

ST. MOTHER THEODORE GUERIN PARISH

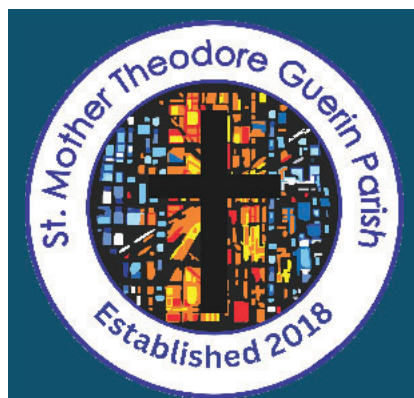
September 6, 2026

23rd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"If your brother sins
against you, go and tell
him his fault between
you and him alone.
If he listens to you,
you have won over
your brother."
- Mt 18:15

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

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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,
stewardship, and
community."*

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.

MASSES 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 5 PM

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

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Mass Intentions

Saturday, September 5

4:30 PM +Carl and +Rose Rossi
+Robert Paprocki
+Arnold and +Catherine
Carlstrom, Anniversary
+Nery Rodriguez

Sunday, September 6

7:30 AM People of the Parish
9 AM +Judy Iovinelli
+Joseph Morgan, Sr.
+Patricia Havlicek
11 AM +Roman and +Anna Romanyuk
+Joe Geringer
+Laverne Dunaway
+Raymond Dunaway
+Elizabeth Stemper
+Angelina Alongi
+Helena Golab
+Jozefa Powrozek
David and Dana Marquez, 20th
Wedding Anniversary

9 AM **Monday, September 7**
+Richard Robertson, Birthday
+Paul Lowrey, 1st Anniversary

8 AM **Tuesday, September 8**
Karen Sala, Birthday

8 AM **Wednesday, September 9**
Faithful Departed

8 AM **Thursday, September 10**
People of the Parish

8 AM **Friday, September 11**
+Fr. Bernard White

Saturday, September 12

4:30 PM +Carl and +Rose Rossi
+Nery Rodriguez
+Philip Wolcott
+Ruth Monfils
+Joseph and +Bette Wesol
+Louis and +Juliana DaPrato and
the deceased members of the
DaPrato family
+Barbara Zagotta, Birthday
+Dominic Bartoli

Bulletin Deadlines

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

September 20 is due on Wednesday,
September 9 at 9 AM

September 27 is due on Wednesday,
September 16 at 9 AM

Sunday, September 13

7:30 AM People of the Parish
9 AM +Andhiriyas Eruva
+Joseph Morgan, Sr.
11 AM +Roman and +Anna Romanyuk
+Francis Lester Rubalcaba
+Robert Paprocki
+Richard and +Carol Ritter
+Stanislawa Olszanska,
Anniversary
+Wlodzimierz Olszanski,
Anniversary
+Maria Klos
+Natalia Zygmunt

Liturgical Ministers

Saturday, September 12

4:30 PM
Presider Fr. Ton Nguyen
Servers Robert O., Isaac M.,
Diego M., Christian C.
Lector Nick Kaspar
Eucharistic Min. Pat Strabley, Anna
Petras, Bob Broz, Ruben
Monterroso, Tom
Lepore, Patricia Rinella

Sunday, September 13

7:30 AM
Presider Fr. Paul Eruva
Servers Evan V., Elijah V.,
Peighton V., Joseph K.
Lector Brad Wdowiak
Eucharistic Min. Bill Lesch, Joanne
Koziol, Maria Mojek,
Ken Doyle, Mary Kay
Macchione, Michelle
Doyle

9 AM
Presider Fr. Paul Eruva
Servers Nickolas F., Henry V.,
Mary V.
Lector Sandro Valdez
Eucharistic Min. Mary Graf, Daniel
LaCour, John Madden,
Grisel Lopez, Mary
Principalli, Michael
Wittrock

