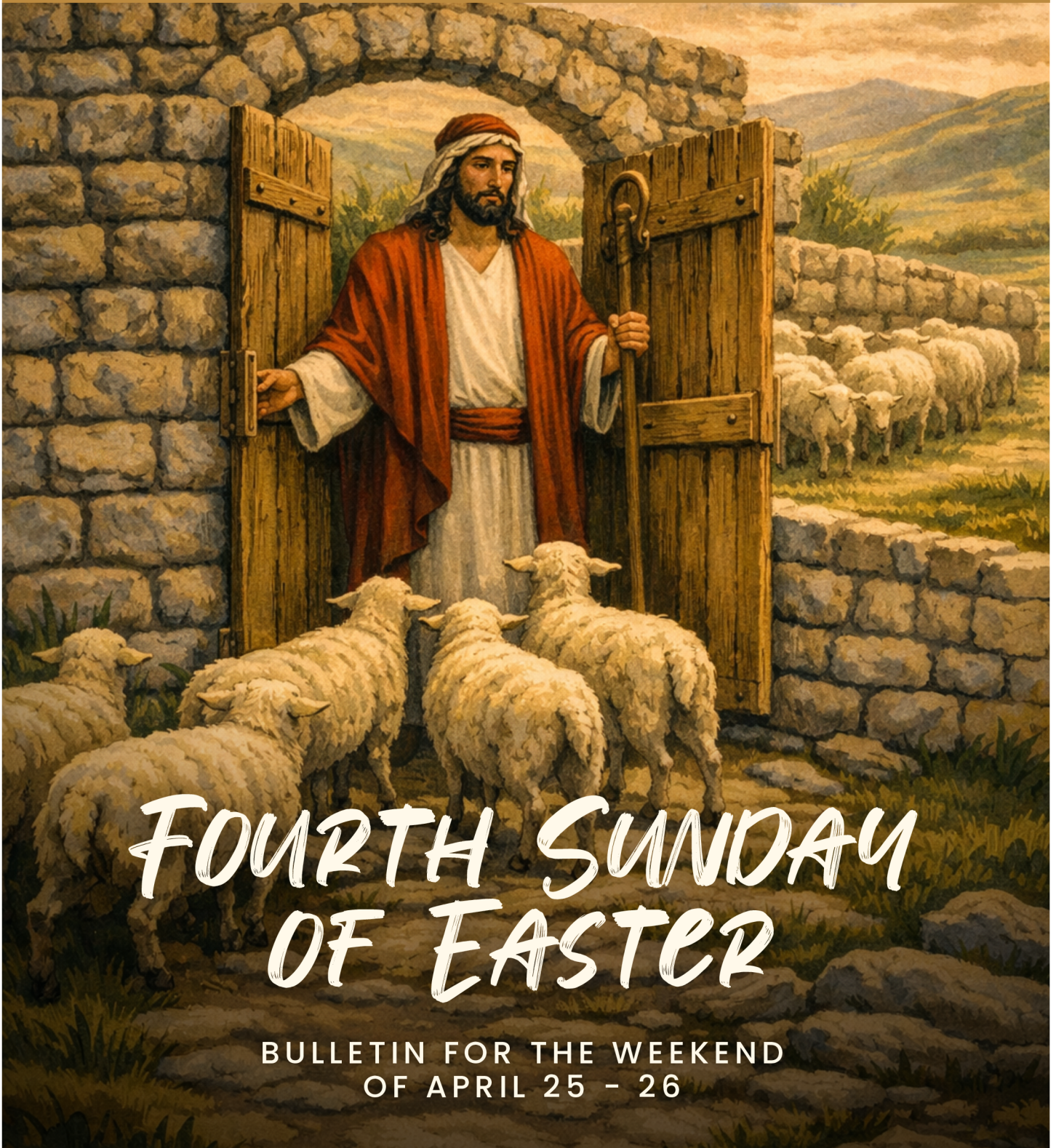


⌄ Old St. Mary's Catholic Church

Old St. Mary's welcomes and accompanies everyone on their faith journey. Inspired by the Holy Spirit, our diverse community encourages people to grow their relationship with Jesus Christ and one another through Eucharist, worship, prayer, education, and service.



FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

BULLETIN FOR THE WEEKEND
OF APRIL 25 - 26

Established as Chicago's first Catholic Parish in 1833. Old St. Mary's Catholic School established in 2004. Served by the Paulist Fathers since 1903.

