



OUR LADY OF AFRICA

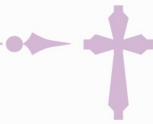
PARISH BULLETIN

Sunday, February 26, 2023



Served by the Society of the Divine Word

BREAD



“One does not live by bread alone,
but by every word that comes
forth from the mouth of God.”

MATTHEW 4:4

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

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.

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, February 26

- OCIA - after 9 a.m. Mass
| Parish Hall Room
- Sunday School - 11:30 a.m.
| Sunday School Room
- Confirmation - 1:30 p.m. | Tolton Center

Tuesday, February 28

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

Wednesday, March 1

- Holy Angel's School Mass - 10 a.m. | Gym
- Bible Study - 11 a.m. | Parish Hall

Thursday, March 2

- Angels on Air Phone Prayer Line - 9 a.m.
- Food Pantry - 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.
| Tolton Center

Friday, March 3

- Stations of the Cross - 12 noon | Parish
Lenten Soup and Bread to follow
- Stations of the Cross - 6:30 p.m. | Parish

Saturday, March 4

- Choir Rehearsal - 1 p.m. | Parish
- Altar Server Training - 2 p.m. | Parish

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 contact our Parish Office Administrator, Ms. Shirley McKinney at 773- 624-5375.

Inspiration for the Week

"Your deeds may be the only sermon some people hear today" St. Francis of Assisi

This quote from St. Francis strikes us at our core.

Is our life a sermon of the goodness of God?

Ministry List for Next Weekend

Saturday 4 p.m. - March 4

- Lectors: Keith Wilson
Denise Wilson

Sunday 9 a.m. - March 5

- Lectors: Rosemary Sykes
Michael Morman
- Eucharistic Ministers:
TBD

Sunday 11:30 a.m. - March 5

- Lectors: Christine Stewart
Alicia Davis
- Eucharistic Ministers:
TBD

Mass Intentions

Saturday, February 25

- 4 p.m. Mass - Sick and Shut-In

Sunday, February 26

- 9 a.m. Mass - OLA Church Family
- 11:30 a.m. Mass - OCIA Candidates,
Catechumen, and Catechists

Monday, February 27

- Curtis Albright

Tuesday, February 28

- David & Mary Berry

Wednesday, March 1

- Esperanza Carr

Thursday, March 2

- Sr. Eleanor Doidge

Friday, March 3

- Florence Glenn

Saturday, March 4

- +Michel Henri Block

Sunday, March 5

- 9 a.m. Mass - Sick and Shut-In
- 11:30 a.m. Mass - OLA Church Family

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.

Rest in the Peace of Christ

The church continues to lift up in prayer the Hill Family in the loss of their son, Michael Hill Jr.

We pray for the repose of the soul of Rev. Deacon Willie Foggie, Jr., Deacon Michael Foggie's father.

Floyd Cavin, Doc Cavin's brother, passed from this life on Saturday, February 18th. Please pray for the repose of his soul and the consolation of Doc Cavin and his family at this time.

Welcome Father Stephan Brown, SVD



Fr. Stephan Brown, SVD

We are so blessed to have Fr. Stephan with us this weekend!

Fr. Stephan was born in, Cleveland Ohio. He now resides in the Diocese of St. Petersburg, Florida. He is a priest of the Society of the Divine Word (SVD), order. He attended Divine Word College; the only undergraduate Roman Catholic seminary in the United States dedicated to educating men and women for religious missionary service.

Fr. Brown speaks a number of languages, including Spanish & Portuguese. He has spent several years in the mission field. The people of Brazil hold a special place in his heart as he spent much time there working with the poor and marginalized.

Fr. Brown is alive in the Spirit. He has conducted many retreats and evangelization conferences in Dioceses and Archdioceses across the US sharing his passion & strong commitment to our faith.

He is a long time member of the National Black Catholic Clergy Caucus. He is a board member and consultant for the African American/Hispanic Relations for the Diocese of St. Petersburg.

