



OUR LADY OF AFRICA

PARISH BULLETIN

Sunday, November 20, 2022



Served by the Society of the Divine Word



Mass Schedule

Saturday Vigil: 4:00 p.m.

Sunday: 9:00 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. (Livestream)

1:30 p.m.—Ghanaian Community (1st and 2nd Sunday each month)

2:00 p.m.—Igbo Community (3rd and 4th Sunday each month)

6:00 p.m.—French speaking Community (1st Sunday each month)

Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)

By appointment—(773) 624-5375

Saturday 3:00 - 3:45 p.m.

Pastor

Father Bob Kelly, SVD

Contact Us

Phone: 773-624-5375

Email: ourladyofafricachicago@gmail.com

Church Address

615 East Oakwood Boulevard
Chicago, IL 60653

Office Hours

Monday - Friday: 9:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Parish Administrator: Ms. Shirley McKinney



This Week at OLA

Sunday, November 20

- First Communion
- 10 a.m. | Tolton Center
- Adoration - 10 a.m. | Side Chapel
- RCIA - 10 a.m. | Parish Office
- Sunday School - 11:30 a.m.
| Sunday School Room
- Confirmation Classes - 1:30 p.m.
| Tolton Center

Tuesday, November 22

- Phone-in Bible Study - 6 p.m.

Thursday, November 24

- Thanksgiving Mass - 10 a.m. | Parish

Saturday, November 26

- Choir Rehearsal - 1 p.m. | Sanctuary

Sunday, November 27

- RCIA - 10 a.m. | Parish Office
- Sunday School - 11:30 a.m.
| Sunday School Room

Ministry List for Next Weekend

Saturday Vigil Mass - November 26

- Lectors: Theresa Rhea
Silmon Reed

Sunday 9 a.m. - November 27

- Lectors: Debra Causay
Patricia Brown
- Eucharistic Ministers:
Barbara Edwards-Hill
Shirley McKinney

Sunday 11:30 a.m. - November 27

- Lectors: Marcheta Smith
Liz Mardis
- Eucharistic Ministers:
Velma Hill
Trish Rawls

Requesting Mass Intentions

For those who would like to remember a loved one (living or deceased), a special occasion or a specific concern, Masses can be offered for those intentions. Please submit a Mass Intention request by calling the Parish Office.

Donations

Your continued donations to support Our Lady of Africa Parish can be given by going to the following links:

<https://donate.holyangelschicago.com/give>

Or Scan this QR Code



Please mail your donations to the following address:
Our Lady of Africa Parish
615 E Oakwood Blvd
Chicago, IL 60653

Angel Tree Christmas Donations

Discover the Joy of Angel Tree Christmas. The Angel Tree Program helps give gifts to hundreds of thousands of children each year. We are asking for gifts for children between November 19 and December 15th.

Please contact Debra Crosby for more information.
Email: debracrosby7@yahoo.com

Parish Office Closed for Holidays

The Parish Office will be closed for the Thanksgiving Holiday on Thursday, November 24th and Friday, November 25th. Normal business hours will resume the following Monday, November 28th.

Please Remember in Your Prayers

- **+Theresa Edwards**, the aunt of Tyrone Pittman, passed away this past weekend. Please remember her and Tyrone's Family in your prayers.
- **+Todd Washington**, the son of **Rose Washington** and brother of **Parris Washington**, passed away this past Monday. Please keep the Washington family in your prayers.
- We continue to pray for **Deacon Michael Foggie** who had foot surgery this past Wednesday.

A Message from the Pastor



Father Bob Kelly, SVD

Dear Parishioners,

This week we celebrate the Thanksgiving Holiday with our Families, Friends, and Loved Ones. It is a time to pray, give thanks and gather for fellowship and, of course, good food.

It is a time for gratitude for the blessings of the past year. It may also be a time for remembering those who are no longer with us this Thanksgiving, which can be a very bittersweet moment.

Gratitude to God is a wonderful prayer which lets God know how we really feel in our hearts. A couple of prayers I found may be helpful as you gather to give thanks this Thursday.

"Thank you for your amazing power and work in our lives, thank you for your goodness and for your blessings over us. Thank you that you are Able to bring hope through even the toughest of times, strengthening us for your purposes. Thank you for your great love and care. Thank you for your mercy and grace. Thank you that you are always with us and will never leave us. Thank you for your incredible sacrifice so that

we might have freedom and life. Forgive us for when we don't thank you enough, for who you are, for all that you do, for all that you've given. Help us to set our eyes and our hearts on you afresh. Renew our spirits, fill us with your peace and joy. We love you and we need you, this day and every day. We give you praise and thanks, for You alone are worthy! In Jesus' Name, Amen."

