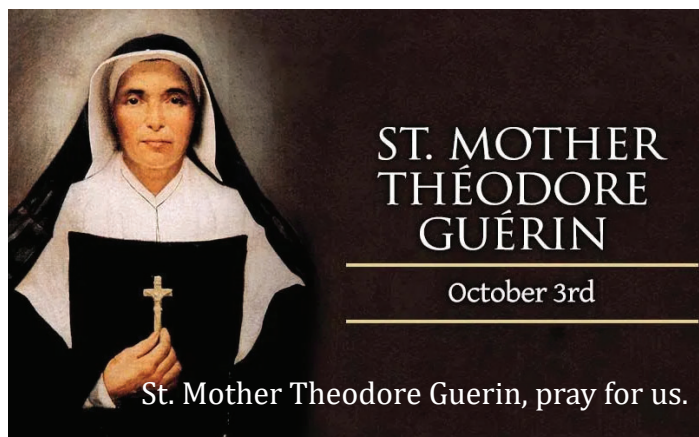
- Moving spiritual reflections.
- Scripture and community prayer.
- Shared discussion and practical tools for navigating life's "new normal."

Weekly Session Themes

- **October 5:** *The Weight of the Cross: Acknowledging Our Grief*
- **October 12:** *The Tomb and the Silence—Navigating Difficult Emotions*
- **October 19:** *The Resurrection and Our Hope—The Communion of Saints*
- **October 26:** *Emmaus and the Road Ahead—Moving Forward in Faith*



"Blessed are they who mourn, for they shall be comforted." —Matthew 5:4 All are welcome. Registration is free but appreciated for material planning. To RSVP or for questions, please contact the parish office at 708-453-2555 or email peruva@archchicago.org.



Pray with Pope Leo

The "Pray with the Pope" Campaign fosters a deeper spiritual communion through digital connection and shared, contemplative prayer.

October: For mental health ministry

Let us pray that the mental health ministry be established throughout the Church, helping to overcome the stigma and discrimination of persons with mental illnesses.

Lectio Divina: Listening to the Voice of Christ

Have you ever wished you could pray more deeply with Sacred Scripture or better recognize God's voice in your daily life?

Join us for Lectio Divina: Listening to the Voice of Christ, a weekly hour of prayer centered on the living Word of God. Through a simple and guided format, we will slowly read Scripture, spend time in silent prayer and reflect together on how the Lord is speaking to each of us through His Word.

No prior Bible study experience is necessary. Whether you are opening the Bible for the first time or have prayed with Scripture for years ... all are welcome to join.

This ministry is facilitated by Danny Hesslau, parish deacon candidate, who is currently in formation for the diaconate. Together we will learn and grow in one of the Church's oldest and richest traditions of prayer. You are welcome to join at any session.

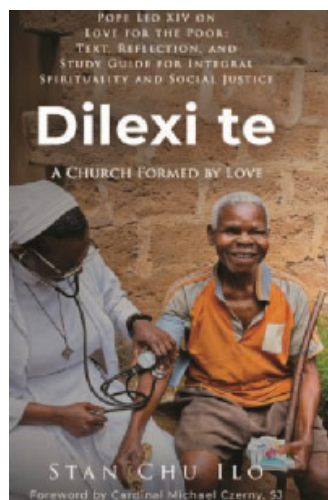
When: September 28 and October 5 at 6:30 PM

Where: Chapel

Bring: A Bible (*New American Bible Revised Edition* preferred), if you have one.

"Indeed, the word of God is living and effective." Hebrews 4:12

New Dates to Study with Fr. Stan Ilo



Fr. Stan has to change some of the dates for the study of the Pope's apostolic exhortation, *Dilexe te: (I Have Loved You)* as he has been called to Rome for October. We will be continuing our study of his book in November, on Wednesdays, November 4, 11, and 19 at 6:30 PM in the Fireside Room.

Most of us have no idea what an apostolic exhortation is, and often magisterial documents are read only by theologians or clergy, while the laity remain untouched by their

transformative potential. Father Stan says that *Dilexi te* belongs to the whole People of God, that it is not a document for the shelves of seminaries but for the hearts of believers.

He should know, because he wrote the official commentary for the Vatican. We will read Fr. Stan's book, *Dilexe te: A Church Formed by Love* which contains the full text of the Exhortation and a biblical study and guide for a parish group.



We celebrated the feast of St. Cyprian on September 16.

Fireside Chats with Your Priests

Come. Share. Listen. Dream Together.

As I continue getting to know St. Mother Theodore Guerin Parish, I would like the opportunity to get to know you and hear your story. Join us for a small, informal evening at the rectory to share faith, build relationships, and talk about our hopes for the future of our parish.



