# OUR LADY OF AFRICA PARISH

615 E. OAKWOOD BLYD. CHICAGO, IL 60653-2309, PHONE: 773-624-5375 SOLEMNITY OF PENTECOST SUNDAY - JUNE 5, 2022



**Served by: The** *Society of the Divine Word...* Popularly known as the Divine Word Missionaries *Pastor: Fr. Bob Kelly, SVD,* Fr. Carl Gales, SVD, Brother Alu Aisi, SVD, Frater Manie Manuel, SVD, Frater Andrew Wang, SVD, Frater Zachary Smith, SVD Senior Deacon Mervin Johnson, Deacon Ivan Lazcano, Deacon Michael Foggie Fr. Tracy O'Sullivan, O.Carm., Fr. Mark Weber, SVD, Weekend Assistants

### Welcome to Our Lady of Africa Parish.

We are Blessed with your presence here today. We have been walking with Jesus on the Road to Emmaus. All of us are missionary disciples walking with Jesus telling the story to him about what happened in Jerusalem. It is in the Gospel of Luke 24: 13-35. And, as they told the story, they were unable to recognize Jesus. When they invited Jesus to share a meal with them, they recognized him in "the breaking of the bread." Let us recognize Jesus in one another as we gather to celebrate Mass at Our Lady of Africa today and every Sunday. The Eucharist is the "summit and source of our lives as Christians." (Vatican II)

#### **Office Hours**

Monday to Friday: 9:00 AM-3:30 PM

Contact: Shirley McKinney **Phone:** 773-624-5375

Fax: 773-624-8393

Email:

ourladyofafricachicago@gmail.com

**Saturday Vigil:** 4:00 PM Our Lady of Africa Parish, 615 E. Oakwood Blvd, 60653

**Sunday Mass:** 9:00AM and 11:30AM Facebook Livestream 11:30 AM Mass and YouTube after 6:00 PM at:



**Weekday Masses:** Monday-Friday 8:00 PM Tolton Heritage Center Rectory

Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)

Saturday 3:00PM -- 3:30PM

Holy Days: 10:30 AM: TBD

**French Community Mass:** 6:00PM First Sunday of Month

Fr. Joseph Mukuna, SCJ

**Ghanaian Community Mass:** 1:30PM First and Second Sunday of Month Fr. David Ahiahornu

**Igbo Community Mass:** 2:30 PM Third and Fourth Sunday of Month Fr. Stan Chu IIo

# Lenten Bible Study:

Every Wednesday at 11AM
Fr. Clements/Fr. Smith Parish
Hall with

Fr. Tracy O'Sullivan, O.Carm

### **Bible Study**

Tuesday at 6-7 PM Use Conference Call & Code

#### **Food Pantry**

Every Thursday at 4058 S. Michigan Ave, and every Fourth Saturday of month at 44 E. 41st. Hours for both are: 10:00 AM until 12:00 noon.

All are welcome!





# Message from our Pastor...



#### Dear Parishioners,

Our Confirmation Candidates, who have been preparing to receive the Sacrament for 2 years, will be Confirmed on Sunday at the 11:30 am Mass. We welcome Bishop Joseph N. Perry to Anoint them with the Gift of the Holy Spirit.

#### A Reflection on what this Feast means for us...

"On Pentecost, we celebrate the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the apostles gathered full of fear in the upper room in Jerusalem. This marks the beginning of the Church. Like the disciples on that first Pentecost, these last two years with the effects of the Coronavirus pandemic and the fears that come with it, this has been a time of waiting for the Holy Spirit to renew the face of the earth.

We welcome the Holy Spirit into our hearts and lives to give hope to the hearts that are frightened. Today's Gospel tells of how Jesus gave the gift of the Holy Spirit to his disciples. Jesus breathes the Holy Spirit into the disciples and by doing so he re-creates them. Jesus' life-giving breath mirrors the breath of God given to human beings at the beginning of creation when God breathes life into the clay and made humans a living creation. It is because of this divine indwelling that we have the power to forgive and thus continue Jesus' saving mission. We are the incarnation of the risen Lord in our world today. We are re-created by the Holy Spirit. The sign of this re-creation is forgiveness.

