



# OUR LADY OF AFRICA

## PARISH BULLETIN

Sunday, January 14, 2024



Served by the Society of the Divine Word



## 2<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Jesus turned and saw them following him and said to them, "What are you looking for?" They said to him, "Rabbi"—which translated means Teacher— "where are you staying?" He said to them, "Come, and you will see." - Jn 1:38-39a

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

©LPI

### **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 Sunday)  
2:30 p.m.—Igbo Community (*last two Sundays*)  
6:00 p.m.—French (*1st Sunday*)  
Tuesday, Thursday, Friday: 10:30 a.m.  
Wednesday: 6:30 p.m.

### **Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)**

Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday: 10 a.m.  
Wednesday: 6 p.m.  
Saturday: 3:00 - 3:45 p.m.  
Or by appointment (773)624-5375

### **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. - 4:00 p.m.



## This Week at OLA

### Sunday, January 14

- Men's Coalition Meeting | 10 a.m. | Zoom
- KPCLA Meeting | 10 a.m. | Parish Hall
- Sunday School | 11:30 a.m.  
| Sunday School Room
- Confirmation Class | 1:30 p.m.

### Monday, January 15

- **PARISH OFFICE CLOSED FOR MLK HOLIDAY**

### Tuesday, January 16

- Phone-In Bible Study | 6 p.m.  
| (267) 807-9601 | Code: 340-355-967

### Wednesday, January 17

- Bible Study | 11 a.m. | Parish Hall
- OCIA Meeting | 6 p.m. | Parish Hall
- Social Justice Committee | 6 p.m.  
| Tolton Center - *rescheduled*
- **Daily Mass | 6:30 p.m.**

### Thursday, January 18

- Angels on Air Phone Prayer Line | 9 a.m.  
| (267) 807-9601 | Code: 340-355-967
- **Daily Mass | 10:30 a.m.**
- Food Pantry | 10 a.m. to Noon  
| Tolton Center
- CHI Community Meal & Services  
| 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. | Parish Hall

### Friday, January 19

- **Daily Mass | 10:30 a.m.**
- Adoration, Taize, and Devotion  
| 6:30 p.m. | Church

### Saturday, January 20

- Choir Rehearsal | 12:30 p.m. | Church
- Altar Server Training | 2 p.m. | Church

### Sunday, January 21

- Adoration | After 9 a.m. Mass  
| Chapel
- First Communion | 10 a.m. | Tolton Center
- KPCLA Meeting | 10 a.m. | Parish Hall
- Sunday School | 11:30 a.m.  
| Sunday School Room
- Confirmation Class | 1:30 p.m.  
| Tolton Center

## Attendance January 6/7

4 p.m. Mass	32
9 a.m. Mass	95
11:30 a.m. Mass	143
1:30 p.m. Ghanaian	17
6:30 p.m. Francophone	32
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>319</b>

## Ministry List for Upcoming Liturgies

### Saturday 4 p.m. - January 20

- Priest: Fr. Brian Barrons, MM
- Lectors: Dr. Denise Wilson  
Dr. Keith Wilson

### Sunday 9 a.m. - January 21

- Priests: Fr. Carl Gales, SVD
- Lectors: John Preston  
Flora Smith
- Eucharistic Ministers:  
Sr. Joanne Delehanty, OP  
Barbara Edwards-Hill

### Sunday 11:30 a.m. - January 21

- Priests: Fr. Carl Gales, SVD
- Lectors: Taleah Cage  
Vanessa Owusu-Ansah
- Eucharistic Ministers:  
Stephanie Inis  
Theresa Rhea