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

Or mail to: **Our Lady of Africa Parish**
615 E Oakwood Blvd
Chicago, IL 60653



Parish Directory

Baptisms

Tina Carter
tinalcarter71@gmail.com

Blessed Sacrament Society

Tasha McShan - 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 Auxilliary

Lena Young - Grand Lady

Maintenance

Bobby Malone
Tyrone Smith

Men's Coalition

Michael Morman - President

Music Ministry

Maestro Tyrone Pittman

Parish Administrator

Shirley McKinney
773-624-5375

Religious Missionary

Brother Alu Aisi, SVD

School and Church Liaison

LaTanya Berry-Johnson

Seminarian

Frater Zachary Smith, SVD

Sunday School

Eileen Foggie

Tolton Heritage Center

Regina Cook
773-268-1518

Ushers and Greeters

Jackson Lucas

Youth Ministry

Taleah Cage
Simlon Reed



Getting to Know... Don McKinney



Don McKinney
OLA Church Member

Donald W. McKinney spent his entire life at St. Elizabeth parish. Following his father's footsteps, Mr. McKinney became Catholic and attended St. Elizabeth grammar school where he graduated in 1949 to attending St. Elizabeth High School, where he graduated in 1953. After all these years he can still recite the Hail Mary and other prayers in Latin due to 4 years of studying Latin and 4 years of being an altar server. Sr. Ann Marie saw Mr. McKinney's willingness to serve as a teenager when she invited him to join the CISCA to boycott indecent movies.

When he had his children, seven sons, and two daughters, Mr. McKinney made sure that they had the same education that he received from the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament at St. Elizabeth. It was Fr. Brambrink who first invited Don McKinney to become a more active member of the parish. As a new employee of CTA, Mr. McKinney wanted to think about what he could do and if there were any potential conflicts with his work schedule. Fr. Stevens then joined the staff at St. Elizabeth parish and invited Mr. McKinney to join the Holy Name Society located in the basement of the school.

In addition to the Holy Name Society, he was also an usher who trained others, an active member of the Knights of St. Peter Claver, and served as a representative for Project Renewal, a program created under Cardinal Cody to raise money for the modernization of parishes and schools. Mr. McKinney also studied at Seton College to learn to become a lector and even used his short-order cooking skills to make breakfast for parishioners.

This love of service is a family affair as his wife Shirley McKinney is also very active in the church, currently serving as Our Lady of Africa's Parish Administrator. He has fond memories of working with a number of pastors over the years including Fr. Carmon, SVD who was the first Black pastor over St. Elizabeth. As a member of the parish council, Mr. McKinney worked with Fr. Don Ehr, SVD to build a new church for St. Elizabeth on the corner of 41st street and Michigan Ave.

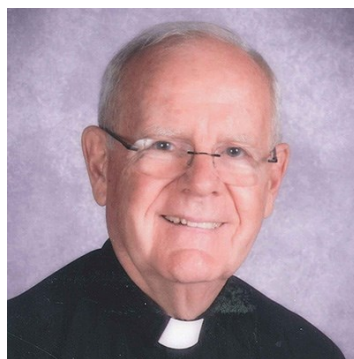
The best advice he was given about serving in the church is when you do things around the church, do it because you want to do it. Don't worry about what other people are or are not doing. You will enjoy it better. For this pillar of St. Elizabeth parish, when it was decided that the church will become the Tolton Center, he reminded me that, while his roots will always be in St. Elizabeth, Church is a feeling, and Church is people. This mentor still attends Mass with his oldest son and continues to teach us all at Our Lady of Africa through his example, unwavering faith, and love for the Catholic Church.

February Birthdays

2/01 Christine J. Brown	2/19 Theresa Dishman
2/02 Ted C. Budzynski	2/19 Velma J. Hill
2/03 Katherine Shaw	2/22 Sylvia Earles
2/03 Yvonne Whiteneir	2/24 Eleanor Griffin
2/04 Geraldine Moore	2/24 Robert Obeto
2/06 Sylvia Walker	2/25 Beatrice Green
2/07 Dorothy Williams	2/26 Roscoe Burns
2/11 Theresa Rhea	2/27 Irene Dove
2/12 David Johnson	2/27 Patricia A. Williams
2/18 Shirley Sargent	2/28 Lugenia Lewis
2/19 Marjorie P. Coombs	

March Birthdays

3/05 Raymond Hillard	3/18 Vivian Clark
3/06 William Higginbotham	3/19 Willa Biglow
3/08 Michelle Farrar	3/22 Patricia Anderson
3/09 Virginia Coleman	3/23 Jayden Banks
3/12 Cassiette West-Williams	3/28 Rosemary Gardner
3/13 Barbara Edwards-Hill	3/29 Juanita Hern
	3/31 Judith Easter



Dear Friends,

One of the great gifts of Vatican II was an invitation to embrace the Word of God. My personal journey to with the bible has been intriguing. I have moved from total disinterest and ignorance to love and commitment leading to regular study and prayer of God's Word. A special gift in this venture has been a true appreciation of the Old Testament more properly called the Hebrew Scriptures.

Today, my knowledge and love of the Hebrew Scriptures continues to grow. I also bring an extensive life experience in my encounter with the Scriptures. So now, I really relish the Golden Calf story which is intimately connected to Lent's first Sunday Gospel story of Jesus' temptations. His encounter with Satan is modeled after the Chosen People's time in the desert and their infidelity.