1500 S. Michigan Ave., Chicago IL 60605 | 312-922-3444 | www.oldstmarys.com

PASTORAL MESSAGE

The Right Kind of Abundance

In this weekend's Gospel, we hear Jesus describe himself as both the gate to the sheepfold and the shepherd, leading the sheep to find pasture. We are familiar with the concept of Jesus as the Good Shepherd, but the image of Jesus as the gate is one that feels less familiar to me. Jesus is a leader and a voice to follow, yes, but John writes that Jesus is also a means through which we enter into having life "more abundantly."

I find myself reflecting on abundance in this season of Easter. Our neighborhoods start to feel enlivened again as temperatures rise, flowers bloom, and kids reconvene outside with scooters and basketballs. Our school is a place of abundance as classrooms plan end-of-the-year projects, performances, and field trips that celebrate the nearing culmination of this year's learning. My own family of three also senses our great abundance (both of excitement and of seemingly endless to-dos) as the due date of our second child quickly approaches.

And yet, the plentitude of possessions, social invitations, and tasks that leave our homes and calendars full has the potential to distract us from having the "more abundant life" that Jesus names. We can be the gatekeepers of our own hearts and minds. What do we allow in that is authentically life-giving, and what "thieves and robbers" do we also sometimes allow to take up space? For me, the latter can be a loss of perspective. As an assistant principal at the end of the school year, who is also a toddler mom, it can be easy to allow myself to get caught up in the day's agenda, and distracted from what brings me true joy.

Children, on the other hand, are excellent at lives of abundance! They are fonts of joy, curiosity, and resilience, and they ground us adults in what is right in front of us. They remind us, often without even trying, that life is not something to be rushed through or managed, but something to be received. Just last week, I was on my way to Jewel with my almost two-year-old son, Francis, to pick up ingredients for making banana bread, an unceasing request since he had woken up that morning. On our way to the store (which is generous, because we had not yet left our block), Francis's focus shifted to picking nearby dandelions...for several minutes. "Come on," I urged, "don't you want to bake banana bread? We need to get going, or else we're going to run out of time..."

Perhaps this is part of what it means to enter through the gate that Jesus describes. It is not simply about doing what we believe we are supposed to be doing, but about attuning our hearts to His voice amid the noise that surrounds us. The "thieves and robbers" in our lives might not always be dramatic or obvious. They come disguised as doubt, urgency, or the pressure to "do it all." They sneak in quietly, filling our thoughts and schedules until we find ourselves exhausted and disconnected from the very abundance we seek.

It is not easy to keep out these thieves and robbers, especially in seasons of life that are full and demanding. Jesus offers us another way. A gate allows passage, but it also protects. To enter through Christ means that we allow ourselves to discern more carefully what we make space for in our lives, to be intentionally open to what my friend Moriah calls "moments of grace." We can be truly present to our family and friends when we spend time together (without phones!). We can allow ourselves quiet moments to marvel at the beauty of the South Loop in the springtime. We can get up from our desks and soak in the excitement that is an elementary school on the brink of summer. We can pick the dandelions and bake the banana bread another day.

Elizabeth Duff-Russo
Assistant Principal, Old St. Mary's School



The 2026 Annual Paulist Appeal

Building Bridges Through Charity



Thank you to our parishioner, Cathy Walz, for sharing about the Annual Paulist Appeal with us last weekend. We are grateful for the way she helped bring to life the mission of the Paulist Fathers – a mission rooted in building bridges, reaching out to those on the margins, and sharing the Good News in a spirit of welcome and encounter.

If you weren't able to be with us, or would like to hear Cathy's reflection again, please scan the QR code to watch her sharing from last week.



You can also support the Annual Paulist Appeal by scanning the QR code to make a gift. Please be sure to indicate Old St. Mary's as your parish. We are hoping to increase our participation rate this year—no donation is too small, and every gift makes a difference. Thank you for your generosity!



OSM Youth Ministry *Collection Drive*

Our OSM Youth Ministry is organizing a parish-wide collection of new, unopened underwear and socks of all sizes to support the important work of the St. James Food Pantry. These simple essentials are among the most requested items at food pantries, yet they are often in short supply.



Donations will be accepted through Sunday, May 10, and can be placed in the wicker baskets located in the Commons.

At this time, we are only able to accept new, in-package underwear and socks, as these are the items most needed and the ones we have the capacity to collect and distribute. We are not able to accept used clothing donations right now.

Thank you for helping our young people lead us in caring for our neighbors with dignity and compassion.



Come, Holy Spirit!