11 AM
Presider Fr. Ton Nguyen
Servers Lucas R., Amelia H.,
Sarah P., Macaria T.,
Lorenzo T.
Lectors Danny Hesslau
Eucharistic Min. Greg Derlacki, Charlie
Roy, Lena Roy, Sandra
Mazzeffi, Ray
Maraviglia, Paulette
Maraviglia

Parish Weekly Events

Monday, September 7

Office Closed
9 AM Labor Day Mass

Tuesday, September 8

7 PM Mother of Perpetual
Help Devotion in the
Chapel
7 PM Knights of Columbus in
the Annex

Wednesday, September 9

4 PM Athletics in the Gym
6:30 PM Fr. Stan Book and Bible
Study in Fireside Room
7 PM Rosary in the Chapel

Thursday, September 10

5 PM Troop 47362 in the
Annex
5:30 PM Troop 47857 in the
Lower Meeting Room
6:30 PM Good Grief in the Staff
Room

Saturday, September 12

4—9 PM Taste of St. Guerin in the
Parking Lot, Annex, and
Gym
4:30 PM Grandparents Blessing
at Mass

Sunday, September 13

All Masses Grandparents Blessing
11 AM Athletics Mass and
Blessing

Save the Dates

- Wednesday, September 9: 6:30 PM
Fr. Stan Book and Bible Study in the
Fireside Room
- Thursday, September 10; **Fireside
Chats** Begin (sign up online)
- Saturday, September 12 4—9 PM
Parish Taste
- Saturday and Sunday, September
12—13 **Grandparents Blessings** at all
Masses
- Sunday, September 13 2:30 PM at
Holy Name Cathedral: **Archdiocesan
Golden Wedding Anniversary Mass**
- Monday, September 14 6:30 PM in
the Chapel **Lectio Divina**
- Thursday, September 17: 7 PM
Women's Club meeting
- Saturday, September 19: **Religious Ed**
begins
- Sunday, September 20: **Catechetical
Sunday**
- Friday, October 2: 3 PM **Divine Mercy
Holy Hour** followed by extended
adoration and confession
- Saturday, October 3: Noon St. Francis
Pet Blessing

St. Mother Theodore Guerin Parish

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

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tnguyen@stguerinparish.org
Rev. Paul Eruva, Associate Pastor x5030
peruva@archchicago.org
Rev. Eugene Gratkowski, Pastor Emeritus, St. Cyprian
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

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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 and Reconciliation: 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

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

From the Administrator's Desk: Fr Ton Nguyen**What Is Your Heart Searching For?**

Having a disposable income, a young man enjoyed the good life. He wanted the finest clothes, cared a lot about making a good appearance, loved parties, and enjoyed being with friends. He was popular and ambitious. From the outside, his life seemed to be going very well. And yet, in the middle of all this, he experienced a deep emptiness.

He began asking himself, "Everything seems to be going well. Why, then, do I still feel this way inside? What is missing? What is my heart really searching for?" He could have ignored those questions but he wanted to know. One day, when a mysterious dream stirred something within him, the young man began making more time for prayer. He wanted to know who God was and what God wanted from him. So, he started going away to a cave to pray. What? I know right? Think about the contrast. This young man, who had been surrounded by friends, parties, noise, and entertainment, now found himself alone in silence before God.

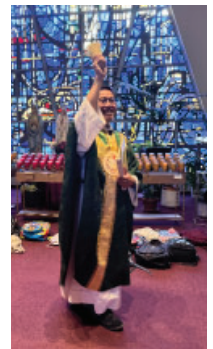
And something began to change. In silence, God gradually transformed his heart, leading him from possessions, popularity, and pleasure into friendship with the Crucified and Risen Lord. His conversion did not happen overnight. God patiently led him, little by little.