If someone in your Family passed away this year, another prayer of Thanks may be helpful for you at this time.

"Heavenly Father, we come to You today with grateful hearts, recognizing the many gifts You've given us that have allowed for this special meal to come together. Still, we acknowledge our sadness that our gathering today feels incomplete. We lift up to You our dearly departed, [Say names of lost loved ones] and ask You to bless them as you bless us. We're comforted by the promise of Your Kingdom and look forward to one day sharing together in a heavenly feast with all those who are not with us today. In Your name, we pray. Amen."

If you can, please join us for Mass on Thanksgiving Day at 10:00 am in the Church. At this Mass, I give thanks for all of you and your Families. Wishing you a blessed day of Thanksgiving!

Fr. Bob Kelly, SVD

Parish Directory

Baptisms

Tina Carter
finalcarter71@gmail.com

Blessed Sacrament Society

Linda Broadnax - President

Confirmation

Tina Carter, Stephanie Gado
Theresa Rhea

Clergy

Fr. Bob Kelly, SVD - Pastor
bkellysvd@gmail.com
Fr. Carl Gales, SVD - Associate
galesce0422@gmail.com
Fr. Tracy O'Sullivan, O.Carm.
Dcn. Michael Foggie
Dcn. Ivan Lazcano
Dcn. Merv Johnson
Dcn. Manie Manuel, SVD

Events Committee

Keisha Chavers - Chairperson

First Communion

Barbara Edwards-Hill
Lisa Littleton

Food Pantry

Ladell Johnson

Funerals

Katie Jordan
kwcluwpresident@gmail.com

Knights of Peter Claver

Thomas Rich - Grand Knight

Knights of Peter Claver Lady's Auxiliary

Lena Young - Grand Lady

Maintenance

Bobby Malone
Tyrone Smith

Men's Coalition

Michael Morman - President

Music Ministry

Tyrone Pittman

Parish Administrator

Shirley McKinney
773-624-5375

Religious Missionary

Brother Alu Aisi, SVD

School and Church Liaison

LaTanya Berry-Johnson

Seminararian

Frater Zachary Smith, SVD

Sunday School

Eileen Foggie

Tolton Heritage Center

Regina Cook
773-268-1518

Ushers and Greeters

Jackson Lucas



Black Catholic History Month



Joyce Franklin

Born in Memphis and raised in Chicago, Joyce Franklin's Catholic journey began as an eager first grader attending St. Cecilia's Catholic School in the Fuller Park community. Two of Ms. Joyce's fondest memories of attending St. Cecilia was her excitement about being on time for school and her favorite teacher, Sr. Mary Ida.

Ms. Joyce is a mother of six—including two sets of twins—a grandmother of 10 and a great-grandmother of, as she says, “a number in the teens.”

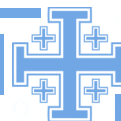
In her 40s, Ms. Joyce became a member of St. Ambrose Parish under the leadership of Fr. David Jones. On any given Sunday, Ms. Joyce would be toting a grandchild or a great-grandchild or children to Mass. She wanted them to build a spiritual life and to know the Lord. Even one of her daughters, Jill, who is Baptist, enjoys accompanying Ms. Joyce to Mass.

Initially, Ms. Joyce started volunteering with the Hospitality Ministry, which included some of the Parish's most revered members: Nellie Ivy & the Ivy Family and Mr. & Mrs. James Barnett. Eventually, Ms. Joyce became a Eucharistic Minister and a Sacristan. She travelled to administer Communion to the sick and shut in and went to fellow parishioners' homes to take food and clothing—a majority of the time on public transportation. She checked in on parishioners to make sure that they were okay, or to just say, ‘Hi!’ A birthday would always come with a card and a smile. Caring for others is in Joyce Franklin's DNA.

At St. Ambrose, Ms. Joyce was one of the most trusted and reliable church volunteers. She was there when the church doors opened, she was there when the church doors closed, and all the time in between. As a parishioner of Our Lady of Africa, Ms. Joyce has not missed a beat. Her trustworthiness and reliability are innate. You can find her volunteering, attending Bible Study, watering the plants, preparing for Mass, and occasionally, being a lector.

As a Black Catholic and a woman of God, Ms. Joyce is grateful, humble and says she will “continue to serve God as she always has through her faith.”

