

⊕ 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 18TH & 19TH WEEK in *Ordinary Time*



**BULLETIN FOR THE WEEKENDS
OF AUGUST 1-2 & 8-9**

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

It Takes a Parish: Passing On Our Faith

When I reconnected with my Catholic faith as an adult, the priest who welcomed me back shared something that has since become a staple of my prayer life: praying the Psalms. (Spoiler alert: this reflection ends with me asking for your help handing on our Christian heritage as he later asked me). The Book of Psalms contains 150 song prayers that were written by various authors to express something in Israel's relationship with God, in good times and in bad. These prayers were all written at a specific historical moment – many during the life of King David – but have been prayed continuously by the Jewish and Christian people since. There are psalms written in thanksgiving, sorrow, frustration, joy, and more. This is the beauty of the Psalms: there is one appropriate to any situation you find yourself in, and by praying it, you bring its wisdom to bear on things you encounter in your own life.

As excitement builds for the start of a new faith formation year, I find myself reflecting on the words of Psalm 78:

³ *What we have heard and know;
[are] things our ancestors have recounted to us.*
⁴ *We do not keep them from our children;
we recount them to the next generation,
The praiseworthy deeds of the Lord and his strength,
the wonders that he performed.*
⁵ *God . . . commanded our ancestors,
they were to teach their children;*
⁶ *That the next generation might come to know,
children yet to be born.*
In turn they were to recount them to their children,
⁷ *that they too might put their confidence in God,
And not forget God's deeds,
but keep his commandments.*

For those interested in learning more about the prayers of Ancient Israel, check out Fr. Rich's source on the Psalms here:



As Christians, we are heirs to this faith – to God's covenant with humanity, from Abraham and his family to people of all nations. Each of us has received the light of faith from those who came before us, and each of us is tasked with passing it on for generations to come. I have the privilege of watching a share of this unfold through our many faith formation ministries. Whether we are preparing parents for the baptism of their child, welcoming new Catholics through OCIA, teaching our children in Sunday Faith Formation or sacrament preparation, or empowering our fully-initiated Catholics to take increasing ownership of their faith through our Adult Faith Formation and Youth Ministry programs, we are keepers of a tradition that has been handed down for thousands of years.

Faith formation is about so much more than any program or curriculum we offer – it is woven into our rhythm of life. Whether you are a parent, a sponsor, a volunteer, or any other member of this community of faith, you play a critical role in the passing on of our Christian identity. When we teach someone – by word or example – to make the Sign of the Cross, to know the story of the Prodigal Son, or to recognize Christ in the Eucharist, we share with them who they are as children of God. Children, in particular, absorb identity long before doctrine: not “the Catholic Church teaches...” but “this is my family, this is our story, and this is the God who loves us.”

This year, we encourage many more members to find ways to get involved with our faith formation ministries – whether you're a catechist every Sunday morning, offer Children's Liturgy of the Word as you're able, volunteer as an OCIA sponsor, serve on our Parent Advisory Team, or occasionally step up to help with sacrament retreats or other seasonal programs; you will be playing a key role passing on the faith that was handed down to us. I'm always happy to chat about what opportunities might be the right fit for you. Remember – the most important thing you bring is not education or training, but identity.

We look forward to another year of learning and growing together, as keepers of our faith here at Old St. Mary's – here's to another great year!

Elise Flick
Director of Lifelong Faith Formation



REGISTER NOW

SUNDAY FAITH *Formation*

SCHOOL SACRAMENTAL *Preparation*

Registration is now open for families whose children will be attending Sunday Faith Formation for the 2026-2027 academic year!



**Sunday Faith
Formation
Registration**

Registration is also open for OSM 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



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

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

New This Fall:

 **PreK4[★] and Kindergarten**
programming during **Sunday Faith Formation!**

Little ones are never too young to start their faith journey! Starting **August 24**, join us on Sunday mornings at **9:45** for a brand new program designed for our youngest learners to grow in their love of God.



Register by
scanning
the QR code

UPDATES ON FACILITIES AND FINANCES

The most urgent need we have right now is hiring a part-time Building Engineer. **We need your help in spreading the word!** Paper copies of the description are available in the commons; an electronic copy is at oldstmarys.com.

Our continued thanks to everyone who has pledged to the Archdiocese of Chicago's *Generation to Generation: Answer the Call* (G2G) capital campaign last fall! We have received \$1.71M in 5-year pledges. The Archdiocese sends us our portion of what is collected quarterly. As of July, the Archdiocese had collected \$662K (39%) of the pledges, half of which (\$331K) is available to Old St. Mary's. Many thanks to all of you who have pledged and given!

Our first priority is fixing the lighting in the church. Redoing some of the outdoor lighting will be a separate project. It will still likely be at least a year before any of the new lights will be installed. Our second priority is replacing the heating, ventilation, and air conditioning system for the church. Because our 24-year-old HVAC does not appear to be in danger of imminent failure, we plan to wait to design it after we have calculated the electrical load of the new lighting.

