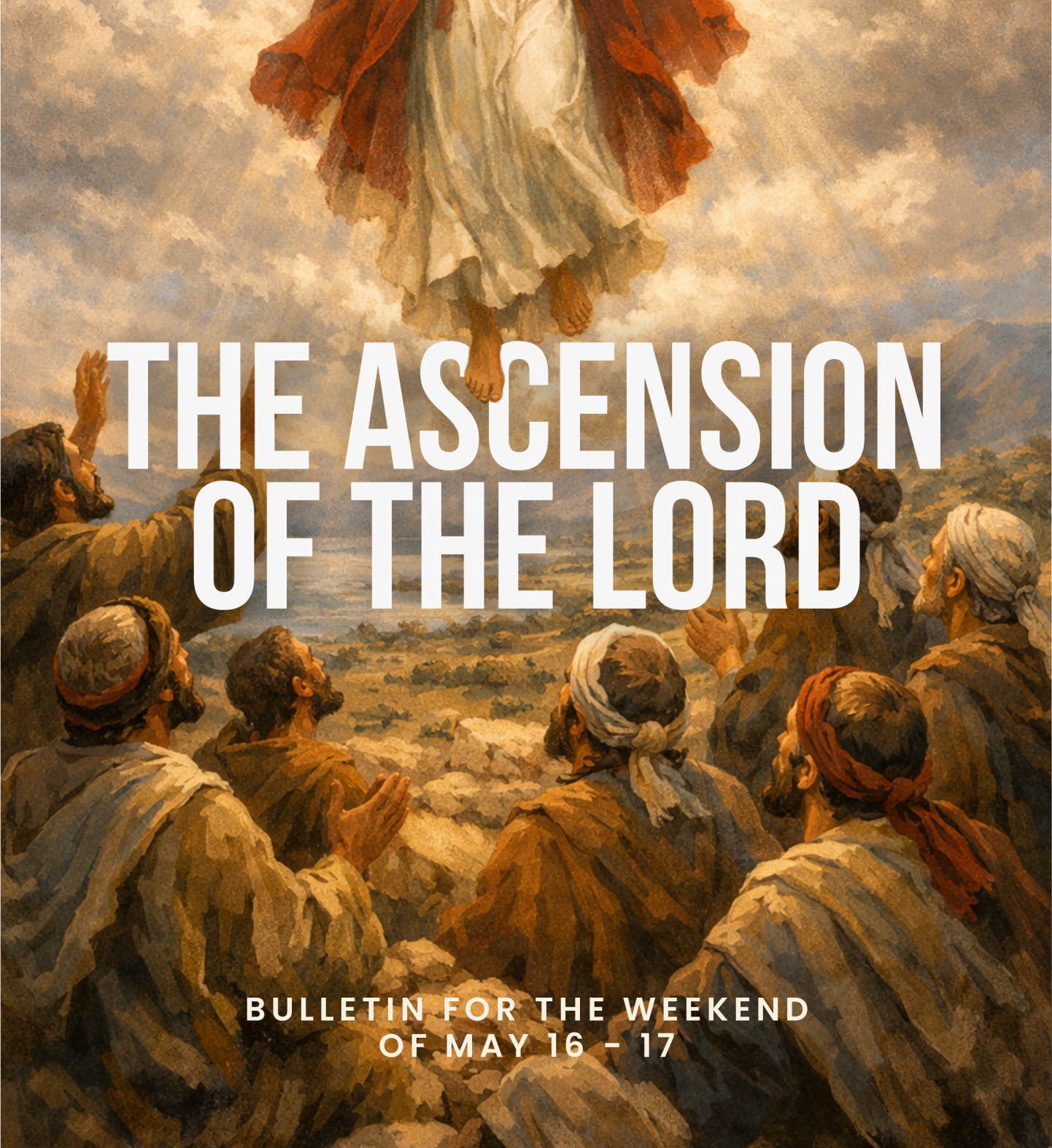


⌄ld St. Mary's Catholic Church

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.



THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

**BULLETIN FOR THE WEEKEND
OF MAY 16 - 17**

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.

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PASTORAL MESSAGE

Ordinary People, Extraordinary Grace

In today's Gospel, Jesus gives the Great Commission: "go make of all disciples." We may assume that invitation is meant for people who are more knowledgeable, more outgoing, or more qualified than we are. But Jesus continually calls ordinary people to share his love with others — and sends the Holy Spirit to help them do it.

At age 17, I was an altar server at my church. I was dependable, but also shy, so I had no interest in a leadership role. One day, I was asked to stand at the altar server table at our parish picnic to recruit new servers, and I did something very out of character — I left the safety of the table to approach individual families. A dozen new altar servers signed up that day, and that success gave me just enough confidence to volunteer to train them. All of a sudden, the whole program became my responsibility.

The altar server program began to grow, and it became one of the main ways our small parish helped kids understand what was happening during the Mass. I began to see what a difference I was making, especially for girls in the parish who were seeing a young woman in church leadership for the first time. That was when I first understood that God wasn't just watching my life from the sidelines — he had a plan for me personally.