Then came another amazing turning point. While riding through the countryside, he encountered a leper. Although repelled by the sight and smell, he got down from his horse, approached the man, and offered him the kiss of peace. When the embrace was returned, Francis was filled with an inexpressible joy—and what had once seemed unbearable became, as it were, a sweet fragrance of grace. In the leper, Francis encountered Jesus. Friends, an authentic encounter with Jesus changes us forever. Later, praying before the crucifix at San Damiano, he heard Christ say, "Rebuild my Church." Francis first repaired the building stone by stone, but gradually understood a greater mission: renewing the Church through the Gospel. By now, perhaps you know this young man. That fashionable, party-loving, ambitious, and restless young man was St. Francis of Assisi.

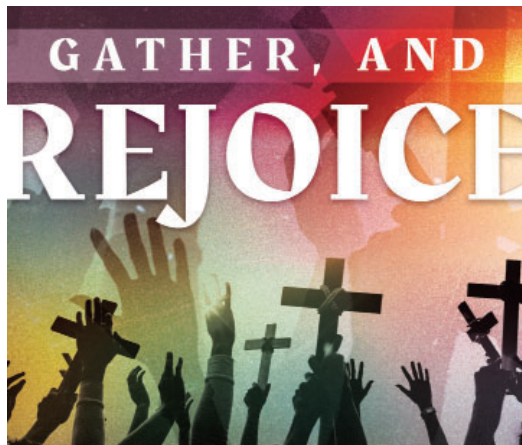
At the heart of Francis' conversion was not simply giving up money, nice clothes, or parties. He discovered Someone greater. He encountered the unconditional love of God revealed in Jesus Christ. The emptiness he once tried to escape became the very place where God began speaking to his heart. Perhaps Francis' story invites us to ask: What is my heart really searching for? What emptiness, restlessness, or desire within me might actually be an invitation from God?

As we approach the 800th anniversary of the death of St. Francis, I hope that in the coming months we can walk in his footsteps together—not simply learning about Francis, but allowing his journey to help us encounter Christ more deeply. Friends, "If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts."

I love being a priest.



JMJ,
Fr. Ton Nguyen



Worship and Meditation

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time September 6, 2026

SUNDAY'S READINGS

First Reading:

But if you warn the wicked,
trying to turn him from his way,
and he refuses to turn from his way,
he shall die for his guilt,
but you shall save yourself. (Ez 33:9)

Psalm:

If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts. (Ps 95)

Second Reading:

Owe nothing to anyone, except to love one another;
for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law.
(Rom 13:8)

Gospel:

Amen, I say to you,
whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven,
and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in
heaven. (Mt 18:18)

*Excerpts from the
Lectionary for Mass
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CCD. The English
translation of Psalm
Responses from
Lectionary for Mass
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sion on English in the
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FOOD PANTRY

... Please Donate

Needed: non-perishables;
soup, vegetables, tuna,
pasta, sauce, oil, cake
mixes, peanut butter,
grains, cereal....

**DROP OFF AT THE PARISH OFFICE OR
BRING TO THE TASTE!**

WEEKLY READINGS AND OBSERVANCES

Readings for the week of September 6, 2026

Sunday: Ez 33:7-9/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7b, 7c-9/Rom 13:8-10/Mt 18:15-20
Monday: 1 Cor 5:1-8/Ps 5:5-6, 7, 12/Lk 6:6-11
Tuesday: Mi 5:1-4a or Rom 8:28-30/Ps 13:6ab, 6c/Mt 1:1-16, 18-23 or 1:18-23
Wednesday: 1 Cor 7:25-31/Ps 45:11-12, 14-15, 16-17/Lk 6:20-26
Thursday: 1 Cor 8:1b-7, 11-13/Ps 139:1b-3, 13-14ab, 23-24/Lk 6:27-38
Friday: 1 Cor 9:16-19, 22b-27/Ps 84:3, 4, 5-6, 12/Lk 6:39-42
Saturday: 1 Cor 10:14-22/Ps 116:12-13, 17-18/Lk 6:43-49
Next Sunday: Sir 27:30-28:7/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 9-10, 11-12/Rom 14:7-9/Mt 18:21-35