After the lighting and the HVAC costs are finalized, our hope is that we will have enough G2G funds left over to create a maintenance fund to address repairs needed as our buildings begin to age. **It's not too late to make a pledge to G2G!** You can email lauren@oldstmarys.com to request printed materials or make an appointment with Fr. Rich. When you're ready to pledge, visit gentogen.archchicago.org, and make sure to select "Old St. Mary's Parish" under Parish Designation.

This summer, we have addressed a number of smaller needs. We removed and replaced some deteriorated concrete around the campus. We replaced a few broken pew kneelers in the church and the fire doors to the restrooms off of the commons. We replaced our phone system. Our thanks to Dawn Burns, our business manager, for supervising all these projects!

You may have noticed that the sound quality in the church varies depending on where you sit. Sound upgrades were not proposed in the initial G2G plan. Therefore, we are exploring raising money for a sound upgrade separately. **If you would be interested in making a donation towards the sound upgrade**, please email lauren@oldstmarys.com.

Unfortunately, the July 27 thunderstorm dashed our hopes that City of Chicago's recent alley repavement job had solved our drainage problems — we are filing a claim with insurance for the recent damage, and we are discussing our options for a long-term solution.

Recently, several parishioners came forward with additional pledges to the Archdiocese's Annual Catholic Appeal. Our goal was \$60k. In the past two months, we went from \$50k pledged and \$40k collected to \$67k pledged and \$61k collected. Thank you to everyone who has made pledges!

We also have some good news about the School building loan, a 20-year loan made in 2013 for \$7.3M. In June, we made a one-time \$600k payment against the principal and re-amortized the remaining amount owed to shorten the loan by one year. This will save us \$521k in interest payments over the next 6 years!

Finally: as of June 30, we had exceeded our participation goal for the Annual Paulist Appeal, which funds the education of Paulist seminarians, the healthcare of retired Paulist Fathers, and many Paulist ministries without a dedicated revenue stream. As of June 30, we had collected \$52k. (Last year, we collected \$78k by Dec 31.) **You can still make a donation at paulist.org/apr**; designate Old St. Mary's as your parish. Thank you!

SAVE THE DATE

UPCOMING EVENTS AT Old St. Mary's

Holy Smokes!

OSM COMMUNITY SUMMER-END PICNIC

FEATURING A
PARISH MINISTRY FAIR!

**Sunday,
August 23**

after the 11:00 AM Mass



Old St. Mary's
Commons & Courtyard

**ALL Parishioners
and School Families
Welcome!**

Blessing of Backpacks and Students
at the 11:00 AM Mass!



**FAITH
FORMATION**

Kick-Off!

**Sunday, August 30,
9:45-10:45 am**



FAMILY MASS & FALL FESTIVAL

Family Mass

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27
11:00 AM**

Followed by Fall Festival

Celebrated jointly with
Soka Gakkai International
Buddhists

11 AM - 2 PM



MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, August 2

8:30 AM Christine & Edward Taylo
11 AM George W. Groble (+)
Angelina Ihejirika (99th Birthday)
4 PM People of the Parish

Monday, August 3

8:30 AM Julie J. Sheerin

Tuesday, August 4

8:30 AM Lorraine & Laverne Rohr (+)

Wednesday, August 5

8:30 AM Maria & Dominic Lee (+)

Thursday, August 6

8:30 AM Stephen & Mary Jane
Oleszkiewicz (+)

Friday, August 7

8:30 AM Aimee Koonmen, OP (+)

Saturday, August 8

5 PM Betty Justus (+)

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, August 9

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

Monday, August 10

8:30 AM Amoussou Fabrice Gildas

Tuesday, August 11

8:30 AM Jennie Corritore (+)

Wednesday, August 12

8:30 AM Emelia Joson (+)

Thursday, August 13

8:30 AM Dennis M. Sheerin (+)

Friday, August 14

8:30 AM Jose Garcia (+)

Saturday, August 15

5 PM Paterno Garcia (+)

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



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! Email Fr. Dan to have your email address reinstated.



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, email
ocia@oldstmarys.com

Our 2026-2027 cohort will gather for the first time on
Sunday, September 13.

NEXT YOUNG ADULT EVENT

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Come after work & spend a few moments in quiet prayer before our Lord and allow yourself to be renewed by God's presence. Fr. Dan will offer a short meditation, and be available for confession. All young adults are welcome.

WEDNESDAY

AUGUST 14

6:00 - 7:00 PM



PARISH STAFF

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

Fr. Dan Macalinao, CSP
Associate Pastor
frdan@oldstmarys.com | ext. 20

Ace Gangoso
Director of Liturgy and Music
ace@oldstmarys.com | ext. 14

Elise Flick
Director of Lifelong Faith Formation
elise@oldstmarys.com | ext. 26

Dawn Burns
Business Manager
dawn@oldstmarys.com | ext. 23

April Greer
Old St. Mary's School Principal
agreer@osmschool.com | 312-386-1560

Patti Murphy
Facility & Events Coordinator
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

<https://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

ANOIDTING 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

Are You in Your 20s or 30s?

Come connect with other young adults at Old St. Mary's! Our Young Adult Group gathers for faith, fellowship, and fun. We provide a variety of programming to engage those from 18-39 at OSM, whether it's small groups, service projects, or social events.



Scan the QR code to sign up
for our young adult mailing list!



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:
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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