



OUR LADY OF AFRICA

PARISH BULLETIN

Sunday, August 6, 2023



Served by the Society of the Divine Word



THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD

Jesus took Peter, James, and his brother, John, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. And he was transfigured before them; his face shone like the sun and his clothes became white as light.

- Mt 17:1-2

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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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*)

2:30 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.

Parish Administrator

Father Carl Gales, 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.

Office Administrator: Ms. Shirley McKinney



This Week at OLA

Sunday, August 6

- Blessed Sacrament Society Meeting
After 9 a.m. Mass | Parish Hall
- Sunday School - 11:30 a.m.
| Sunday School Room
- OLA Book Club - after 11:30 a.m. Mass
| Parish Hall Side Room

Monday, August 7

- Mass of Christian Burial - Lillian Cherry
Visitation - 10 a.m., Funeral - 11 a.m.

Wednesday, August 9

- Bible Study - 11 a.m. | Parish Hall

Thursday, August 10

- Angels on Air Phone Prayer Line - 9 a.m.
- Food Pantry - 10 a.m. to noon
| Tolton Heritage Center

Saturday, August 12

- Choir Rehearsal - 1 p.m. | Parish
- Wedding - Thomas & London - 2 p.m.

Sunday, August 13

- KPCLA Meeting - 10 a.m. | Parish Hall
- Sunday School - 11:30 a.m.
| Sunday School Room

JOIN THE OLA CHURCH FAMILY

Welcome to Our Lady of Africa! We are thankful and grateful for your presence.

Our Lady of Africa is striving to provide spiritual outreach and ministry to our church members and the community at large.

To become a member of our parish, please sign up in the Narthex or contact our Parish Office: (773)624-5375.

Stewardship

Offertory - July 29/30, 2023

\$ 5,043.00
\$ 1,150.00 - online offertory
\$ 6,193.00

\$ 31,466.00 - Monthly Collection: July, 2023

Offertory - July 30/31, 2022

\$ 7,114.25
\$ 870.00 - online offertory
\$ 7,984.25

\$ 34,106.83 - Monthly Collection: July, 2022

Expenses for July 2023

\$ 39,146.83

Thank you for your generosity!

Ministry List for Upcoming Liturgies

Saturday 4 p.m. - August 12

- Priest: Fr. Carl Gales, SVD
- Lectors: Dr. Dorothy Williams
Silmon Reed

Sunday 9 a.m. - August 13

- Priest: Fr. Carl Gales, SVD
- Lectors: Edith Smith
Reco Condif
- Eucharistic Ministers:
Sr. Joanne Delehanty, OP

Sunday 11:30 a.m. - August 13

- Priest: Fr. Carl Gales, SVD
- Lectors: Jamil Wilson
Shawnece Wilson
- Eucharistic Ministers:
Trish Rawls
Earlene Hodges

Mass Intentions

Saturday, August 5

- 4 p.m. Mass - Divine Word College Benefactors

Sunday, August 6

- 9 a.m. Mass - OLA Church Family
- 11:30 a.m. Mass - OLA Church Family

Monday, August 7

- 11 a.m. Mass - Lillian Cherry +

Tuesday, August 8

- 8 a.m. Mass - Sunnette Varnado Smith

Wednesday, August 9

- 8 a.m. Mass - Mable Gray

Thursday, August 10

- 8 a.m. Mass - Russell Carter

Friday, August 11

- 8 a.m. Mass - Kelly Robin Hill

Saturday, August 12

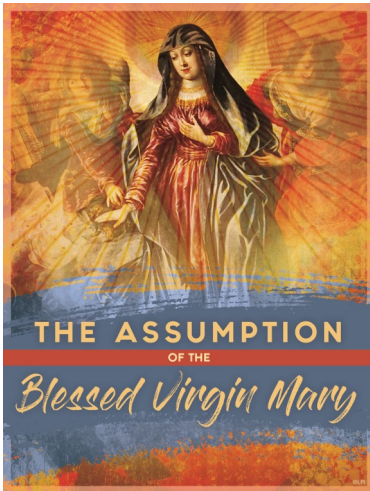
- 4 p.m. Mass - Divine Word College Benefactors

Sunday, August 13

- 9 a.m. Mass - OLA Church Family
- 11:30 a.m. Mass - Sherry Armento +

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. Mass stipends during the weekends (\$20 per intention) and during the weekdays (\$10 per intention) are the recommended donations.

Please submit a Mass Intention request by calling the Parish Office.



Dear OLA Church Family,

Greetings in the Name of Our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ!

As you know, the Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary is coming up on the 15th of August. This falls on a Tuesday and that means that it is a **HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION**.