The Feast of Pentecost reminds us that there is an important connection between the gifts of peace and forgiveness and the action of the Holy Spirit. We are reminded that the Church is called to be God's reconciling presence in the world. This reconciling presence is also to be a way of life for Christians. In situations of conflict, we are to be agents of peace and harmony among all people.

Jesus greets his disciples with the gift of peace. "Peace be with you," he says. Jesus then commissions his disciples to continue the work that he has begun: "As the Father has sent me, so I send you." He breathes the Holy Spirit upon the disciples and sends them to continue his work of reconciliation through the forgiveness of sins. Both the Greek and Hebrew words for "spirit" can also be translated as "breath."

As we celebrate this great feast of the Church's fifty days after the resurrection of Jesus, how have we been a sign of reconciliation in our families, in our world, and among people of faith everywhere? Have we been an instrument of God's peace to everyone we meet?"

A special thank you to All our Catechists who have prepared these young members of our Parish to receive this Sacrament. Let us Bless our Candidates and their Families with our Prayers today.

Fr. Bob Kelly, SVD





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

https://donate.holyangelschicago.com/give

Scan QR Codes

**Facebook** 

YouTube

**Online Giving** 







Donation offerings are mailed to the following address:
Our Lady of Africa Parish
615 E Oakwood
Chicago, IL 60653

## Website for Our Lady of Africa





Father Tracy's Blog Praying Alone Together

#### THE FREE CONFERENCE CALL NUMBER

The new phone number is 1-267-807-9601 and the access code will remain the same: 340355967.

Currently this line is used for Bible Study on Tuesday evenings at 6:00 PM, the Prayer Line on Thursday morning at 9:00 AM and the Dial in Prayer Service on Sunday Morning at 10:00 AM.



### June 5 - Pentecost Sunday

A Vocation View: The disciples of Jesus made bold proclamations through the promptings of the Spirit. What is the Spirit prompting you to do? Be courageous and act on it!

DIVINE WORD MISSIONARIES and SISTER

DIVINE WORD MISSIONARIES and SISTER SERVANTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT 800-553-3321



Camille Michelle Butler - Jonathan Costelo Samira Anayah Rawls - Casey Joy Wiggins Caesar Maximilian McDaniel IV

#### Parish Up Coming Events

06/08 -NO BIBLE STUDY IN PERSON

06/11-12 -Second Collection for Priests Retirement Fund. Envelopes are available.

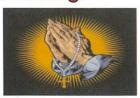
06/15 -Bible Study at 11:00 AM

06/18 -Health Prevention 10:00 AM—12:00 Noon in OLOA Hall.

06/19—First Communion 11:30 AM Mass

# Please remember the following in your prayers for healing:

Argentry Mitchell Catherine Cosby David Berry Helen Brooms



### **Mass Intention & Repose Souls**

- +Tamara Hudson & Arthemise Washington: From Taliva Tillman
- +Dorothy Crawford

# The Prayer of Our Lady of Africa

Our Lady of Africa,

mother of the human family, Be mindful of your African children, at home or dispersed on other continents.

You who are full of grace,

look upon all those who do not know Jesus, the Son sent by the Father. May his light draw them and make them receptive to the gift of Faith.

You, who are one with Christ
In suffering and in glory,
Be mindful of those assailed by trials,
That they may discover
His liberating Passover, and live by it in hope.

You who turned to Jesus

When the wine of joy ran out Be mindful of peoples in distress, That justice and peace may prevail In a united world where Charity reigns.

You who, in the midst of the Apostles, Received the breath of the Spirit Be mindful of the apostles of today. May they announce the Word with assurance And proclaim it by their lives. May young people hear the call of Christ And follow him with joy.

Our Lady of Africa, Queen of the universe,

Be mindful of humanity on the way. May Christ your Son, gather all peoples In the unity of his Spirit To the glory of the Father For ages to come.

Amen.