The Jewish sojourn in the desert betrayed God's call to reliance and faithfulness. Their failure to trust in God is contrasted with Jesus' fidelity in rejecting Satan's deceptions.

Jesus, the New Israel in the eyes of Matthew, discards all the pleas of Satan. Each temptation, and each responding Scripture quote by Jesus, is taken from chapters six to eight in the Book of Deuteronomy where the story of the Golden Calf holds center stage.

In each of the three temptation stories, the appeal to Jesus is to be a Messiah not rooted in faithfulness to the Father. He is being tempted to be a Messiah of worldly values, of power, prestige, privilege and possessions. All these values are contrary to the divine plan of salvation. Jesus rejected Satan's ploys. It was the Suffering Messiah of Isaiah that Jesus embraced. He was determined to proclaim the Kingdom from a position of simplicity and vulnerability not power and dominance, not wealth but poverty, not exclusiveness but inclusiveness, not indulgence but service, not stressing the rich and powerful but the special option for the poor and marginalized. In the end, Jesus knew it was love not the law that was the source of victory over all

evil, even death! Jesus refused to let anything or any person replace God in his life. In this effort he relied on the Word of God. This is where he found the strength to stare down evil both in the desert temptations and in his crescendo-ing battle with iniquity that led to the Cross.

The failures of Moses' folks in the desert mirror our failures today. These rejections of God's plan are rooted in a divided heart. The modern day version of the Golden Calf comes in many forms. The human heart has a seemingly inexhaustible ability to create new idols that basically give us a false sense of security. We replace God as the center of reality. This process is called sin. Money, sex, drink, drugs, prejudices, hostilities along with the ever-growing hunger for more possessions are simply today's upgraded model of the Golden Calf.

The human heart simply finds new idols more comfortable than the demanding love of the God revealed in Jesus. We loath the insecurity of being creatures. Much of our life is a quest for personal security seemingly guaranteed in wealth, power, reputation and indulgence. Through these ventures we are trying make smaller gods that we can control. The end product places ourselves at the center of reality.

In today's Gospel, Jesus shows us the true model of faithfulness in the midst of the devil's slick deceptions and illusions. Jesus will not accept the version of the Kingdom according to the standards of Hollywood or Wall Street or Main Street. Only the Word of God will reveal the true Kingdom. Jesus shows us the way of faithful acceptance of the Father's call where there is no space for the comfort and illusion of the Golden Calf.

With the beginning of Lent, the Church invites us to search our soul, to discover our Golden Calves. Now is the time to clean our house of all the idols. Now, at the beginning of Lent and throughout these six weeks, we are being invited to present an empty and longing heart to Jesus and to walk with Him to Jerusalem.



Stations of the Cross



Stations OF THE CROSS

Mark your calendars for the Fridays of Lent

12 noon and 6:30 p.m.

MARCH 3
MARCH 10
MARCH 17
MARCH 24
MARCH 31

At noon and at 6:30 we will have Stations of the Cross.

Stations of the Cross is a great devotion that we pray especially during the Season of Lent.

Fourteen Stations that follow in Christ's footsteps in His Passion and Death.

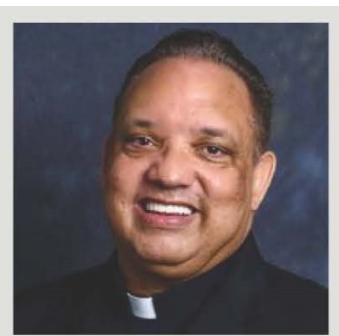
Upcoming Events at Catholic Theological Union

MARCH 1, 2023 at 4:30 p.m.

Tolton Lecture

"Rhetorical Agency and the Black Prophetic Tradition"

IN-PERSON & ONLINE



The Black prophetic tradition is best promulgated but not necessarily exclusive to the Black church. Black churches have long since been the locus of political meetings, organized rallies, protests, and boycotts, voter

registration and census participation drives. These are known as Black prophetic practices. The passionate prophetic sermons urge congregations to fearlessly march forward toward moral victories. In his presentation, Father Maurice Nutt, CSsR will explore how the rhetorical agency of the Black prophetic tradition commonly embodied in preached sermons, pronouncements, declarations, and resolutions correspond with Catholic social teachings and have a necessary and appropriate place within Catholic homilies. Following Q&A, Fr. Nutt will sign copies of his new book.

MARCH 4, 2023 at 12-4 p.m.

HARAMBEE!!

