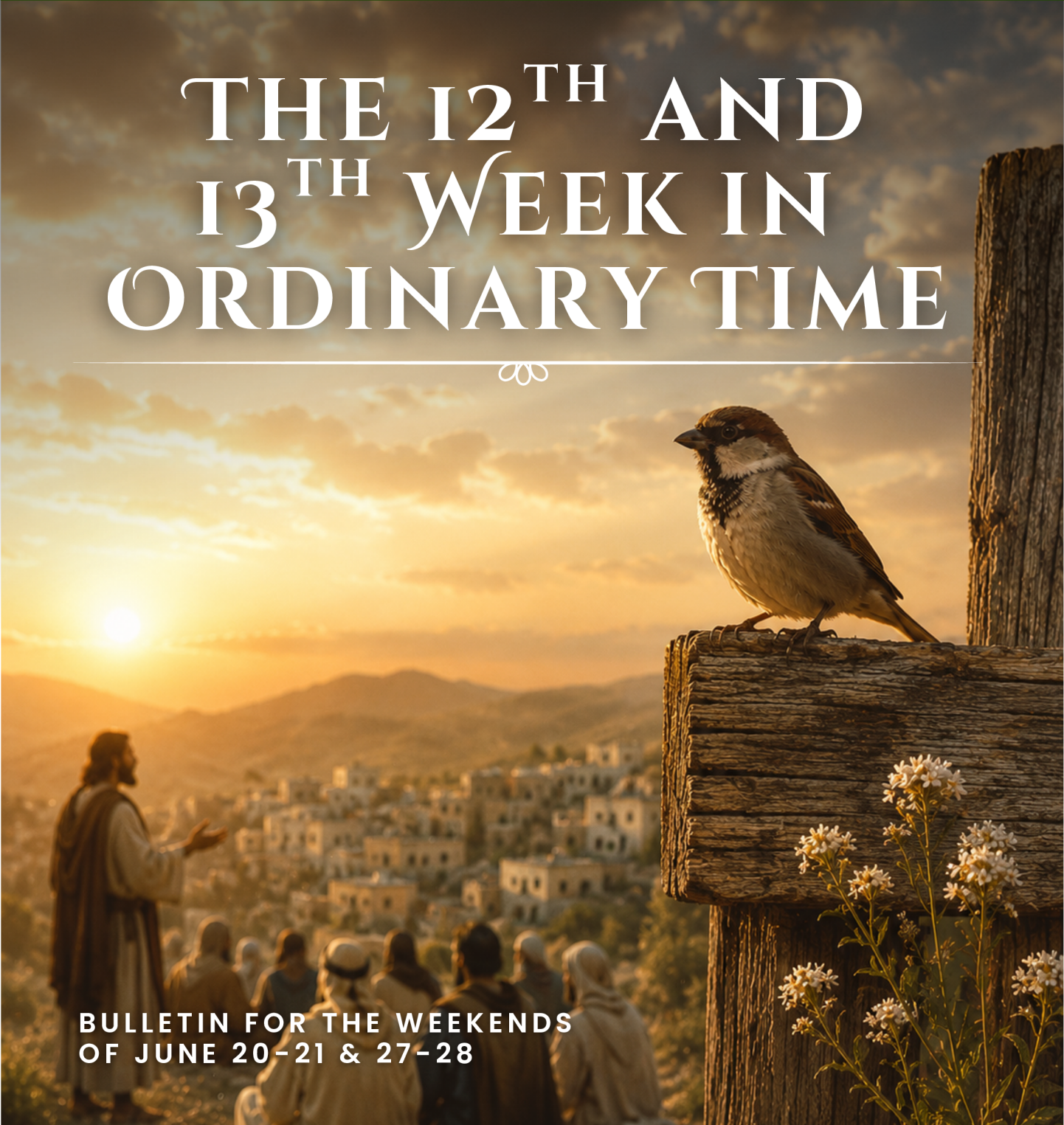


Old St. Mary's Catholic Church

A MINISTRY OF THE PAULIST FATHERS 

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 12TH AND 13TH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME



**BULLETIN FOR THE WEEKENDS
OF JUNE 20-21 & 27-28**

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

Do Not Be Afraid – Learning to Hear the Father

This Father's Day weekend, the Gospel offers us a remarkable reassurance from Jesus: *"Do not be afraid. You are worth more than many sparrows."* He reminds us that God the Father knows us completely, intimately, down to the very hairs on our head. It is an image of a Father who is not distant or indifferent, but close, attentive, and deeply in love with each of us. For most of my life, I heard that truth at Mass. I just didn't feel it.

Faith was part of the family routine growing up, and I'm grateful for that foundation. Candidly, I'll share that I participated in Mass more out of obligation than out of any real relationship with God. I knew about our Heavenly Father. I just didn't know Him. That changed at my first son Cohen's Baptism.