## Stewardship

### Offertory - December 30/31, 2023

\$ 8,887.00  
\$ 3,935.00 - online offertory  
\$ 12,822.00

### Offertory - December 31, 2022 - January 1, 2023

\$ 7,228.00  
\$ 1,620.00 - online offertory  
\$ 8,848.00

### Average Weekly Operating Costs

\$ (14,423.08)  
\$ 12,822.00 - Total Offertory  
\$ **(1,601.08)**

### Offertory - January 6/7, 2024

\$ 12,084.00  
\$ 2,853.62 - online offertory  
\$ 14,937.62

### Offertory - January 7/8, 2023

\$ 9,307.00  
\$ 1,030.00 - online offertory  
\$ 10,337.00

### Average Weekly Operating Costs

\$ (14,423.08)  
\$ 14,937.62 - Total Offertory  
\$ **514.54**

**Thank you for your generosity!**



In the first letter to the Corinthians, today's second reading, is this intriguing sentence: "You are not your own." We certainly don't get that message reinforced by society. Urged instead to individualism and being who you are, Paul's statement is starkly odd. But, in Gospel living, utterly true.

Bishop Baron once wrote "We do not go to God one by one." The biggest part of the message of Jesus Christ is community, communion, belonging. Some people really get this: parents, for example, and (hopefully) those in helping professions, among others.

In the introduction to his book *Outliers*, author Malcolm Gladwell wrote of a town in Pennsylvania in which (in the 1950s) no one under the age of fifty-five died of a heart attack or showed any sign of heart disease. Stewart Wolf, a doctor, was determined to find out why. He studied the diet, exercise habits, and genetics of the townspeople, to see if they yielded any helpful results. Nothing. More professionals came to broaden the study. Finally this is what was realized: It was the town itself. People lived in intergenerational homes. They sat on one another's porches and talked to one another. "The medical establishment was not used to thinking about health in terms of community. But the truth is that no one would be able to understand why someone was healthy if all he or she did was think about an individual's personal choices or actions in isolation. One had to look beyond the individual and... appreciate the idea that the values of the world we inhabit and the people we surround ourselves with have a profound effect on who we are."

"We are not our own." This is true because we are Christ's first. What will we do with the truth of this in the New Year? We are called to realize our identity in God, and respond by continuing the divine love. We have profound effects on one another and the earth. Our words, choices, actions, and prayers matter. We must make them matter for good, for Christ's kingdom, for the life of the world.

### God Loves a Cheerful Giver - 2 Corinthians 9:6-8



# zelle



You can send your offertory through Zelle:

[ourladyofafricachicago@gmail.com](mailto:ourladyofafricachicago@gmail.com)





## The Triple Evils of Society - Reflection by Gardis Watts

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. is an example of being one of the true followers of Jesus Christ. King reiterated many of the teachings of Jesus through speech and action. As Jesus taught about the coming of the kingdom, Dr. King attempted to bring the kingdom through his activism. In this bringing of the kingdom, King envisioned the 'beloved community' he longed for in this society. He believed that what hinders this coming of the kingdom is what he calls the "triple evils" of society: racism, poverty and militarism.

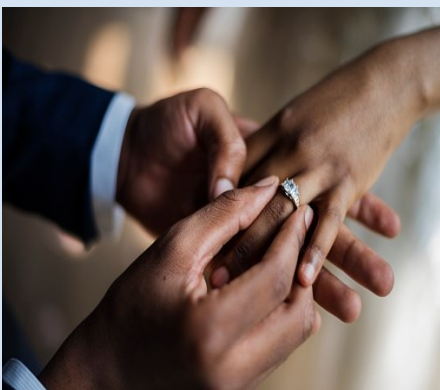
In his last published book titled, "Where Do We Go from Here: Chaos or Community?" Dr. King examines the "triple evils" and how we can recognize it to work towards a viable solution. His analysis is not only comprised of social and economical context but one of a spiritual nature as well. The source of his critique is from the teachings of Jesus Christ. His reasoning is guided by the Holy Spirit. He calls on us to create a new set of values. Values that are rooted in people instead of profits. He calls on our government to trust in moral power instead of military power.

