



OUR LADY OF AFRICA

PARISH BULLETIN

Sunday, January 28, 2024



Served by the Society of the Divine Word



4TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

In their synagogue was a man with an unclean spirit; he cried out, "What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are—the Holy One of God!" Jesus rebuked him and said, "Quiet! Come out of him!"
- Mk 1:23-25

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 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 28

- Knights of Columbus Meet and Greet
| 10 a.m. | Parish Hall
- Sunday School | 11:30 a.m.
| Sunday School Room
- Financial Workshop for Youth
| After the 11:30 a.m. Mass | Parish Hall

Tuesday, January 30

- **Daily Mass | 10:30 a.m.**
- Phone-In Bible Study | 6 p.m.
| (267) 807-9601 | Code: 340-355-967

Wednesday, January 31

- OCIA Meeting | 6 p.m. | Parish Hall
- **Daily Mass | 6:30 p.m.**

Thursday, February 1

- 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 | 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.
| Parish Hall

Friday, February 2

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

Saturday, February 3

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

Sunday, February 4

- Blessed Sacrament Society Meeting
| 10 a.m. | Parish Hall
- First Communion Class | 10 a.m.
| Tolton Center
- Sunday School | 11:30 a.m.
| Sunday School Room

Ministry List for Upcoming Liturgies

Saturday 4 p.m. - February 3

- Priest: Fr. Carl Gales, SVD
- Lectors: Dr. Dorothy Williams
Arthur Reliford

Sunday 9 a.m. - February 4

- Priests: Fr. Carl Gales, SVD
- Lectors: Sr. Joanne Delehanty, OP
Marcheta Smith
- Eucharistic Ministers:
Miriam Hunter
Gladys St. Leger

Sunday 11:30 a.m. - February 4

- Priests: Fr. Carl Gales, SVD
- Lectors: Larry Cope
David Powell
- Eucharistic Ministers:
Regina Cook
Earlene Hodges

Stewardship

Offertory - January 20/21, 2024

\$ 6,104.00
\$ 3,493.62 - online offertory
\$ 9,597.62

Offertory - January 21/22, 2023

\$ 4,504.30
\$ 680.00 - online offertory
\$ 5,184.30

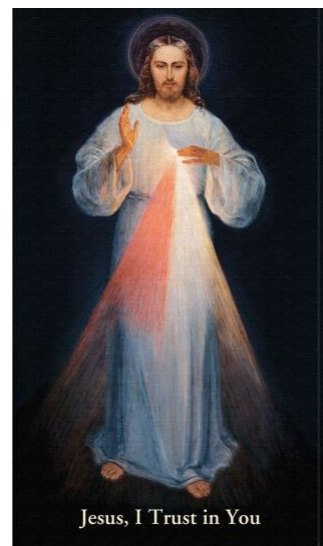
Average Weekly Operating Costs

\$ (14,423.08)
\$ 9,597.62 - Total Offertory
\$ **4,825.46**

Thank you for your generosity!

Attendance January 20/21

4 p.m. Mass	31
9 a.m. Mass	71
11:30 a.m. Mass	151
2:30 p.m. Mass	57
TOTAL	310





In the gospel reading for this week, we find Jesus starting his public ministry in a synagogue in Capernaum on the Sabbath day. Jesus is there not just teaching as a scribe but one with authority. As he was teaching, a man with an unclean spirit decides to interrupt him to ask him questions of what he wants of them and is he coming to destroy them. This man with the unclean spirit also identifies Jesus as from 'Nazareth' and the 'Holy One of God.' Jesus tells the man with the unclean spirit to be silent and drives the spirit out of the person. The onlookers were amazed at this feat and his popularity spread throughout the region of Galilee.

This scene in the gospel message is defined by many theologians and biblical scholars as Jesus first exorcism. While this is true, the much deeper context of this story is spiritual warfare. This warfare is not as simple as it seems to be. It is not a normal type of warfare where the combatants are identifiable. The purposes do not just lie in conquest but control. More importantly, the battlefield is not restricted to certain places. These battles can take place in the most unexpected places, even in a sacred space like church. Think about it, this spirit was able to hide itself in a synagogue amongst the people. If that evil spirit is bold enough to occupy the same sacred space as Jesus, what does that say about the security of our churches today?

In spiritual warfare, one of the more popular strategies is conquest of the mind. Possession by an unclean spirit does not necessarily look like how it goes down in

Hollywood movies where the victim of the evil spirit levitates, twist their heads around and spits out green slime. People possessed by unclean spirits can look as normal as you and me. However, their thoughts are controlled by some malevolent force that not only causes confusion but also destruction. These thoughts can be manipulated through several mediums available. While all of this is rooted in a superficial purpose, the ultimate goal is to make people believe that it's the truth.

Jesus' teaching counteracts this false indoctrination. It is not just any regular teaching but teaching with 'authority.' The word 'authority' in the original language of this Gospel, which is Greek, is *exousia*, which means 'the power to act.' *Jesus' teaching in this synagogue exemplifies a power so compelling that when the people heard this, they distinguished him from any ordinary rabbi. It was obvious that Jesus was liberating the listeners through his teachings.*

We have to seriously consider that some of our churches are being influenced by forces that are not of God. Many of our places of worship have removed Jesus, which is how these forces infiltrated our sacred spaces. And while we may have the name of Jesus in our prayers, liturgy and imagery, some of us have lost our way and have been satisfied by the label of a follower instead of actually being a follower. If we are to remove these unclean spirits, we must engage in spiritual warfare by bringing Jesus back in our churches and allowing him to teach in an authoritative manner in our lives.