Observances for the week of September 6, 2026

Sunday: 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
Monday: Labor Day
Tuesday: The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Wednesday: St. Peter Claver, Priest
Friday: Patriot Day
Saturday: The Most Holy Name of Mary
Next Sunday: 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time; Grandparents Day



Liturgical Life

(Practicing) Catholic: Recognize God in Your Ordinary Moments

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Treat Him Like a Gentile

In today's Gospel, Jesus gives instructions for ministering to those persisting in error. Here's the CliffsNotes version: If all else fails, "treat him as you would a Gentile or a tax collector."

In other words? Don't give up. Tell him the truth. Wash, rinse and repeat.

Technically speaking, I'm a Gentile. I've done those mail-in DNA tests, and none of my ancestors were Jewish. So whoever told my family about the God of Abraham, it wasn't Moses, and it probably wasn't Jesus himself, unless he spent some time in northwestern Europe that the Gospels fail to mention.

Nope, my ancestors were big old Gentiles living in a big old Gentile world. Lucky for me, someone evangelized them. At first, my ancestors probably didn't listen. But the evangelist, whoever he or she was, didn't give up.

I say "lucky for me" because this all means that I was born and raised Catholic. It makes it easier, I think—but it doesn't make it easy. I'm not an automaton, and I still have to accept the truth of the faith I choose to live. So do you. So do we all.

Inevitably, we falter. What then?

Who are the tax collectors? Zaccheus was one. Matthew was another. Maybe you recognize his name—he's the guy who wrote this Gospel. And who are the Gentiles? Me. You, maybe. Everyone the disciples decided not to give up on. Everyone the Church is called not to forget about, not to dismiss, and not to take for granted.

So treat them all like Gentiles, and remember that God sees the future, not just the past.

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Miraculous Medal

Question:

What is the "Miraculous Medal" and why is it called that?

Answer:

The medal of the Immaculate Conception that has come to be called simply the "Miraculous Medal" dates back to an apparition of Mary to Saint Catherine Laboure, who was then a novice sister with the Daughters of Charity. On November 27, 1830, Our Lady appeared to her standing on a globe, with shafts of light streaming from her hands and the words, "O Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee," surrounding the image. In the same vision, Catherine saw a capital "M" with a cross above it and below two hearts. Catherine seemed to hear a voice telling her to have what she saw struck as a medal and a promise that those who wore the medal would have the protection and intercession of the Mother of God. The first 1,500 of medals were distributed in 1832. Many miraculous favors were attributed to the use of the medal.

Saint Catherine's "Miraculous Medal" is among the recognizable and popular symbols of modern Catholicism. Reflecting on its widespread use, the 2001 Vatican document, "Directory on Popular Piety and Liturgy," observes that the medal "recalls the mystery of Redemption, the love of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and of the Sorrowful Heart of Mary. It signifies the mediatory role of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the mystery of the Church, the relationship between Heaven and earth, this life and eternal life."

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The Labor Day Mass will take place at 9 AM on Monday, September 7.

Labor Day Blessing

Dear God,

We thank You for this Labor Day. Bless the men and women who serve in our workforce, and grant them strength and protection in their work. Bless, too, those who courageously seek to build fairer and more just working environments for all our brothers and sisters. Bless all of us as we gather to rest and recreate during this holiday

Gospel Meditation

Matthew 18:15-20

A few summers ago, my family had a big reunion. It included my parents, my four siblings, and all their many children. One of my favorite moments was simply watching my parents' contented faces as they took in all of us together, laughing, sharing food, singing, telling stories. They loved seeing their children happily together with each other.

That is something like the heart of God we see in today's Gospel message about Christian reconciliation. These verses come right after Jesus' parable of the lost sheep. He is not giving the disciples a cold formula for dealing with conflict. He is revealing the Father's longing for children who love and reconcile with each other. His heart aches when his children are divided and isolated.