Fr. Brad, our former pastor, now with the Lord, had a way of making sacred moments feel truly alive, and I will always be grateful to him for making that day so special for our family. Standing there with my son, my wife Jennifer and my parents beside me, I felt something I had never felt before: a warmth, a presence, a sense that something holy was happening in and around all of us. I remember Cohen smiling up at Fr. Brad during the blessing, and feeling like something was happening in that exchange that was bigger than all of us. I didn't have a word for it then. I've since come to believe it was the Holy Spirit.

Something had opened in me. And looking back, I can see how the nudges kept coming. My neighbor kept asking me to join the Parish Pastoral Council. I kept saying no, or maybe later. Eventually something shifted and I said yes, not fully knowing why. I had very little idea what I was getting into. What I do know is that it has given me far more than I have given it.

Not long after, Fr. Rich arrived at Old St. Mary's, and I sat down with him and tried to put words to what I had felt at that baptism. I told him that prayer had always felt hollow for me, like I was going through the motions without really connecting. Fr. Rich encouraged me to begin every prayer with the words *"Heavenly Father."* It sounds small. It changed everything. In the two years since, I have prayed more, and received more from prayer, than in the previous 38 years of my life combined.

He also helped me name what I had felt that day. That's how the Holy Spirit works, Fr. Rich told me: quietly, through people, through moments, through a word spoken at the right time. I've come to believe he's right.

At my infant son Mason's first Mass on Easter Sunday this past spring, I stood in the communion line and felt an almost electric sense of presence, that unmistakable feeling that something holy was happening. After receiving his first blessing from Fr. René, President of the Paulist Fathers, Mason turned toward the livestream camera, and my father was watching. His own parish's livestream had gone down that Easter morning, so he had found ours and joined us, six hours away. I had no idea. I only learned later, when he told me he had seen Mason and me in Mass. In that moment, without anyone planning it, every father in my life was present: Our Heavenly Father, our pastoral fathers, and my own dad.

I notice it at Mass too, in moments I once rushed past. Almost every time we pray the Gloria together, I feel it: that same tingling, that same sense of something greater than the room. There are times the feeling is so profound I physically struggle to sing the prayer. During the seasons when the Church intentionally sets the Gloria aside, I miss it. It has become my favorite part of the Mass, the weekly moment I feel His presence most.

My prayer for all of us this weekend is simple: stay open. The Holy Spirit is not silent. Perhaps we are just learning to listen. And once you start listening, you may find, as I have, that He's been with you all along.

On this Father's Day, I'm grateful for every father in my life: our Heavenly Father, my own dad, our pastoral fathers here at OSM, and the pure, surprising joy of being a father myself. And the blessings keep coming. Next month we will celebrate Mason's Baptism, and this fall Cohen begins his own journey at Old St. Mary's School. If only we stay open to receive them, the gifts are everywhere. God is great, and His love is closer than we know.

James Gross

James Gross is a member of the Parish Pastoral Council and School Advisory Board at Old St. Mary's.



One of the great symbols of the United States is the Statue of Liberty, which has served as a beacon of hope for generations of immigrants who have come to these shores seeking a better life and longing to contribute their gifts. She is, in many ways, an icon of the American promise.

We know her torch, raised high as a symbol of hope and freedom. We must also look below to her feet, where the chains of injustice, though broken, are still visible. The statue itself reveals the tension. Our nation holds a great promise, one that has not been fully realized.

The Paulist Fathers, the first community of Catholic priests founded in the United States, join in commemorating the 250th anniversary of our nation's independence. As a diverse community of priests—ourselves immigrants or descendants of immigrants—we neither offer easy congratulations nor surrender to despair. We propose something that is more demanding and more hopeful: an invitation to walk forward together, honestly and humbly, carrying the same light that Lady Liberty holds.

We celebrate the accomplishments and noble aspirations of our nation. And we call on all people to acknowledge our shared responsibility for confronting both the past and present wounds to human dignity—divisive rhetoric, racial injustice, the demonization of immigrants, and the lasting toll of war. May we resolve to make amends for the ways in which we have failed to fulfill our founding ideals of freedom, liberty, and justice for all.

Pope Leo XIV reminds us, “the moral greatness of a nation is manifested, above all, in its capacity to accompany, protect and love those lives that are most fragile.” As Catholic priests rooted in the Gospel of Jesus Christ, we take those words to heart. As we honor this anniversary, we walk with those most vulnerable among us and recommit ourselves to protecting the life and dignity of every human person.

The torch is worth carrying. The chains are worth naming. We pray that we as a nation, at two-hundred fifty years young, have the courage to hold both. May God bless America.



Very Rev. René Constanza, CSP
President, Paulist Fathers

YOUNG Adults

For those 18-39!