-Keisha Chavers



On this feast of Christ the King we celebrate a "kingdom of truth and life, a kingdom of holiness and grace, a kingdom of justice, love and peace" (Preface of Christ the King). We are asked to gaze again on the Crucified Christ. We are driven to ponder Mary's words: **How can this be?**

We have journeyed the year with St. Luke's Gospel. We have been invited into the mystery where the last shall be first, and the first last. We have heard the strange teaching where we have to lose our life to save it. Even stranger, we were told to "**Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you...to the person who strikes you on one cheek, offer the other as well.**" (Lk 6:27-29)

As we contemplate the mangled body of our King, so many events of the Gospel journey seem like a long-faded past. The miracle worker and the healer is hidden in the agony of the Cross. Peter's boat overflowing with the great catch, the multiplication of the loaves and fishers, Bartimeaus jumping for joy with his new sight, the penitent woman rejoicing in her tears and so many other events unveiling the gracious possibilities in life.

We have to ask, how is such a radical turn to darkness possible? The contradiction of the Cross goes so beyond any possible human understanding.

Yet we ponder and see a crucified Savior and Messiah, a King in total poverty and apparent defeat. A leader has been abandoned by almost all. With good reason we need to ask, **How can this be?**

The mockery of the rulers, the soldiers and even the unrepentant thief holds the seed of the answer. "Save yourself." Indeed, the message is one of salvation. But even to the very end Jesus is not about himself but the servant of others. In Luke's Passion there is one theme that invites us deeper into the mystery of Jesus' saving love: Jesus is always concerned about others. In the garden, it is the man whose ear was cut off. On the road to Calvary, he showed his sympathy for the women. This loving concern bursts out most clearly in the encounter with the good thief. With a heart unlocked by this compassionate love, Dismas is able to see a Savior and a King. "**Today you will be with me in paradise.**" (Lk 23:43)

Luke's pattern of reversal, the upside down world of Jesus' Gospel, has its ultimate expression in today's Gospel: death giving way to life! It is not only the good thief, but all of us, who celebrate the victory of a loving God answering our question, **How can this be?** The unconditional love of God revealed in Jesus Crucified and Jesus Risen tells us how this can be! Alleluia!

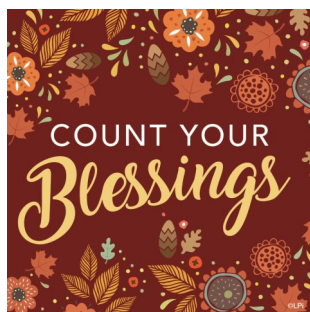
Message from Fr. Carl

As Thanksgiving draws near, I am reminded of gratitude. When I was young, the saying was "your attitude determines your altitude." In that spirit, I would like to say how grateful I am for all of you and how you have been helpful and willing to be of service to our parish. Despite ups and downs, you have consistently shown up and showed out!! Please know that I am here to serve. Whatever I can do, by the grace of God, I will do. Have a blessed weekend and an even better Thanksgiving!

Vocation Reflection

The Church needs shepherds. Pray that the bishops will lead us well and rely on the power of God.

Sister Servants of the Holy Spirit - 800-553-3321 Divine Word Missionaries



T-shirts Available

T-shirts from the 2022 Men's Conference are available for a \$10.00 donation. The sizes are XL to 4X.

Please contact Marcheta Smith after the 11:30 a.m. Mass next week on November 27th.



Upcoming Events

CELEBRATING
20 Years
"Better Together"

THE CHICAGO COMMUNITY CHORUS invites you to...
SONGS OF THE SEASON
HANDEL'S Messiah

FEATURING...
The Chicago Community Chorus and Orchestra
with Conductors Dr. Keith Hampton, Michele Douglas and Christopher Joyner

Featured Soloists

Josefien Stoppelenburg - soprano -
Teniya Mackey - alto -
Christopher Joyner - tenor -
Robert Sims - baritone -

SATURDAY 12/3/22
7:00PM
Greater Harvest M.B. Church
5141 South State Street
Chicago, Illinois
- MASKS ARE OPTIONAL -

Scan to Purchase Tickets Today!

\$25 ADULTS
\$10 STUDENTS

FOLLOW US ON: Dr. Keith Hampton Artistic Director and Founder

Paving The Way Project Inc.
7th Annual Breakfast with Santa Grab & Go
December 17, 2022 10:00 am - 1:00pm
Our Lady of Africa - St. Elizabeth Site
44 E. 41st St, Chicago, IL

Register at: <https://https://santa-grab-go.eventbrite.com>

Registered Children Up to 16 Years Old Must Be Present To Receive Gift
Covid-19 Guidelines will be followed and **EVERYONE** must wear masks

Young Adult Evening Prayer
via Zoom with the
 School Sisters of Notre Dame

TUESDAYS
8p ET / 7p CT
6p MT / 5p PT

September 27
October 25
November 22
December 20

Register in advance at ssnd.org/events



Scan me

Follow us on
 Instagram
[@ssndsisters](https://www.instagram.com/ssndsisters)

Breakfast with Santa



Our Lady of Africa Men's Coalition and Sponsors will have their Annual Breakfast with Santa on December 4, 2022 immediately following the 11:30 a.m. Mass in the Parish Hall.