These social evils that King exposes are interconnected and become the root causes of much of the sickness in society. In his book, King describes racism as "a philosophy based on a contempt for life. It is an arrogant assertion that one race is the center of value and object of devotion, before which other races must kneel in submission." He continues, "Racism is total estrangement. It separates not only bodies, but minds and spirit." On poverty, King addresses its connection to capitalism and how wealth is accumulated by the rich at the expense of the

poor and working class of people. He states, "We must honestly admit that capitalism has often left a gulf between superfluous wealth and abject poverty, has created conditions permitting necessities to be taken from the many to give luxuries to the few, and has encourage smallhearted men to become cold and conscienceless so that, like Dives before Lazarus, they are unmoved by suffering, poverty-stricken humanity." In his examination on militarism, he uses the example of the Vietnam War and how supporting that war causes spiritual deterioration domestically. He writes, "The security we profess to seek in foreign adventures we will lose in our decaying cities. The bombs in Vietnam explode at home; they destroy the hopes and possibilities for a decent America."

These evils that King talks about are the source of our social ills that plague us morally and spiritually. These societal sins are in direct contrast to what Paul teaches us in the second reading. Taken from First Corinthians, Paul tells us about how our bodies are not made for immorality. That we are created to be united members of the Body of Christ. The "triple evils" that King warns us about are ideologies that look to separate us from the Body of Christ. Racism is the sin that separates us socially. Poverty is the sin that divides us morally. And militarism is the violence that kills our physical bodies and disconnects us spiritually. Rooted in the teachings of Jesus Christ, Dr. King took a stand against these evils, even at the cost of his life. Let us fight against these evils by living out the Gospel message as King has shown us.

### **Our Lady of Africa is THE place to have your Wedding!!**



**For all young couples discerning their future together, there is a lot of planning involved.**

**Along with the preparations for your wedding day, you should plan to meet with the priest and have wedding prep which should be about 3 months. The couple and priest would meet once a week, either in person or on Zoom to talk about their plans, their commitment to one another, and what the Sacrament of Marriage truly means. To discuss your future wedding plans, please contact Father Carl at the Parish Office: (773)624-5375**





## Black Creativity Art Exhibition - Featuring Artist Larry Cope



It's my pleasure to announce that my art piece "**Black Panther**" will be in the Museum of Science and Industry's **Black Creativity Juried Art Exhibition!**

The **Black Creativity Juried Art Exhibition** celebrates Black artists from around the country, including youth artists between the ages of 14 and 17. I'm honored to have my work featured along with other dynamic artists when the exhibit opens Monday, January 15, 2024, and run through Sunday, April 21, 2024!

Thank you for your past and continuous support!

Larry Cope





## HOPE AND HEALING CIRCLE - JANUARY 13

Mark your calendars for January 13.

We will have a Hope and Healing Circle at Our Lady of Africa.

The ministry, going forward, will now be lead by Velma Hill.

To register, please contact the Parish Office by calling: 773-624-5375.

DATE: JANUARY 13, 2024  
TIME: 9 A.M. to 11 A.M.



Coffee and Donuts Provided

PLACE: OUR LADY OF AFRICA PARISH CHURCH

### 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,  
Tiffany Swann-Covington  
Shawnece Wilson

#### Clergy

Fr. Carl Gales, SVD  
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

#### IT Crew

Gloria Dean - Lead

#### Knights of Peter Claver

Thomas Rich - Grand Knight

#### Knights of Peter Claver

Lady's Auxiliary  
Lena Young - Grand Lady

#### Maintenance

Tyrone Smith

#### Medical Ministry

Dr. James Hunter

#### Men's Coalition

Michael Morman - President

#### Music Ministry

Maestro Tyrone Pittman

#### OCIA

Kimberly Brooks

#### Peace and Social Justice

Byron Diggs -Co-Chair  
Parris Washington -Co-Chair

#### School and Church Liaison

LaTanya Berry-Johnson

#### Sunday School

Eileen Foggie

#### Tolton Ambassador

Jennifer Iwuchukwu

#### Tolton Heritage Center

Regina Cook  
773-268-1518

#### Ushers and Greeters

Jackson Lucas

#### Youth Ministry

Taleah Cage  
Silmon Reed





OUR LADY OF AFRICA

# THEOLOGY ON TAP

*january 19  
at 8pm*

*haymarket pub  
737 w randolph st,  
chicago 60661*



## OLA BOOK CLUB - FEBRUARY 11th

Come and join us!