Please note that our Confirmation Mass will be taking place on Saturday, May 2 during the 5:00 PM Vigil Mass. Please keep all our young ones in your prayers as they take on this next step on their faith journey!

Presider: Bishop Mark Bartosic



Some photos of our Year I Confirmation Students at their Retreat. God willing, they will be confirmed in 2027!



Upcoming Leadership Opportunities at Old St. Mary's



We're looking for **6-8 volunteers to serve on a new Committee for Social Concerns** (this takes the place of the previous Social Justice Committee.) The CSC will meet monthly to coordinate all charity, advocacy, and justice activities supported by Old St. Mary's. The committee will serve as a central clearing house for all proposed social concerns activities for both the Parish and the School, organizing them in ways to enhance the service-learning opportunities for participants of all ages. Anyone interested in serving as an inaugural member of the CSC should check oldstmarys.com/committee-for-social-concerns/ and then submit a statement of interest to FrRich@oldstmarys.com.

We're looking for **2-3 volunteers to begin serving 3-year terms on the Parish Pastoral Council in August**. PPC members meet on the second Monday of the month from 7-9 pm and assist in making strategic decisions. They also make an active effort to know the hopes, dreams, fears, and concerns of the full diversity of people in the Parish. Anyone interested should visit oldstmarys.com/parish-pastoral-council-2/ and then contact FrRich@oldstmarys.com. This year, we are especially interested in adding at least one person who regularly attends the 5 pm vigil Mass, as well as more people of color.

We're also looking for **1-3 volunteers to begin serving on the Finance Council in July**. Finance Council members meet on one Tuesday per quarter 6:30-8:00 pm to advise the Pastor about the stewardship, administration, and oversight of the temporal goods of the Parish. Anyone interested should visit oldstmarys.com/parish-finance-council/ and then contact FrRich@oldstmarys.com. Given the special skills needed to serve on the Finance Council, term limits are intended to be more flexible than our other councils/committees. This year, we hope to add at least one person who is familiar with standard accounting practices.

OLD ST. MARY'S YOUTHMINISTRY

Grade 8-12

Snacks & Fellowship! Faith Discussions!
Service Activities! Group Prayer!

Next Dates:

May 3, May 17*, May 31

5:00-6:30 PM,

Church commons

* please note: May 17 meeting in the morning;
service event at St. James Wabash

QUESTIONS? CONTACT
Elise Flick
elise@oldstmarys.com



Lifelong Faith Formation Ministry Volunteers Needed!



Join our Sunday Faith Formation Team! Volunteers are needed as catechists, assistants, substitutes, and admin helpers on Sundays from 9:45-10:45 AM. Not ready to lead? Assist an experienced catechist or help with simple classroom support.

Help with Faith Formation Events! Sacrament programs include retreats, parent meetings, and family sessions. Join our volunteer list to help as available with hospitality, check-in, and logistics, with opportunities to help lead.

Chat, Pray with, and Prepare Parents of an Infant Receiving Baptism. Greeters welcome families at Mass, and facilitators lead pre-baptism sessions using provided materials. Flexible commitment, about one evening every 1-2 months.

Join our Youth Ministry Team! Just bring a willingness to engage teens. Meets every other Sunday at 5 PM, with prepared Scripture and discussion questions.

Share Your Knowledge or Spirituality with Other Adults! Help us grow adult faith formation by offering a talk, discussion, or series. We'll support you in developing your ideas.

Read Scripture with Our Children (ages 3-8)! During the 11 AM Mass, volunteers lead children in simplified Scripture and reflection before returning for Communion. Flexible, about once every 1-2 months.

Feel called to serve?

Contact Elise, our Director of Lifelong Faith Formation, at elise@oldstmarys.com

Liturgical Ministers Needed!

Old St. Mary's Choir

Love to sing? Join our choir, which leads music at the 11:00 AM Mass and rehearses beforehand. No professional experience needed!

Lector

Help proclaim the Word of God at Mass. Lectors give voice to the living Word in our midst.

Extraordinary Minister of Communion

Assist in the distribution of Holy Communion. This ministry offers a quiet but powerful way to serve at the heart of the liturgy.

Livestream Operator

Support our weekend livestreams by running cameras and software!

Hospitality

Help us extend fellowship beyond the liturgy by bringing a simple food or beverage item to share after the 8:30 AM or 11:00 AM Mass.

Usher / Greeter

Offer a warm welcome at the doors, assist with seating and worship aids, and help with the collection.