Please RSVP by November 20th by calling the Parish Office and providing the name, age, and gender of the child you wish to receive a gift.

If you wish to donate unwrapped toys you can bring them to the church and place them in the Red Container located in the Narthex. Donations of cash, checks or gift cards should be given to one of the Men's Coalition Members. Thank you in advance for your generosity!

Christmas Mass Schedule

- **CHRISTMAS EVE - Saturday, December 24, 2022**
4:00 p.m. Christmas Vigil Mass
- **CHRISTMAS DAY - Sunday, December 25, 2022**
10:00 a.m. Christmas Mass of the Day

Blessed Sacrament Society News

We want to thank everyone for their contributions for our Stay At Home Tea and Raffle. With your support, we were able to raise \$4,000.

The Tea and Raffle was sponsored by the Blessed Sacrament Society.

Youth Group Meeting

There will be a brief 15 minute Youth Group Meeting for kids aged 9 to 18 in the front of the church after the 11:30 a.m. Mass on the 27th of November. Parents and people interested in Youth Ministry are encouraged to attend as well.

Help Needed

An senior parishioner is in need of someone to help with snow removal during the cold winter months. Would you be able to assist? If you are able to and willing, please contact the Parish Office and we will give you further information. Thank you in advance for your generosity!

OLA Book Club



Our first book selection is Michelle Obama's latest book, **"The Light We Carry."**

"In 'The Light We Carry,' Mrs. Obama offers readers a series of fresh stories and insightful reflections on change, challenge, and power, including her belief that when we light up for others, we can illuminate the richness and potential of the world around us..."
(Penguin Random House)

Please sign up in the Narthex for the OLA Book Club. We will have our first meeting in January 2023.

Announcements in the Bulletin

Please submit your announcements and inserts for the bulletin no later than 4 p.m. on Tuesday of each week. Thank you for your understanding.



Please Remember Those on Our Sick and Shut-In List in your Prayers

Ophelia Adams
Curtis Albright
Dorla Allen
Patrice Anderson
Jessie Andrews
James Barker
Donald Barner
Louise Bates
Myra Baugh
David Berry
Mary Berry
Helen Brooms
Christine Brown
Barbara McGee-Berry
Arthur Brooks
Patricia Brown
Roscoe Burns
Michael Burt
Dean Brazier
James Brazier
Marilyn Campbell
Esperanza Carr
Russell Carter
Lillian Cherry
Michael A. Clark
Lydia Clark
Willie B. Clay
Catherine Crosby
Mary Crawford
Sr. Eleanor Doidge
Cecelia Douglas
Judith Easter
Elsie Freeman
Wanda Finney
Ola Mae Forde
Nazaree Fuller
Tyrone Fuller
Rosemary Gardner
Frederick Gibson
Florence Glenn
Andre D. Golden
Mable Gray

Bettie Green
Eleanor Griffin
Barbara Golden
Anna Marie Hampton
Exie Haralson
Catherine Harper
Marjorie Heard
Lorraine Henderson
Justine Henderson
Jim Henkel
Kelly Robin Hill
Hugh Hodges
Rita Holland
Sandra Houston
Doris Humphries
Nolan Humphries
George James
Janet James
Leslie Jackson
Mildred Jackson
Majorbelle James
Therese Jessie
Cindy Jirsa
Annette Lee
Susan Larry McKeever
Denise Lawson
Gloria Leonard
Lugenia Lewis
Jan Johnson
Pamela Jones
Betty Lumpkins
Lenda Mason
Gail McGruder
McShan Family
Bernadine McNeal
Anastacia Mebane
Judy Michaelis
Deborah Mitchell
Argentry Mitchell
Geraldine Moore
Jeff Moore
Michael Moore

Euphrasia Mutinda
Maria Jossey Owen
Gregory Papesch
Minnette Penman
Allen Peoples
Sr. Jamie Phelps, O.P.
Marionette Phelps
Jean Porter
Louise Ray
Clara Reisner
Tyna Rule
Phyllis Shackelford
Alfrances Sharpe
Beverly Sims
Shirley Simmons
Emma Stewart
Margaret Stewart
Alonzo Studstill
Janice Taylor
Alice Thompson
Cynthia Thompson
Renee Trotter
Audrey Tuggle
Joanne Wallace
Joyce Wallace
Tandra Watson
Rachel Watson
Doris Whitaker
Eryn Whitaker
Rita White
Yvonne Whitenier
Arlene G. Williams
Dorothy Williams
Evelyn Williams
Naiya Williams
Michael Williams
Patricia Williams
Sheila Williams
Sunnette Varnado Smith