By the time I left for college, the altar server program had tripled in size, and the kids were much more confident and capable. The thing is, I really didn't do anything extraordinary. I led small group trainings and paired new servers with experienced ones. I learned the kids' names, met their families, and shared what I loved about the Mass. None of it was complicated, but it changed the culture. The kids realized that they mattered to the people at church and that their role at Mass mattered too.

Before that, it was common for altar servers not to know the parts of the Mass or to miss their scheduled Masses. Over time, that changed. The servers began to take pride in what they were doing. They wanted to learn so that they could serve well, and they understood that showing up mattered.

Now, as a professional lay minister, I've picked up theology degrees that equip me to oversee an entire faith formation program. But the truth is that you don't need degrees or special qualifications to make a big difference in the lives of children and families in our parish. I was just a shy high school student with a desire to be close to Jesus at Mass. All God asked was that I be willing to share that love with others, and the Holy Spirit took care of the rest.

As we prepare for a new school year, I invite you to consider whether God may be calling you to serve in faith formation. You don't need to have all the answers, and you don't need to feel perfectly prepared. My role is to make sure that you have the support, training, and guidance you need to feel comfortable. God doesn't just call those who are already experts — he works through ordinary people who are willing to say yes. If that's you, please reach out — we look forward to having you on our faith formation team!

Elise Flick
Director of Lifelong Faith Formation



Faith Formation Volunteer Needs

Please note that all volunteers who work encounter children or youth in their ministry must pass a background check and complete the **VIRTUS** virtual training module about keeping children safe. Contact Elise to learn more about VIRTUS training.

Here are some examples of ways you can say yes to sharing your love of God with others. If you have questions or are interested in learning more about any of these opportunities, please reach out to **Elise Flick** at elise@oldstmarys.com!

Read Scripture with Our Children (ages 3-8)! The readings at Sunday Mass can be a bit wordy and confusing for our youngest churchgoers. On Sundays during the 11am Mass, adult volunteers and a teen helper take the younger children to Donovan Hall to read simpler translations of the day's Scripture readings and to pose age-appropriate questions in place of a homily. The group returns to Mass before Communion. If you work well with very young children, we'd love to have you join our team! Scheduling is very flexible - we hope you will volunteer at one Mass every 1-2 months.

Chat, Pray with, and Prepare Parents of an Infant Receiving Baptism - We need members of our community to help welcome new parents, and to talk with them about their child's upcoming baptism and the commitment they are making to raise their child in the Catholic faith. We need volunteers in two categories: greeters and facilitators. Greeters meet the family when they arrive for the Mass and make sure they remember what to do. Facilitators lead our baptism "classes" ahead of time to help parents better understand the sacrament and prepare to raise a child Catholic. All materials and discussion guides are provided for you as the facilitator - your job is to be a friendly face and help parents think through these topics in a casual setting. Scheduling flexible - we hope you can volunteer one weeknight every 1-2 months.

Join our Sunday Faith Formation Team! We're looking for volunteers to fill all types of roles - catechists, assistant catechists, subs, and admin helpers - on Sunday mornings 9:45-10:45. If you are interested in becoming a catechist but don't feel ready to take on your own class, you can volunteer as an assistant to an experienced catechist and build your skills in a low-pressure environment! If you are an SFF parent looking to help out, we always need substitutes in the classroom and help with door monitoring and other administrative items during class time.

Join our Youth Ministry Team! The only skill you need is the ability to have a discussion with a small group of 8th-12th graders. Youth Ministry typically meets on Sunday evenings at 5pm (every two weeks) - we'd love to have you join us! Leaders take turns reading Scripture and posing questions to the group (all written ahead of time), and sometimes we break off into smaller discussion groups with one leader each. If you're comfortable hanging out with this age group, that's all you need to get started!

Help with Miscellaneous Faith Formation Events – our Sacrament Preparation programs have miscellaneous events throughout the year such as retreats, parent meetings, family classes, and more. If your schedule doesn't allow you to volunteer regularly, but you would like to help – this is the opportunity for you! We're building a list of volunteers to help run these events, and we will reach out to see who is available to help as they come up. Responsibilities will usually include greeting/check-in, distributing materials, giving instructions, and other administrative tasks. If you would like to help lead any of these events, that is welcome as well!

Share Your Knowledge or Spirituality with Other Adults! We are looking to offer more faith formation opportunities for adults in the parish – if you are knowledgeable about an area of theology or a specific spiritual practice, we'd love for you to share it with others! This could take the form of presentations, discussions, and/or activities; it could be a one-time event, a short series, or an ongoing commitment if you would like. We can help you outline your program and find supporting resources to share – let Elise know if you might be interested in offering a program for adults.