Fireside Chats

Our Conversation:

- Get to Know One Another — Share your story and what you love about our parish.
- Listen—What are your hopes and dreams for our parish?
- Share Faith—Where is Christ present in your life, and how can our parish help you grow?
- Look Ahead—What would we like our parish to look like in three years?
- Take the Next Step—How can we grow together as disciples who make disciples?

What to Expect

Eight parishioners + our priests • informal conversation.

This is not a meeting, class, or presentation—just an opportunity to sit together, listen, share, and get to know one another.

- Time: 6:30–8 PM
- Location: Parish Rectory, 3005 N. 76th Ct., Elmwood Park
- Choose a Date and Sign Up: Scan the QR code above to choose a Fireside Chat evening, go to the website stguerinparish.org, or call the parish office.

Space is limited to 8 parishioners per evening so everyone has an opportunity to share. Everyone Has a Story. I Would Love to Hear Yours.

Dates: October 14, October 22, October 29

JMJ,
Fr. Ton

Women's Club Coat Drive



When: October 3-4 and 10-11
Where: St. Celestine at the back of church before or after Mass
What: Any gently used or new coats, jackets, hats, gloves, and scarves (men's, women's, and children's), it would be helpful if they are put in a plastic garbage-sized bag.
Who: Donations will be given to Blessed Maria Gabriella, our sharing parish.

Thank you for your generosity!



4TH ANNUAL FUNDRAISER



**Saturday,
October 10, 2026**



1:00-5:00 PM



**Moose-River Park
8601 W. Fullerton Ave.,
River Grove, IL 60171**



Raffle Baskets • Split-the-Pot • Silent Auction • Great Prizes

* Admission: **\$10** for ages 6 and older • Children 5 and under are free *



Appetizers & Entertainment Included



Supporting adults with
developmental disabilities



Serving our community
since 1952

More information: 708-456-8407

Proceeds benefit LRCA Special Needs Workshop



Thank you to our Taste Sponsors!

We are so grateful to our sponsors who helped to make the Parish Taste a successful fundraiser. Thank you to all volunteers and for those who attended, too.

- Jamie Birmingham
- Vena/Santelli Family
- Li Hing Restaurant
- Holy Child Jesus Parish
- Village Auto and Towing
- The Maraviglia Family
- Maria Mojek
- Debbie and Rich Jankowicz
- The Marcucci Family
- Bill Zielinski
- Betty Blonski
- Peggy O'Donnell

**THANK
YOU!**



Join Us
for the

Fall! CRAFT FAIR

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25

8:30 AM TO 2 PM

*Rake in some
early Christmas Gifts!*

A variety of Crafters will be in the gym

Free Admission! Enter the Raffle for Crafters' Donation

Entry - **ANNEX DOOR** located through the Parking Lot
 LOCATION - 3020 N 76th Court • Elmwood Park

Proceeds to benefit the various programs at St Mother Guerin Parish

ST. MOTHER GUERIN PARISH - ST. CELESTINE CHURCH GYM & ANNEX

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.

Michael Binder, Edward Bray, Sue Brink, Tom Busleta, *Ginny Cizek, Mary Coronado, Ellison Deehr, Elene Dimperio, Michael Garcia, Tammy Garcia, Maciej Gondek, Dorota Gondek, Thomas Gruber, Grace Hensley, Rachel Hindery, Mark Hroma, Kathryn Knipp, Kathy Johl, Adele Johnson, Juliette Jimenez, Lisa Kostrzeski, Robert Kucera, Kathy Mizejewski, George Moskaliuk, Sandra Moskaliuk, Efrem Munoz, Martha Munoz, Ron Nichols, Gregory Olsen, Carolyn Paprocki, Gerard Palattao, Elliot Perez, Barbara Rodgers, Kathy Sassolino, Morgan Schlanger, Joseph Serwa, John Sheahan, Mary Skelly, Michele Soronto, Sue, Colleen Schlanger, Thomas, Jeffrey Tomek, Judy Virgilio, Clarence Wagner, Lillian Wardzala, Jim Wazorick, Danyll Wolcotte, Ron Zalesny

*recently added

Faithful Departed

Diana Ochoa, Sharon Del Medico

Military

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 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

Secular Franciscan Order

"The Mass has ended, go in peace to love and serve the Lord." How do we do that? Since 1959, members of the St. Juliana Fraternity of the Secular Franciscan Order have sought to follow the spirit of St. Francis of Assisi by "going from Gospel to life and from life to Gospel." If following the Rule of St. Francis might interest you, the SFO fraternity at St. Juliana meets once each month. For more information or just to visit, please contact Bob Mitchell at robertpmitchell1@gmail.com.