Sacrament of Reconciliation on Saturday: 3:00PM-3:30PM



Sick & Shut-in



Curtis Albright Dorla Allen Patrice Anderson Jessie Andrews James Barker Donald Barner Louise Bates Myra Baugh David Berry Helen Brooms Christine Brown Barbara McGee-Berry Patricia Brown Roscoe Burns Michael Burt Dean Brazier James Brazier Calicott Family Marilyn Campbell Esperanza Carr Russell Carter Lillian Cherry Michael A. Clark Lydia Clark Willie B. Clay Catherine Cosby Mary Crawford Ella Crossley Sr. Eleanor Doidge Cecelia Douglas Judith Easter Deborah Edmundson 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 Vircy Spight-Harris Marjorie Heard Lorraine Henderson Justin Henderson-Jim Henkel Barbara Edwards-Hill Kelly Robin Hill Velma Hill **Hugh Hodges** Rita Holland Sandra Houston **Doris Humphries** Nolan Humphries George James Janet James Thelma Jackson Leslie Jackson Mildred Jackson Trudy 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 Anastacia Mebane Donna Perisee-**McFarlane** Gail McGruder McShan Family Donald McKinney, Jr. Bernadine McNeal Deborah Mitchell Argentry Mitchell Geraldine Moore-Jeff Moore

Michael Moore Maria Jossey Owen Gregory Papesh Minnette Penman Allen Peoples Sr. Jamie Phelps, O.P. Marionette Phelps Jean Porter Deborah Powell Louise Ray 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 Mrs. P. Wells Doris Whitaker Eryn Whitaker Rita White Yvonne Whitenier Arlene G. Williams Dorothy Williams Evelyn Williams Naiya Williams Michael Williams Patricia Williams Sheila Williams Euphrasia Mutinda Sunnette Varnado Smith

Take a moment to remember our sick & shut-in members by calling and keeping them in your prayers.

Please notify the office when a name need to be added to or removed from the Prayer List.

Thank you.

Dear friends,

Jesus had just experienced the most profound expression of evil ever in His Passion and Death. This encounter with the consequences of sin and death had terrorized his disciples. They hid in fear and confusion. Despair had conquered the most minimal element of hope. Faith and trust had fled with the arrival of the mob in the Garden.

They now huddled together in the naked vulnerabity of their humanity.

All of a sudden Jesus is in their midst. His message is not vengeance. Amazingly, He does not even point the finger at their cowardly collapse. His trusted disciples were too awe-struck to feel the shame. It was a "wow" moment to the thousandth degree.

His message was direct, clear, and simple: "Peace be with you." (In 20:19) In addition to the peace He renders the power of forgiveness. These two gifts of peace and forgiveness are in the context of His commissioning of the disciples. "'As the Father has sent me, I send you.' As He said this He breathed on them and said, 'Receive the holy Spirit.'" (In20:21-23)

Receiving the Holy Spirit is a symbol of a new creation. Just as God breathed life into Adam in the Garden, so too, Jesus breathed new life into the disciples that makes them holy and leads them to conquer evil. This is made possible by the love expressed in the gifts of peace and forgiveness.

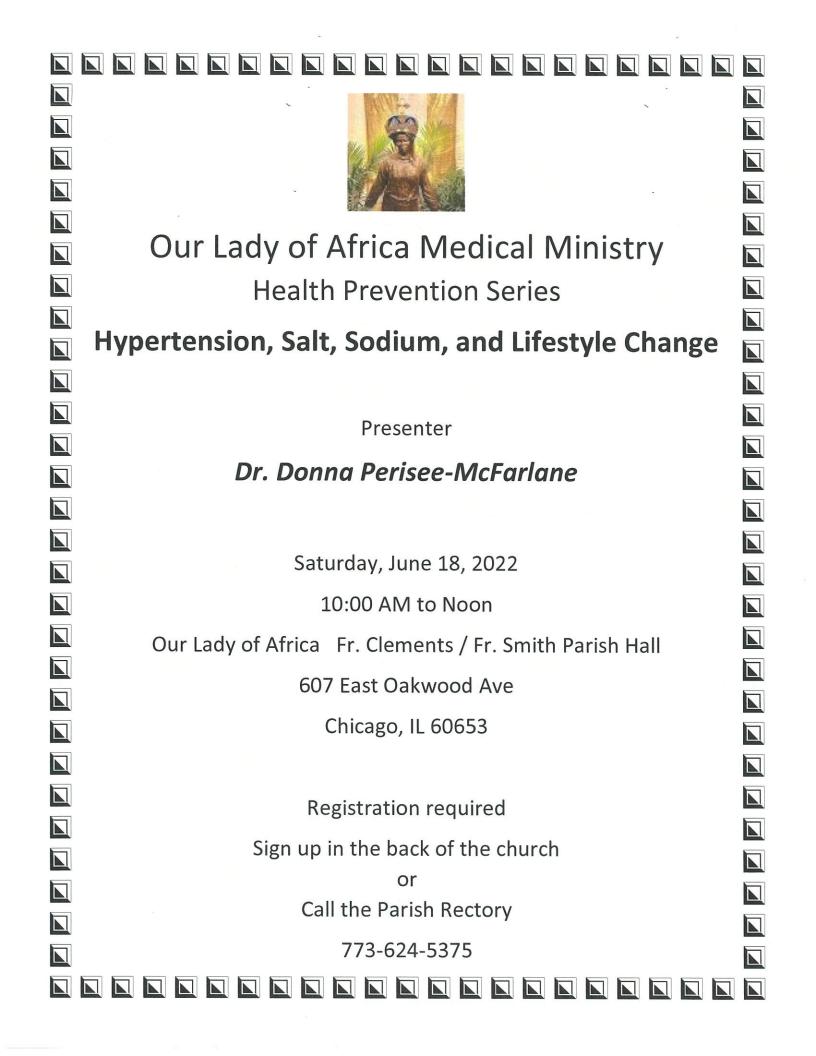
After the encounter, the disciples' story is very different. Fear gives way to courage and commitment. A new conviction leads them to confront power with patience and perseverance. The Gospel is proclaimed in spite of conflict and confusion. Cultural barriers and native parochial narrowness open up to a universal community that continues to grow in openness to this very day.