Our Mass for the Assumption will take place at 6:30 p.m.

This is one of the most special Feast days of the Holy Year. I hope to see many church members celebrating this special day for our Patron Saint and Blessed Mother.

Peace and all blessings,
Fr. Carl Gales, SVD

The Transfiguration of the Lord - Reflection by Fr. Tracy

Today's Gospel passage skips the opening phrase, **"Six days later..."** (Mt 17:1) These words are an important connection to the critical section of chapter sixteen where Jesus asks, who do you say that I am?" Peter proudly says, **"You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God."** (Mt 16:16) Then, all of a sudden, everything explodes into a tumultuous conflict. Jesus tells them he will be rejected, suffer and die. Peter says it is not necessary. Jesus says, **"Get behind me Satan. You are an obstacle to me. You are thinking not as God does, but as human beings do."** (Mt 16:23)

The drama of Jesus' invitation to the road to Jerusalem now becomes the challenging vision for the rest of the Gospel. Peter and the other disciples were now confronted with the task of bringing together the concepts of a suffering God and a Messiah fails their expectations. This shattered their dreams and ambitions of privilege and power, prestige and prosperity. Nevertheless, Jesus was insistent, **"Take up your cross and follow me."** (Mt 16:24)

All of this conflict and confusion was about the identity of Christ, the identity of the failing Messiah, the suffering Servant, the Crucified Christ.

This is where the phrase **"Six days later..."** (Mt 17:1) comes in. The Transfiguration is all about the identity of Christ. It connects the journey to Jerusalem and the consequent suffering and death to the glory hidden in the humanity of Christ. **"This is my beloved Son with whom I am well pleased. Listen to him."** (Mt 17:5)

Now the Gospel of Matthew is once again inviting Peter and us to take Jesus in all of his truth, not just a diluted version to fit our limited standards.

In rebuking Peter, Jesus challenged all of us to lose our life prone to indulgence, to take up the cross and to follow him. (Mt 16:24-25) The event of the Transfiguration is our invitation into the mystery of the Suffering Messiah. Like Peter, we are called to try to balance the seemingly contrary truths of Jesus as Messiah and Jesus the Crucified Savior.

The Father's words tell us it is as God's Beloved Son that he will suffer and die. Our task is to embrace Jesus on his terms and **"Listen to him."** (Mt 17:5)

Peter had a long journey ahead of him. Only slowly did he learn to **"Listen to him."** (Mt 17:5) Eventually, he did indeed learn to let both the life and teaching of Jesus and especially the Paschal Mystery of Christ be his model. Jesus became a map and a guide. No doubt, his recalling the experience of the Transfiguration helped Peter to face the darkness of life. That is what today's celebration of the Transfiguration is summoning us to do. As we face the seemingly endless challenges of good and evil: whether the war in Ukraine or the unending gun violence, the turbulence of our political scene or the explosive consequences of climate change, the even greater problem than immigration which is the massive poverty and injustice that causes people to seek a better life, or the simple but relentless demands of family

(Continued on page 4...)



Fr Tracy's Reflection Continued

life. All these, and so much more, make it so urgent for us to **"Listen to him."** (Mt17:5) He is the Beloved Son.

As often as we encounter the Gospel story, it still holds the seeds of light and wisdom, of hope and tenderness. It reminds us how close God is to us and how thin the curtain between the divine and human truly is. We are always on the edge of our human frailty and mortality. Equally, we are on the threshold of eternal life and happiness. Whether it is the brokenness of our relationships, the consequences of sin, or the

corruption of our world, we need to search the depths of our hearts and **"Listen to Him!"** (Mt 17:5) He will reveal anew that the last word is not sickness, injustice, prejudice, and the foibles of nature's awesome power or even death. The last word revealed in the Crucified and Risen Christ is victory of life over death and the final triumph of love. Our personal journey to Jerusalem encompasses all of our lives. It is an invitation to enter into the mystery of Christ. This mystery unites us with the suffering and glorious Messiah. It leads to the jubilation of Easter.