Baptisms since Pentecost last year

Ace Alexander Neely
Amelya Noel Sullivan
Beck Matthew Milanoski
Charles Daniel Trentz
Charlotte Marilyn Green
Claire Angeline Leonard
Dominic Mathias-Charles Green
Ella Joyce
Eliza Ines Cahill
Emilia Margherita Lopez
Emerson Davis

Emryn Pereira
Ezra Adonis Singleton
Felicity May Gonzalez
Gabrielle Kelly Sullivan
Hugh Patrick Kalita
Jordyn Edwards
Kaya Flora Lilly
Kingston Strachan
Kipton Mack Lorimer
Leah Grace Schmanski
Leo Javier Schmall

Lilith Priya Mukherji
Madeline Frances Fumagalli
Marcella Jean Radecki
Margot Ines Aschenbener
Mari Begona Madariaga-
Shanmugarajah
Milo Henrique Gallegos
Molly Jo McGovern
Reese Monroe Lorimer
Riley Josephine Ramker
Roland Vincent Giacotto
Wells Gonzalez

Rejoicing with All Who Received the Sacraments of Initiation

Baptism, Confirmation, & Eucharist

Gianna Creanza
Sinai Robledo
Albert Zhang

Profession of Faith, Confirmation, & Eucharist

Ian Cox
Zayd "Amir" Kenny
Abigail Laird
Jeffery Scott Owen
Sade Ragsdale

Eucharist & Confirmation

Jimmy Quinto
Brently Arnold Roberson
Richard Kenneth Waller

Confirmation

Talia Lynn Alaimo
Daniella Mia Alvarado
Ella Elise Anderson
Sullivan Meigs Arnold
Jayleen Asante
Lila Jane Berchman
Luciana Rose Bertucci
Lyla Mae Borgmeyer
Eleanor Margaret Bottorff
Hunter Thomas Brawley
David Napier Butler Jr.
Maizy Gina Calderone
Justin Louis Cervini
Tessa Mariana Cervone
Isabel Christine Chagoya
Nicholas Joseph Constabileo
Grace Margaret Crotty
Brenna Kane Dollear
Fabiola Valentina Espinoza
Bladen Patrick Funches
Charlotte Sofia Hinkle
Abigail Rose Ketelaar
Emma Louise List

Macen Mark Miller
Cecilia Patricia Murphy
Stefania Victoria Orseno
Maria Boniface Powell
Carlos Sandoval
Harper Grace Sinkovich
Dylan Jean Smith
David Bautista Vallejo
Brianna Marie Anderson
Claire Antonia Brkovich
Finnegan James Carpenter
John Ryder Colwell
Ava Grace Domingo
Dante Tomas Feranchak
Matias Sebastian Gutierrez
Christopher Cole Johnigan
Alexandra Maria Leos
Allyssa Demi Rice
Persephone Kaur Talwar
Sydney Hailey Thomas
Gregory L. Smith
Lucia Quiñones
Isabella Guadalupe Rodriguez
Zara Victoria Arias Ruiz

Celebrating the Gift of Marriage

Weddings since Pentecost last year

Travis Reid Collier & Madison Elizabeth Dold
John Scerpella & Sophia Allen
Sean Corcoran & Tiffany Anne Veneracion Alunan
Jack Ryan Doherty & Siena Jenny Gyure
Nehir Waghela & Lisa Marie Schneider

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, May 17

8:30 AM Patrick & Allison Reisch
11 AM Elsa Jolingán (+)
4 PM People of the Parish

Monday, May 18

8:30 AM John Sattler (+)

Tuesday, May 19

8:30 AM Colin McKenna (+)

Wednesday, May 20

8:30 AM James Kostka (+)

Thursday, May 21

8:30 AM Juan & Olga Verdejo (+)

Friday, May 22

8:30 AM Rustico Joson (+)

Saturday, May 23

5 PM Lorraine & Laverne Rohr (+)

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



July
24-26
2026

The Paulist Fathers
Come & See
Discernment Retreat
at The Church
of Saint Paul the Apostle
in New York City

For more information and to register, contact:

Paulist Fr. Ed Nowak, C.S.P., Vocation Director

✉ vocations@paulist.org

📞 (917) 763-7899

🌐 beapaulist.org/comeandsee

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Support Old St. Mary's Through a Qualified Charitable Distribution

IRA owners age 73 and older are generally required to take a Required Minimum Distribution, or RMD, each year, which is taxed as ordinary income. One option to consider is a Qualified Charitable Distribution, or QCD, which allows individuals to transfer funds directly from their IRA to a qualified charity.

A QCD can satisfy all or part of your RMD for the year without the transferred amount being reported as taxable income, even if you do not itemize deductions. For some, this may offer greater tax savings than a traditional cash donation.

Individuals may transfer up to \$105,000, or \$210,000 per couple, through a QCD to meet their RMD. Please consult your accountant or financial advisor to determine whether this option is right for you.

As you consider your current giving, we invite you to consider making a donation to Old St. Mary's. For more information, please contact our Business Manager, Dawn Burns, at dawn@oldstmarys.com.



The Chicago Paulists will defray costs related to the come & see retreat for men seriously considering going. Please contact Fr. Rich or Fr. Dan!

PARISH STAFF

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lauren@oldstmarys.com | ext. 25

Vanessa Jackson
Mamie Smith
Receptionists

Lorena Villegas
Maintenance

Fr. Bob Cary, CSP
Priest-in-Residence



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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/>

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



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