So when Jesus says, "Go and tell your brother his fault," He is not deputizing us as morality police. He is inviting us into his mission of reconciliation. When he adds, "If he listens to you, you have won over your brother," we glimpse the real goal. Not winning arguments, but reuniting a divided family.

These days, we often think religion is just between God and me. But the Father's dream is about a lively family, one in which His children forgive, gather, and rejoice together.

Lord Jesus, give me the courage to seek reconciliation where it is needed. Make my heart resemble the Father's heart, longing and working for unity among His children. Amen.

— Father John Muir

Virtues, Explained!

Vindication, Explained!

Most commonly, we understand the term "vindication" in a very legal, argumentative context. We say someone is "vindicated" when they are proven innocent, or when their good name is defended from an accusation.

This isn't so far from what vindication means in the sense of virtue, either. Vindication is related to the virtue of justice, which demands we honor our duty to God and to one another. Justice seeks to ensure the fairness of human interaction. It seeks to safeguard truth against those who would co-opt it for their own purposes.

If we truly put our trust in God and seek to do His will, we may not always have popularity, but we will have truth: "Commit your way to the Lord, trust in him and he will act, and make your righteousness shine like the dawn, your justice like noonday." (Psalm 37:5-6)

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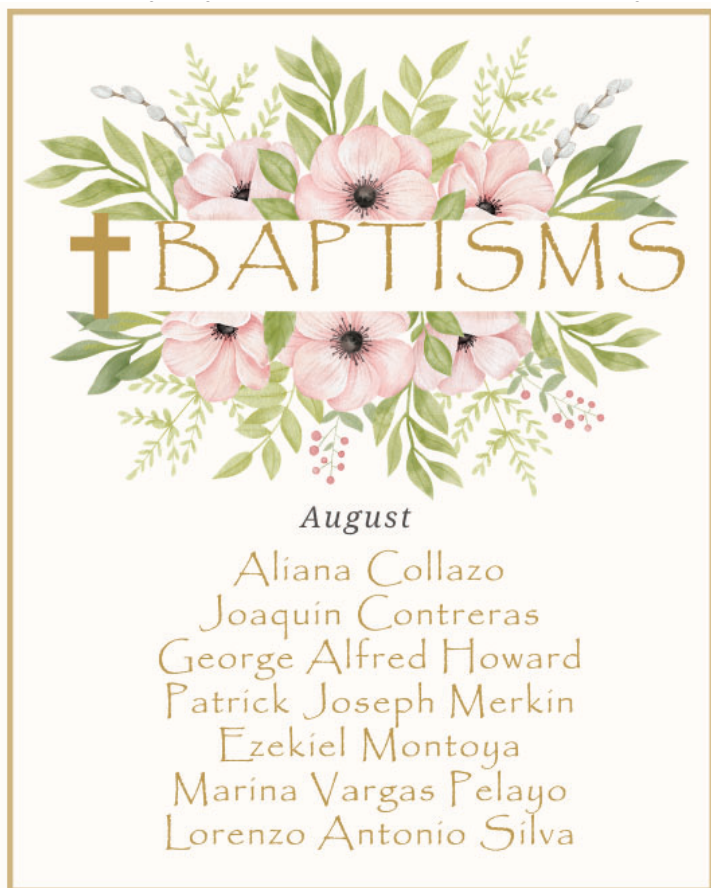
Lectio Divina, Explained!

Lectio divina ("divine reading") is a practice of praying through the reading of Scripture, opening oneself to the inspiration and communication of the Holy Spirit.

The practice of Lectio divina dates to ancient monastic communities, but it has gained popularity in modern times as a way to meaningfully engage with the word of God.