"Umoja: Uniting in Faith"

IN-PERSON ONLY

Join us as we honor the nine Black Catholic Chicago parishes that have come together through *Renew My Church* as well as the staff who facilitated this unification: Mrs. Valerie Jennings and Deacon James Norman. This joyful event will include a delicious lunch, program, and entertainment.

LOCATION:

**Catholic Theological Union
5416 South Cornell Avenue
Chicago, Illinois 60615**

**LEARN MORE & REGISTER FOR TOLTON EVENTS:
ctu.edu/events**

Upcoming Events



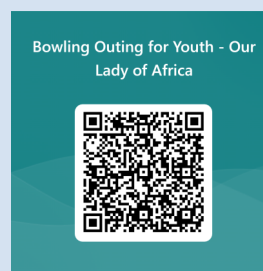
Youth Ministry Bowling Sign-Up

Youth Ministry is looking for youths ages 7 to 18 and their families to participate in our first bowling outing for the year.

**Please sign up using the QR code,
call the parish office,
OR SIGN UP IN THE NARTHEX AFTER MASS
by March 5 if parents are interested in going.**

We need at least 20 sign ups
to make this possible.

The cost is \$15 per person.



Lenten Virtual Bible Study

Join the Lenten Bible Study online every Thursday of the Lenten Season at 6 p.m. until the 30th of March.

The series will be presented by Father Charles Smith, SVD who heads the Bowman-Francis Ministry.

To register and download the study guide, please go to: www.bowmanfrancis.org

OLA Book Club



Our next book for the OLA Book club was selected after our first meeting on the 22nd of January. We voted to read *Kindred* by Octavia Butler.

Our next meeting will be on April 23 after the 11:30 a.m. Mass in the Parish Hall. If you are interested in joining the Book Club, please contact the Parish Office and provide your email and phone number.

We look forward to seeing you and discussing this important piece of African-American literature!



Evenings with Venerable Augustus Tolton

A five-part series featuring Bishop Perry

Join Bishop Joseph Perry at the Tolton Heritage Center in Chicago to learn about Venerable Augustus Tolton, the first recognized African American Roman Catholic priest. He is on the road to canonization. These events will include a short video, a presentation by Bishop Perry and plenty of time for conversation.

All events are free.

MARCH 8 at 4 - 6 p.m. - "The Man, Not Myth"

Fr. Augustus Tolton's story begins more than a century ago, yet it remains relevant today. Who was Augustus Tolton? What does his life story teach us?

Please register for these events at www.toltonspirituality.org under Events.

LOCATION: Tolton Heritage Center Chapel
41st Street and Michigan Avenue
Chicago, IL 60653

Sponsored by the **Tolton Spirituality Center**.

Please Remember in Daily Prayer

Sunday, February 26

Readings: Gn 2: 7-9; 3: 1-7/ Ps 51: 3-4. 5-6. 12-13.
17/ Rom 5: 12-19 or 5: 12. 17-19/ Mt 4:1-11

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

Monday, February 27

Readings: Lv 19: 1-2. 11-18/ Ps 19: 8. 9. 10. 15/
Mt 25: 31-46

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

Tuesday, February 28

Readings: Is 55: 10-11/ Ps 34: 4-5. 6-7. 16-17. 18-19/
Mt 6: 7-15

OLA Book of Prayer: Jean Porter, Shirley Simmons,
Renee Trotter, Doris Whitaker, Naiya Williams

Wednesday, March 1

Readings: Jon 3: 1-10/ Ps 51: 3-4. 12-13. 18-19/
Lk 11: 29-32

OLA Book of Prayer: Louise Ray, Emma Stewart,
Audrey Tuggle, Eryn Whitaker, Michael Williams

Thursday, March 2

Readings: Esther C: 12. 14-16. 23-25/ Ps 138: 1-
2ab. 2cde-3. 7c-8/ Mt 7: 7-12

OLA Book of Prayer: Margaret Stewart,
Joanne Wallace, Rita White, Patricia Williams

Friday, March 3

Readings: Ez 18: 21-28/ Ps 130: 1-2. 3-4. 5-7a. 7bc-
8/ Mt 5: 20-26

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

Saturday, March 4

Readings: Dt 26: 16-19/ Ps 119: 1-2. 4-5. 7-8/
Mt 5: 43-48

OLA Book of Prayer: Janice Taylor,
Tandra Watson, Arlene G. Williams,
Diana Williams, Sunnette Varnado Smith

Sunday, March 5

Readings: Gn 12: 1-4a/ Ps 33: 4-5. 18-19. 20. 22/
2 Tm 1: 8b-10/ Mt 17: 1-9

OLA Book of Prayer: Ophelia Adams,
Louise Bates, Arthur Brooks, Esperanza Carr