August Birthdays

8/01 Edowaye Adewola
8/05 Connie Holt
8/05 Linda Steward
8/08 Barbara Hicks
8/08 LaTonya Virgil
8/14 Sr. Joanne Delehanty, OP

8/14 Rita Holland
8/18 Rebecca Danforth
8/21 Florine Brown
8/26 Courtney McEwen
8/30 Donna Howard



Please Remember in Daily Prayer and Devotions

Sunday, August 6

Readings: Dn 7: 9-10. 13-14/ Ps 97: 1-2. 5-6. 9/
2 Pt 1: 16-19/ Mt 17: 1-9

OLA Book of Prayer: Sr. Jamie Phelps, O.P.,
Alfrances Sharpe, Deniece Thomas,
Rachel Watson, Dorothy Williams

Monday, August 7

Readings: Nm 11: 4b-15/ Ps 81: 12-13. 14-15. 16-17/ Mt 14: 13-21

OLA Book of Prayer: Marionette Phelps,
Beverly Sims, Cynthia Thompson,
Cassiette West-Williams, Evelyn Williams

Tuesday, August 8

Readings: Nm 12: 1-13/ Ps 51: 3-4. 5-6ab. 6cd-7. 12-13/ Mt 14: 22-36

OLA Book of Prayer: Cecelia Douglass,
Eleanor Griffin, Jim Henkel, Janet James

Wednesday, August 9

Readings: Nm 13: 1-2. 25 14: 1. 26a-29a. 34-35/
Ps 106: 6-7ab. 13-14. 21-22. 23/ Mt 15:21-28

OLA Book of Prayer: Susan Larry, Betty Lumpkins,
Judy Michaelis, Maria Jossey Owen

Thursday, August 10

Readings: 2 Cor 9: 6-10/ Ps 112: 1-2. 5-6. 7-8. 9/
Jn 12: 24-26

OLA Book of Prayer: Denise Lawson,
Lenda Mason, Deborah Mitchell, Clara Reisner

Friday, August 11

Readings: Dt 4: 32-40/ Ps 77: 12-13. 14-15. 16 and 21/ Mt 16: 24-28

OLA Book of Prayer: Tyna Rule, Alonzo Studstill,
Joyce Wallace, Yvonne Whitenier, Sheila Williams

Saturday, August 12

Readings: Dt 6: 4-13/ Ps 18: 2-3a. 3c-4. 47 and 51/
Mt 17: 14-20

OLA Book of Prayer: Janice Taylor,
Tandra Watson, Arlene G. Williams,

Parish Directory



Baptisms

Tina Carter
tinalcarter71@gmail.com

Blessed Sacrament Society

Tasha McShan - President

Business Administrator

Shirley McKinney
773-624-5375

Confirmation

Tina Carter, Stephanie Gado
Theresa Rhea

Clergy

Fr. Carl Gales, SVD
Parish Administrator
galesce0422@gmail.com
Fr. Tracy O'Sullivan, OCarm
Dcn. Michael Foggie
Dcn. Merv Johnson

Events Committee

Keisha Chavers - Chairperson

First Communion

Barbara Edwards-Hill
Lisa Littleton

Food Pantry

Ladell Johnson

Funerals

Katie Jordan
kwcluwpresident@gmail.com

HIV/AIDS Ministry

Rosemary Sykes

Knights of Peter Claver

Thomas Rich - Grand Knight

Knights of Peter Claver

Lady's Auxiliary
Lena Young - Grand Lady

Maintenance

Bobby Malone
Tyrone Smith

Medical Ministry

Dr. James Hunter

Men's Coalition

Michael Morman - President

Music Ministry

Maestro Tyrone Pittman

School and Church Liaison

LaTanya Berry-Johnson

Sunday School

Eileen Foggie

Tolton Heritage Center

Regina Cook
773-268-1518

Ushers and Greeters

Jackson Lucas

Youth Ministry

Taleah Cage
Silmon Reed

THE JOY OF STEWARDSHIP MINISTRY





Our Lady of Africa 3rd Annual



Sunday, August 20th

Noon-4pm

Tolton Heritage Center

44 East 41st Street

FOOD ~ FUN ~ FELLOWSHIP

50/50 RAFFLE | CARNIVAL GAMES

DOUBLE-DUTCH & HULA HOOPS

DANCING WITH MUSIC BY DJ MARK

FREE ICE CREAM TRUCK

VOLUNTEERS & DONATIONS ARE NEEDED!

**BRING DONATIONS OF SODA, JUICE, BOTTLED WATER & ICE!
TO MASS OR TO THE PARISH OFFICE BY AUG. 18TH**

**TO VOLUNTEER OR FOR MORE INFORMATION,
CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICE: 773.624.5375**



OLA TOWN HALL MEETING
SATURDAY, AUGUST 19, 2023
9 A.M. TO 12:30 P.M.
TO REGISTER, PLEASE SIGN UP
IN THE NARTHEX,
OR CALL THE PARISH OFFICE:
773-624-5375

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO



Black Catholic Deacons of Chicago

These Streets Are Holy

Saturday, August 26, 2023

Sunrise Prayer Service:

6:30 – 8 a.m., Oakwood Beach
41st Street and Lakeshore Drive, Chicago

Peace Fellowship Breakfast:

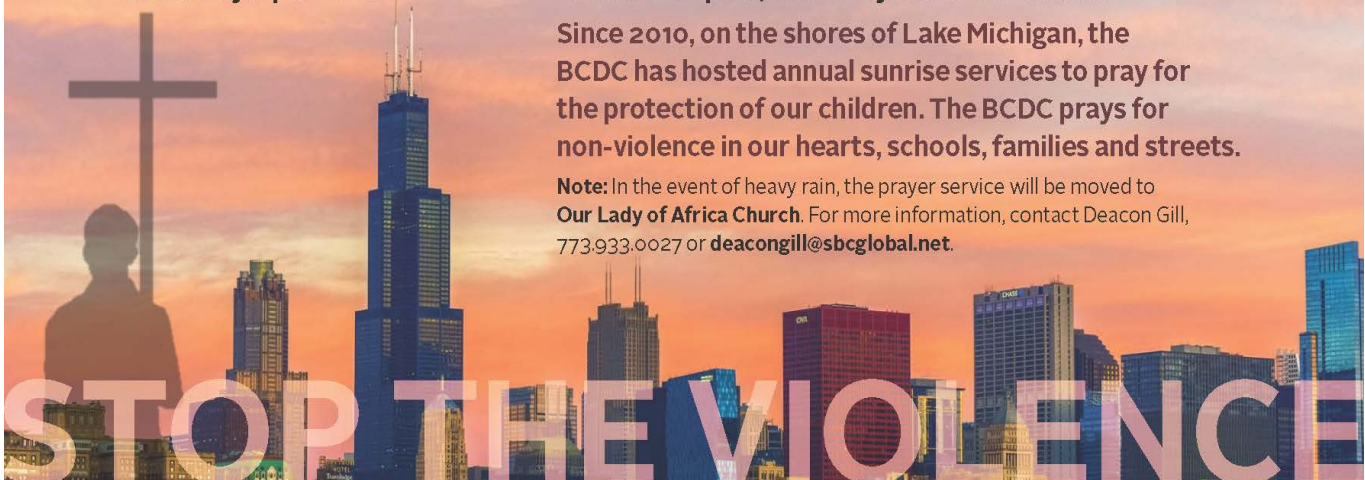
9 – 10 a.m., Our Lady of Africa Church
613 E. Oakwood Blvd., Chicago

Peace Symposium:

10 a.m. – 12 p.m., Our Lady of Africa Church

Since 2010, on the shores of Lake Michigan, the BCDC has hosted annual sunrise services to pray for the protection of our children. The BCDC prays for non-violence in our hearts, schools, families and streets.

Note: In the event of heavy rain, the prayer service will be moved to **Our Lady of Africa Church**. For more information, contact Deacon Gill, 773.933.0027 or deacongill@sbcglobal.net.





BOWMAN-FRANCIS MINISTRY

**FR. CHESTER P. SMITH
NATIONAL BLACK CATHOLIC MEN'S CONFERENCE
OCTOBER 12TH -14TH, 2023**

**MARRIOTT LOUISVILLE DOWNTOWN
280 WEST JEFFERSON, LOUISVILLE, KY 40202
PHONE #: 317-860-5800**

"THE LEAST OF THESE"

REGISTRATION FORM

Name _____

Address _____

City, State & Zip Code _____

Home Telephone (_____) _____

Alternate Telephone (_____) _____

Email Address _____

Church _____

Ministry/Organization _____

Adult _____ Student (High School) _____ (College) _____ Youth _____ (age 8-13)
Young Adult (age 18-35) _____

T-Shirt Size (circle one) Medium Large 1X 2X 3X 4X

Adult Registration \$150.00 - Age 17 And Below Registration \$100.00

*****The conference registration fee includes lunch on Saturday*****

**Room Reservations:
Early Bird Rate
May 1st – September 19th
Room Rate \$239.00 (Single & Double) Plus Taxes
Contact:
Marriott Louisville Downtown
280 West Jefferson
Louisville, KY 0202
1 317-860-5800
**ASK FOR
THE FR. CHESTER P. SMITH
NATIONAL BLACK CATHOLIC MEN'S
CONFERENCE**
Reservations after September 19th
Room Rate \$351.00

Self Parking: \$40.00
Valet Parking: \$45.00**

**You can register online at:
www.bowmanfrancis.org
or
Return the registration
form
and a check made payable
to:
The Bowman Francis
Ministry
c/o Fr. Charles F. Smith
8681 Jaffa Court East
Drive Apt 31
Indianapolis, Indiana
46260-5327**

OFFICE USE ONLY:

Payment Rec'd: Yes No

Onsite: Yes No

Amt Paid: \$ _____

Date: _____