The formula for Lectio divina is simple and follows four steps. The text of the Scripture is read (lectio) multiple times, and the reader takes note of any words or phrases that resonate with him in a particular way. The reader then reflects deeply on the passage (meditatio) and the words that he noticed, turning them over in his mind. Following this, the reader prays with the passage (oratio), and dialogues with God, inviting him to illuminate the reader's understanding of the text. Finally, there is rest and contemplation (contemplatio).

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Religious Ed 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 19. Registration for the 2026—2027 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.

Order of Christian Initiation of Adults

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.

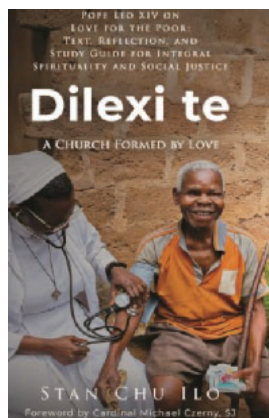
WHO IS THE OCIA INTENDED FOR?

- 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 beginning on September 22. Adult Classes meet on Thursdays from 7 to 8:30 PM beginning on September 24. 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 for more information.

Study with Fr. Stan Ilo



Now that Fr. Stan has been called to the Vatican by Pope Leo to be the co-director of a new initiative of the Dicastery called The Church of the Sheaves: Equipping the Saints for Mission as Gift Exchange, his time at the parish is more limited. Despite that, he would like to lead a study of the Pope's apostolic exhortation, *Dilexi te: (I Have Loved You)* on Wednesdays, September 9, October 7 and 14, and November 11 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, *Dilexi 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 will order the book, so please call the parish to reserve your book and your spot in the study! The phone number is 708-453-2555 and the cost of the book is \$15.

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 will be 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.

When: September 14, 21, 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

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.



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: Thursdays, 6:30–8 PM
- Location: Parish Rectory, 3005 N. 76th Ct., Elmwood Park
- Choose a Date and Sign Up: Scan the QR code 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:

- September 10
- September 17
- September 24
- October 1
- October 15



JMJ,
Fr. Ton

St. Mother Guerin Women's Club

Our first meeting will be on Thursday, September 17. It will be held in the Annex. You can enter off the parking lot. The doors open at 6:45 PM and the meeting starts at 7 PM.

Please feel free to bring a dessert.

Looking forward to seeing you on the 17th!

Corie and Carol

Stewardship of Talent Opportunities

Our parish community is a gift from God. The Lord gathers us as one family to worship Him, care for one another, and continue His work in the world. Within this community, each person has been blessed with unique gifts, talents, experiences, and skills. Some are gifted teachers, leaders, or organizers. Others enjoy welcoming people, working with children, visiting those in need, singing, preparing meals, or serving behind the scenes. Others have practical skills in cleaning, gardening, construction, maintenance, technology, administration, and many other areas. Whatever our gifts may be, God invites us to use them for the good of others and the building up of our parish.

Stewardship is about much more than financial giving. It is our grateful response to God for all that we have received. It includes the stewardship of our time, talent, and treasure. When we share our talents, we strengthen our parish community while participating more deeply in its mission.

We invite every parishioner to complete our **Stewardship of Talent Opportunities Form**. The form will help the parish learn more about your interests, talents, professional skills, and the ministries or groups in which you might like to serve. Completing the form does not mean that you are committing yourself to every opportunity you select. Rather, it allows us to connect you with ministries where your gifts and interests can make a meaningful difference.

Perhaps you have served for many years and are ready to try something new. Perhaps you recently joined the parish and are looking for a way to become involved. Or perhaps you have a talent that you never realized could benefit our community. There is a place for you.

Healthy ministry grows when responsibility is shared. When many people offer their gifts, no small group is left carrying all the work, and our parish becomes a community where everyone has an opportunity to participate, serve, build friendships, and experience the joy of belonging.