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



zelle



You can send your offertory through Zelle:

ourladyofafricachicago@gmail.com



MOBILE FOOD PANTRY



Our Lady Of Africa/Tolton Site
4058 S Michigan Ave
Chicago, IL 60653
(773) 268-1518

OUR LADY OF AFRICA FOOD PANTRY

Fresh fruits, vegetables, meats and non-perishable
groceries.

Info for Thursday food pantry...

Every Thursday
@10:00AM-12:00PM

Meats and non-perishable food

*You can only receive once a
month, identification is required
and no boundaries

4058 S Michigan Ave
Chicago, IL 60653

Info for Saturday food pantry...

Every fourth Saturday
@10:00AM-12:00PM

Fresh fruits, vegetables, and
non-perishable groceries.

ADORATION - FRIDAYS AT 6:30 P.M.

“COME AND SEE”
JOHN 1:29-34

“STAY WITH ME
FOR ONE HOUR”
MATTHEW 26:40-45





OLA TOWN HALL MEETING

TOPIC DISCUSSION

We will discuss how your suggestions
and input have been put into action.

A financial update and next steps will also be topics for discussion.

607 E OAKWOOD BLVD

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24

9 AM TO NOON

**GROWING IN HOLINESS
WITH A MISSION TO SERVE**



Birthdays

01/31 Lillian Cherry
01/31 Samira Rawls

FEBRUARY

2/01 Christine J. Brown
2/02 Ted C. Budzynski
2/03 Katherine Shaw
2/03 Yvonne Whiteneir

2/06 Sylvia Walker
2/07 Dorothy Williams
2/11 Theresa Rhea
2/12 David Johnson
2/18 Shirley Sargent
2/19 Marjorie P. Coombs
2/19 Theresa Dishman
2/19 Velma J. Hill

2/22 Sylvia Earles
2/24 Eleanor Griffin
2/24 Robert Obeto
2/25 Beatrice Green
2/26 Roscoe Burns
2/27 Irene Dove
2/27 Patricia A. Williams
2/28 Lugenia Lewis

Mass Schedule

Sunday, January 28

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Readings: Dt 18: 15-20/ Ps 95: 1-2, 6-7, 7-9 (8)/ 1 Cor 7: 32-35/ Mk 1: 21-28

Mass Intentions:

4 p.m. | Divine Word College Benefactors
9 a.m. | Fr. George Clements
11:30 a.m. | Eula Mae Winningham

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

Monday, January 29

MONDAY OF THE 4TH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

Readings: 2 Sm 15: 13-14, 30; 16: 5-13/ Ps 3: 2-3, 4-5, 6-7/ Mk 5: 1-20

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

Tuesday, January 30

TUESDAY OF THE 4TH WEEK OF ORDINARY TIME

Readings: 2 Sm 6: 12b-15, 17-19/ Ps 24: 7, 8, 9, 10/ Mk 3: 31-35

Mass Intentions:

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

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

Wednesday, January 31

ST JOHN BOSCO, PRIEST

Readings: 2 Sm 7: 4-17/ Ps 89: 4-5, 27-28, 29-30/ Mk 4: 1-20

Mass Intentions:

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

OLA Book of Prayer: Elsie Freeman, Florence Glenn, Exie Haralson, Sandra Houston

Thursday, February 1

THURSDAY OF THE 4TH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

Readings: Acts 22: 3-16 or Acts 9: 1-22/ Ps 117: 1bc, 2/ Mk 16: 15-18

Mass Intentions:

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

OLA Book of Prayer: Jan Johnson, Lugenia Lewis, Carolyn McQuerter, Michael Moore

Friday, February 2

THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD, FEAST

Readings: 2 Tm 1: 1-8 or Ti 1: 1-5/ Ps 96: 1-2a, 2b-3, 7-8a, 10/ Mk 4: 26-34

Mass Intentions:

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

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

Saturday, February 3

SATURDAY OF THE 4TH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

Readings: 2 Sm 12: 1-7a, 10-17/ Ps 51: 12-13, 14-15, 16-17/ Mk 4: 35-41

OLA Book of Prayer: Edith Lane, Alfrances Sharpe, Rachel Watson, Dorothy Williams

Migrants in Need of Clothing for the Winter

THE MIGRANT SHELTER ON 35TH AND MICHIGAN AVE
IS LOOKING FOR YOUR HELP.

THEY NEED SPECIFICALLY:
WINTER COATS AND BLANKETS.

THANK YOU FOR THE OUTPOURING OF CARE AND ATTENTION TO THESE WHO
ARE MOST IN NEED DURING THE BITTER COLD OF WINTER.



FINANCIAL WORKSHOP

For Kids and Teens ages 9 & UP

Join us as financial specialist Hershell Cage Sr. helps our students learn how to save, balance a budget and plan for their financial futures.

Light refreshments will be served.



Sunday, Jan 28

After 11:30 am

Mass

in the parish hall.

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





FINANCIAL SEMINAR



PRESENTERS:
SIDNEY JOHNSON
EDWIN HILL
WILLIAM HODGES
BARBARA EDWARDS HILL

TIME: FEBRUARY 18, 2024

10:15 TO 11:15 AM

PLACE: PARISH HALL

OLA FINANCE MINISTRY

PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE AGENCY
BOLD RETIREMENT STRATEGIES



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