# OLA BOOK CLUB

- Sunday, February 11th
- Time: After the 11:30 am Mass
- Book: You Were Always Mine
- Authors: Christine Pride and Jo Piazza





## Birthdays

01/07 Edith Lane  
01/08 Shawnece Wilson  
01/09 Alicia Davis  
01/12 Wendell Smith-Williams  
01/15 Ed Scott  
01/16 James Burgess

01/16 Clarisse D. Credit  
01/16 Reggie Seay  
01/18 Florence Person  
01/19 James Brown  
01/20 Shaka Rawls  
01/21 Marcella Aguda

01/21 Jonathan McClure  
01/23 Brenda Boston  
01/25 LaTanya Berry-Johnson  
01/27 Sonia Davis  
01/31 Lillian Cherry  
01/31 Samira Rawls

## Mass Schedule

### Sunday, January 14

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

**Readings:** 1 Sm 3: 3b-10. 19/ Ps 40: 2. 4. 7-8. 8-9. 10 (8a. 9a)/ 1 Cor 6: 13c-15a. 17-20/ Jn 1: 35-42

#### **Mass Intentions:**

4 p.m. | Divine Word College Benefactors

9 a.m. | OLA Church Family

11:30 a.m. | OLA Church Family

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

### Monday, January 15

ORDINARY WEEKDAY/MLK OBSERVANCE

**Readings:** 1 Sm 15: 16-23/ Ps 50: 8-9. 16bc-17. 21 and 23/ Mk 2: 18-22

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

### Tuesday, January 16

ORDINARY WEEKDAY

**Readings:** 1 Sm 16: 1-13/ Ps 89: 20. 21-22. 27-28/ Mk 2: 23-28

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

### Wednesday, January 17

ST ANTHONY OF EGYPT, ABBOT

**Readings:** 1 Sm 17: 32-33. 37. 40-51/ Ps 144: 1b. 2. 9-10/ Mk 3: 1-6

#### **Mass Intentions:**

6:30 p.m. | Poor Souls in Purgatory

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

### Thursday, January 18

ORDINARY WEEKDAY

**Readings:** 1 Sm 18: 6-9; 19: 1-7/ Ps 56: 2-3. 9-10a. 10b-11. 12-13/ Mk 3: 7-12

#### **Mass Intentions:**

10:30 a.m. | Poor Souls in Purgatory

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

### Friday, January 19

ORDINARY WEEKDAY

**Readings:** 1 Sm 24: 3-21/ Ps 57: 2. 3-4. 6 and 11/ Mk 3: 13-19

#### **Mass Intentions:**

10:30 a.m. | Poor Souls in Purgatory

**OLA Book of Prayer:** McShan Family, Allen Peoples, Phyllis Shackelford, Sunnette Varnado Smith

### Saturday, January 20

ORDINARY WEEKDAY/BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

**Readings:** 2 Sm 1: 1-4. 11-12. 19. 23-27/ Mk 3: 20-21

**OLA Book of Prayer:** Nolan Humphries, Cindy Jirsa, Monica Lewers, Bernadine McNeal, Jeff Moore

## Fr. Tracy's Blog - Praying Alone Together

On December 27, 2023, Fr. Tracy's Blog had its third millionth visitor!!

Congratulations to Fr. Tracy!

The blogs goal is to help people in search for a deep form of prayer. This is done by a weekly reflection on the Sunday gospel reading and be-weekly reflections on helpful items from the Carmelite tradition that facilitate a deep personal prayer.

Go to [prayingalonetogether.blogspot.com](https://prayingalonetogether.blogspot.com) to find out more!