Please prayerfully consider your gifts and complete the Stewardship of Talent Opportunities Form. The form will be passed out at the Masses this weekend, posted on the website, and available in the office. You can return it to the office or in the collection next weekend. No gift is too small. In the spirit of St. Teresa of Calcutta, we each possess different gifts. Together, we can do something beautiful for God.

Weekly Stewardship

Sunday, August 23, 2026

Weekly Budget	\$8,610.00
Total Weekly Giving:	\$6,590.00
Budget Deficit or Overage:	\$2,020.00
Sunday Giving FY 2027 (July 1—August 23, 2026)	
Fiscal Year to Date:	\$68,600.00

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.



*Behold, I am the servant
of the Lord;
let it be done to me
according to your word.*

**Pray the Rosary with
Lena Roy**

**Wednesday,
September 9 at 7 PM**

St. Celestine Chapel

Enter off of 76th Court

Come Join the Adult Choir

I'd like to invite school parents and parishioners to join the Adult Choir. We meet on the first three Wednesdays of the month from 6:30—7:30 PM, and we sing at the 11 AM Mass on the second and fourth Sundays of the month. It's personally and spiritually rewarding to worship at Mass through singing, and there are other benefits of joining the choir.

- You have no homework for one hour and fifteen minutes.
- You get to sing great songs.
- Choir people are fun to hang out with.
- You get me as the Choir Director.
- Singing is an excellent stress reliever.
- Let someone else help the kids with their homework one night a week!
- It's a great workout for your brain.
- You don't need to buy any equipment.
- You'll learn a lot of choir jokes.

Parents, I know you are very busy. I will even give this a special name. It's called "Come When You Can." You will never be fired if I don't see you on a Wednesday or Sunday.

Please call me at 708-453-2555, email me at ckamptner@stcelestineschool.org or come to our first choir practice on Wednesday night, September 16 in the Music Room of the school at 6:30 PM. You can enter off the gym entrance. I hope to see you on September 16.

Craig Kamptner
Director of Music Ministry

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.

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- Have you grown apart?
- Is your marriage in crisis?

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- 85% reported having a deeper understanding of themselves, their spouse, and their faith.

CHICAGO WEEKEND

Oct 16-18

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, Mary Coronado, Ellison Deeher, Elene Dimperio, Michael Garcia, Tammy Garcia, Luciana Giamarusti, Maciej Gondek, Dorota Gondek, Thomas Gruber, Grace Hensley, Rachel Hindery, Mark Hroma, Kathryn Knipp, Kathy Johl, Adele Johnson, Juliette Jimenez, Lisa Kostrzeski, Justine Kucera, Robert Kucera, Kathy Mizejewski, George Moskaliuk, Sandra Moskaliuk, Efrem Munoz, Martha Munoz, Ron Nichols, Gregory Olsen, Carolyn Paprocki, Gerard Palattao, Elliot Perez, 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

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 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

SCRIPTURE SEARCH®

Gospel for September 6, 2026

Romans 13: 8-10 / Matthew 18:15-20

Following is a word search based on the Second and Gospel readings for the Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle A: On how to treat others. Words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

LOVE	FULFILLED	THE LAW
NEIGHBOR	SINS	FAULT
ALONE	LISTENS	ONE OR
ALONG	WITNESSES	REFUSES
CHURCH	GENTILE	TAX COLLECTOR
BOUND	LOOSE	TWO OF YOU
AGREE	FATHER	GATHERED

GUIDING RULES

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

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ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO



MARRIED IN 1976?

HAVE YOU REGISTERED FOR THE ANNUAL GOLDEN WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS?

Couples celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary from across the Archdiocese of Chicago are invited to gather together for the Golden Wedding Anniversary Mass that will be celebrated by Cardinal Cupich on

Sunday, September 13, 2026 at 2:30 p.m.

The mass will be celebrated at Holy Name Cathedral, 735 North State Street, Chicago, IL 60654.

Please email gwa@archchicago.org or contact your parish office with any questions. To register online, please visit pvm.archchicago.org/events/golden-wedding.