Interested? Contact Ace Gangoso, our Director of Liturgy and Music at ace@oldstmarys.com

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, April 26

8:30 AM Eunice & Barb Slaughter

11 AM Lino Tibulan (+)

4 PM People of the Parish

Monday, April 27

8:30 AM Maura Sta. Maria (+)

Tuesday, April 28

8:30 AM Prudencio Alban, Sr. (+)

Wednesday, April 29

8:30 AM Mortimer Dillon (+)

Thursday, April 30

8:30 AM Seigfred & Max Daclan (+)

Friday, May 1

8:30 AM Lourdes Imbag

Saturday, May 2

5 PM Oliva Lucero

New to Old St. Mary's?

Welcome! We're glad you're here. If you haven't yet registered as a parishioner, we invite you to do so—it's a great way to stay connected and get involved in our community.

Register at bit.ly/osm-registration or scan the QR Code



The 2026 Spirit of Hecker Awards

Saturday, April 25
after the 5:00 PM Mass



Beth Toth, 2026 OSM Recipient

Join us for a buffet dinner on Saturday, **April 25**, after the 5 PM Mass as we honor **Beth Toth** for living out the charism of Fr Isaac Hecker, founder of the Paulist Fathers. Beth has been a parishioner, school parent, school nurse, and volunteer extraordinaire for the past 20 years.

Congratulations once again, Beth!



The 2026 Old St. Mary's School Musical

Performances on Friday, May 15
and Saturday, May 16 at 7:00 PM

Tickets: \$16 Adults, \$12 Kids & OSM
School Alumni

Link to buy tickets coming soon!
Visit osmschool.com

PARISH STAFF

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Pastor
frich@oldstmarys.com | ext. 29

Fr. Dan Macalino, CSP
Associate Pastor
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Ace Gangoso
Director of Liturgy and Music
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April Greer
Old St. Mary's School Principal
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Patti Murphy
Facility & Events Coordinator
patti@oldstmarys.com

Lauren Huelster
Executive Assistant to the Pastor
lauren@oldstmarys.com

Vanessa Jackson
Mamie Smith
Receptionists

Lorena Villegas
Maintenance

Fr. Bob Cary, CSP
Priest-in-Residence

SACRAMENTS

MASS TIMES

Monday – Friday 8:30 AM

Saturday 5:00 PM Vigil

Sunday 8:30 AM, 11:00 AM, 4:00 PM

Holy Days *contact parish office*

BAPTISM

<http://oldstmarys.com/baptism/>

- To request a copy of your baptismal certificate, email baptisms@oldstmarys.com

MATRIMONY

<https://oldstmarys.com/weddings/>

Please contact Fr. Rich or Fr. Dan

RECONCILIATION

Every Saturday from 4:00 – 4:30 PM,
or contact Fr. Rich or Fr. Dan

ANOIDING OF THE SICK

Every First Friday during the 8:30 AM Mass,
or contact Fr. Rich or Fr. Dan

CONFIRMATION

Inquire at <https://oldstmarys.com/confirmation/>

FUNERAL

Please contact Fr. Rich or Fr. Dan

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Every Friday after the 8:30 AM Mass

Signup for Our Email Newsletter!

We publish an email newsletter every Thursday that covers events going on for the weekend and following week at Old St. Mary's. Please note: if you've ever unsubscribed from our list, you'll have to give us your permission add you back!



COMMUNION TO THE HOMEBOUND

Our Ministers of Care are available to bring the Eucharist to those who cannot attend Mass in person. To request a visit, please fill the form at bit.ly/osm-communionvisit or scan the QR code.

For urgent needs (Anointing of the Sick or Confession), please continue to call the parish office directly at 312-922-3444.

Want to help with our Ministry of Care?
Email careministry@oldstmarys.com



THE CLARET CENTER

PSYCHOTHERAPY & RESOURCES
FOR THE HUMAN JOURNEY

Struggling with life challenges, transitions or simply want to talk to someone who will listen?

Therapy can help support you.

Reach out to learn more:
Sara Quoss Martin at (773) 831-8940
smartin@claretcenter.org



Giving at Old St. Mary's

Every contribution at Old St. Mary's nurtures our faith community and supports those in need. Your generosity: through donations, volunteering, or outreach, makes a difference.



Scan the QR code,
or give online at
<https://oldstmarys.com/donate/>



OLD ST. MARY'S SCHOOL
Pre-Kindergarten to Grade 8
A National Blue Ribbon School

www.osmschool.com
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1474 S. Michigan Ave.