UPCOMING EVENTS:

Sunday, June 21

Social after the 4:00 PM Mass

Wednesday, July 1 | 6:00 PM

Evening Mass followed by dinner

Thursday, July 23 | TBD

Outdoor gathering, possibly a concert at Grant Park

Friday, July 31 | 6:00 PM

Evening Social (location TBD)

Wednesday, August 5 | 6:00 PM

Evening Adoration and Talk

Scan the QR code to sign up for the Young Adult mailing list and stay in the loop. We hope to see you this summer!



Knights of Columbus Hospitality, June 21



On Sunday, June 21, Knights of Columbus Council #182 will host hospitality after the 8:30 AM Mass. This will also coincide with the Knights' monthly meeting, which takes place on the third Sunday of each month at 9:45 AM. All parishioners are warmly encouraged to stop by and enjoy some hospitality.

Council #182 is the oldest Knights of Columbus council west of the Allegheny Mountains and is now in its 130th year, all right here at Old St. Mary's. Under the steady guidance of our chaplain and Brother Knight, Fr. Rich, the council continues to grow and welcomes new men who are interested in joining and serving the OSM community.

BELOVED

Praying with LGBTQ+ Catholics

Thursday, June 25 | Mass at 7:00 pm
Old St. Patrick's Church | 700 W Adams St.

Join us in the church for a night to pray with LGBTQ+ Catholics. Through music, scripture, and reflection, we will offer a space for shared prayer during this special time. No matter where you are in your journey of faith, know that you are invited and welcome here as beloved children of God.

Interested in the Catholic Faith?

Are you interested in learning more about the Catholic faith? Are you looking to celebrate the sacraments of initiation, Baptism, Eucharist, or Confirmation? Old St. Mary's welcomes inquirers for our next cohort of OCIA, the Order of Christian Initiation of Adults. OCIA is a safe and welcoming space to explore faith, ask questions, and discern how God may be inviting you to take the next step.



We would be happy to accompany you.
To learn more,
please email
ocia@oldstmarys.com

PAULIST
FATHERS
VOCATIONS



July
24-26
2026

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

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, CSP

Vocation Director

vocations@paulist.org

(917) 763-7899

beapaulist.org/comeandsee

SUNDAY FAITH

Formation

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN



Families with children who do not attend Old St. Mary's School are invited to register for Sunday Faith Formation for the 2026-2027 year.

Registration is also open for Old St. Mary's School families whose children are in a sacramental preparation year:

- 2nd Grade: First Reconciliation
- 3rd Grade: First Communion
- 6th Grade: Confirmation Year I
- 7th Grade: Confirmation Year II

Please scan the appropriate QR code to register.
For more information,
contact Elise Flick at elise@oldstmarys.com.



**Sunday Faith
Formation**



**OSM School
Families**
(Gr. 2, 3, 6, 7)

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, June 21

8:30 AM Colin McKenna (+)
11 AM Joseph Corritore (+)
4 PM People of the Parish

Monday, June 22

8:30 AM Carol J. Sheerin (+)

Tuesday, June 23

8:30 AM Dennis Mulcahy

Wednesday, June 24

8:30 AM Joanne Claire Daclan

Thursday, June 25

8:30 AM Jesus Joson (+)

Friday, June 26

8:30 AM Rustico Joson (+)

Saturday, June 27

5 PM Apolonio Q. Agujo (+)

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, June 28

8:30 AM Cleofe Garcia
11 AM Jaime Imbag (+)
4 PM People of the Parish

Monday, June 29

8:30 AM Maxine Adrienne Fisk

Tuesday, June 30

8:30 AM Rene Labastida (+)

Wednesday, July 1

8:30 AM All Souls in Need

Thursday, July 2

8:30 AM Placido Espiritu (+)

Friday, July 3

8:30 AM Jesus Joson (+)

Saturday, July 4

5 PM Jackson J. Sheerin

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



Next Service Dinner at Catholic Charities is on Tuesday, July 28

Friday, July 3 is a Federal Holiday (Independence Day)

Parish will be closed except for Mass at 8:30 AM

Happy Father's Day

Loving God, we give thanks for fathers,
grandfathers, godfathers,
and all who have shared a father's love.

Bless them with gentleness and strength,
with patience for each day,
and with the quiet joy of knowing
that their love has helped reveal your own.

Hold close, too, all for whom this day is tender or difficult,
and surround every family with your healing peace.

Amen.



PARISH STAFF

Fr. Rich Andre, CSP
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frich@oldstmarys.com | ext. 29

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Associate Pastor
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Elise Flick
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patti@oldstmarys.com

Lauren Huelster
Executive Assistant to the Pastor
lauren@oldstmarys.com | ext. 25

Vanessa Jackson
Mamie Smith
Paula Buckley
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

ANOINTING 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

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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:
www.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/>



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