SCRIPTURE SEARCH®

Gospel for September 27, 2026

Ezekiel 18: 25-28 / Matthew 21:28-32

Following is a word search based on the First and Gospel readings for the Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle A: turning your life around. Words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

HEAR NOW	OF ISRAEL	COMMIT
INIQUITY	WICKEDNESS	RIGHT
LIFE	LIVE	YOUR WAYS
A MAN	TWO SONS	THE FIRST
SON GO	WORK	VINEYARD
I WILL NOT	CHANGED	HIS MIND
DID NOT GO	COLLECTORS	CHANGE

TO GO OR NOT

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

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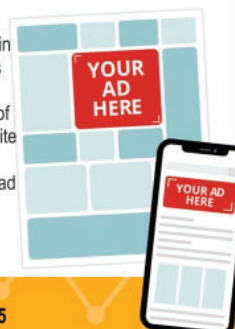
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Stewardship

Sunday, September 13, 2026

Weekly Budget \$8,610.00

Total Weekly Giving: \$6,948.00

Weekly Budget **Deficit** or Overage: **\$1,662.00**

Sunday Giving FY 2027 (July 1—September 13, 2026)

Fiscal Year to Date: **\$96,005.00**

Year-to-date numbers may vary from the total published in the weekly bulletin due to variations in the dates of turning in envelopes, e-giving, and NSF checks.

Thank you for your generosity in supporting our parish.

Well, not anymore. A parishioner approached Fr. Ton and offered to sponsor the renovation of the basement so that we could have a more welcoming meeting space. Together with the wonderful work of our Men's Club, the project is almost completed. Many thanks to generous hearts and helping hands!

Second Floor of the Pastoral Center

The carpet on the second floor has been bubbling up for many years and has become a tripping hazard. We are removing the old carpet and replacing it with vinyl flooring to make the area safer and easier to maintain. We certainly don't want to see Fr. Paul—or anyone else—walking around on crutches!

Steps at the Wellington Church Entrance

We noticed that portions of the concrete steps at the Wellington entrance are beginning to deteriorate. Our maintenance team is working on repairs.

Walls near the 76th Church Entrance

The two walls near the Memorial Garden are also beginning to deteriorate. We are currently working on plans to address and repair them.

We hope these updates help us remain as transparent as possible about how we are caring for our parish facilities. Stewardship is not only about what we give; it is about caring well for the gifts God has already entrusted to us. Thank you for your generosity, your prayers, and your continued care for our parish family.

JMJ, Fr. Ton

Seeing with the Heart – Parish Project Updates

As part of our commitment to good stewardship and transparency, here are a few updates on projects around our parish. Your generosity helps us care for the places where we worship, gather, and grow together as a parish family.

Pastoral Center/Parish Office Basement

Some have affectionately described the staircase leading to the basement as the “staircase of death” leading into a dark room!

Parish Staff Spotlight: Maintenance Engineer Bob Vessini

Our office staff consists of a wide range of people, from 4 foot 11 Andrea Mayer all the way to 6 foot 4 Bob “Mr. Bob” Vessini. If you live in Elmwood Park, attended St. Celestine School, were dropped off at St. Celestine School, or came to any parish events, you’ve probably met Bob, a friendly, kind, generous, and helpful man.



Bob grew up in Elmwood Park with his two sisters and late brother. His parents, Dorothy and Ernie Vessini, actually met in the school lunchroom when it used to be rented out for wedding receptions. The Vessinis were very involved in the parish, and Bob graduated from St. Celestine in 1982 where he was a scout, an altar server, and a basketball

player. He graduated from Holy Cross High School in River Grove and Western Illinois University in Macomb. Bob lived in Springfield for nearly 17 years where he worked as a disc jockey on a morning rock and roll radio station. He enjoyed interviewing

actors and musicians during his time there. He was named by the *Illinois Times* as one of the best local morning radio personalities. Bob was also part of a morning drive show where he was known as “Barstool Bob,” and has a lot of interesting stories about those times.



Bob returned to our area and began working for St. Celestine in 2013. Some of the Pastoral Staff have noticed that Bob has a signature style, and that his shirts usually match his shoes (see the pictures from the church and Taste for our evidence).

Bob says his favorite part of working at the parish is that his life has come full circle and he's back where he came from. The kids at school are fun and breathe a lot of life into the parish. His son Dominick works in government and is a great joy to him. He was very proud when Dom graduated from college and Bob is looking forward to having a daughter-in-law, Karina.

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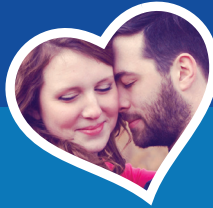
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