Scam Emails

Fr. Ton and Fr. Paul will never send you emails asking for money or gift cards. These are scams. If you get an email that seems to be from them, please check the email to see if it's from the parish, and call the office at 708-453-2555 if you are unsure.

St. Mother Theodore Guerin Parish Taste

Food Fest and Entertainment

Saturday, September 12 from 4 to 9 PM

St. Celestine Church 3020 N. 76th Court, Elmwood Park

American, Filipino, Italian, Mexican, Polish, and Vietnamese food

Raffles (Win a 65 inch TV!), music, fun for kids!

We look forward to seeing you on Saturday, September 12 from 4 to 9 PM at our biggest parish event and fundraiser!

DONATIONS NEEDED

Do you want to donate to the Taste? We will recognize donors of \$100 with signs at the Taste, on the website, on Facebook and Instagram, and in the bulletin. You can choose to help subsidize one of the food booths, entertainment, the drinks, the raffles, or provide other needed supplies or donate where it is needed. Contact our Business Manager, Laurie DePillo, at 708-453-2555 or email lauriedepillo@stguerinparish.org.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Can you give a few hours of your time to help at the Taste? We'll need help to set up, clean up and take down the tables and chairs, to bake desserts, and to staff the food booths. Call the parish office to volunteer. School parents, you can get hours for helping.

BEVERAGE DONATIONS NEEDED

Beverages needed: 12 ounce cans of Coke, Diet Coke, or Sprite and 16-20 ounce bottles of water.

BAKERS NEEDED

We need cookies, bars, and cupcakes for the Sweets Table at the Taste. Please bring your donations to the Pastoral Center on Friday, September 11 by 5 PM or on the day of the Taste by noon. Questions about desserts? Call Lynn Schmidt for more information at 708-453-2555 or email lschmidt@stguerinparish.org.

Parish Staff Spotlight: Director of Evangelization and Bulletin Editor, Kim Hagerty

Kim Boyce Hagerty, our Director of Evangelization and Bulletin Editor, grew up in Chicago as the oldest of seven kids and attended St. Ferdinand and St. Juliana grammar schools and St. Scholastica High School. Her undergrad degree is from the University of Illinois at Chicago in Art History (ask her about medieval art!) and she has a Masters in Counseling from Northeastern Illinois University. Kim worked for the Family Ministries Office of the Archdiocese in Marriage Ministry for 16 years and then for the Sisters of the Living Word before joining the staff at St. Mother Guerin eight years ago.

As Director of Evangelization, Kim assists the pastor in building a local culture of outreach, welcoming, and active faith to help parishioners deepen their personal commitment to Jesus Christ and the Church. She loves getting to know others in a deeper way through Bible Study and she has loved watching *The Chosen* TV series with parishioners and sharing their thoughts (and cinnamon coffee cake) after watching it. Kim thinks *The Chosen* is a wonderful way to deepen your understanding of the life of Jesus.

Kim and her husband Pat, a contractor and third grade catechist, have been married 48 years and have had 3 children, Beth, Kelly, and Patrick. Beth, who attended New Horizons and lived for a few years at Misericordia Home, and Patrick, a St. Patrick High School graduate, are in heaven. Kelly, a Trinity graduate, and her husband Jake have two girls and live close by. Pat's widow, Silvia, and his two hockey-playing boys are a big part of their lives.

Kim loves the color pink, the *Betsy-Tacy* and *Lord of the Rings* books, gardening, quilting, sewing, and is looking forward to participating in the Craft Fair with her Catholic-themed pillows. She and Pat love hanging out with their four grandchildren and walking Leo, a Chihuahua Yorkie mix and keeping Sky, a parakeet, safe from Leo.



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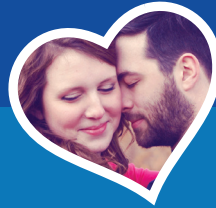
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