Just as in the Resurrection of Jesus, the changed disciples witness to the victory of love over evil and death. The seeds of the new creation began in the transformed hearts of these very weak and pedestrian followers of Christ. They began an ever expanding community of faith that has survived and prospered over these two thousand years.

Paul draws us into the beautiful mystery of how this new creation flows from the Spirit-filled hearts of the recipients of the Holy Spirit. In Galatians Paul writes: "I say live by the Spirit and you will certainly not gratify the desires of the flesh...the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control."(Gal 5:16, 22-23)

Today, on this feast of Pentecost, we are invited again to receive the gifts of peace and forgiveness. To do so we need to turn away from sin which is a refusal to love. Like the first disciples, the Spirit beckons us to continually expand the horizons of our love. For most of us this demands forgiveness with a risk wrapped in courage.

The peace of Christ comes at a price. The patience and gentleness along with the joy and kindness and the other fruits of the Spirit described by Paul are ever so precious gifts. They are possible only in a heart seeking reconciliation that brings the new life of Christ into a world ravaged by sin and death. This is the call for us on this Pentecost: transform our lives by the gift of Christ's peace and His call to forgiveness. Slowly, we must understand that for the Spirit there is no limit on forgiveness and the target of inclusiveness is ever expanding and dynamic. The numerous descriptions of "those people" in our heart have to give way a new definition of "us". In this struggle to move out of our comfortable world, we will find the only way that leads to the prized gift of Christ's peace.





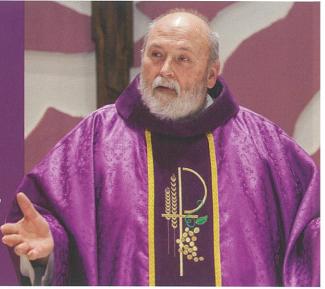
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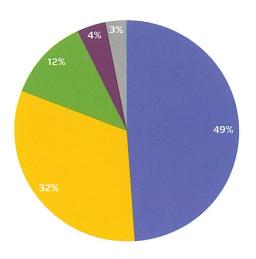
# prmaa.org.

Thank you for your generosity!

### **HOW THE FUNDS ARE USED**

#### **Priests' Health and Retirement Total Annual Costs**

Retirement Benefits  Nursing Care Assistance  St. Benedict's and Bishop Lyne Residences  Administration and Other	\$	12,128,000	
Nursing Care Assistance		349,000	
	435,000		
Retirement Benefits	1,479,000		
		3,877,000	
Medical/Pharma and Wellness	\$	5,988,000	



- Medical/Pharma and Wellness Costs
- Retirement Benefits
- Nursing Care Assistance
- St. Benedict's and Bishop Lyne Residences
- Administration and Other

Priests' Health and Retirement/PRMAA

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