



# OUR LADY OF AFRICA

PARISH BULLETIN

Sunday, July 16, 2023



Served by the Society of the Divine Word



## 15<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“The seed sown on rich soil  
is the one who hears the  
word and understands it,  
who indeed bears fruit and  
yields a hundred or sixty or  
thirtyfold.” - Mt 13:23

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, July 16

- Adoration - after 9 a.m. Mass  
| Chapel
- Parish Formation Council Meeting  
- after 9 a.m. Mass | Parish Office
- HIV Meeting - 10:15 a.m. to 11:15 a.m.  
| Parish Hall
- Sunday School - 11:30 a.m.  
| Sunday School Room

### Thursday, July 20

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

### Saturday, July 22

- Mobile Food Pantry - 10 a.m. to noon  
| Tolton Heritage Center
- Choir Rehearsal - 1 p.m. | Parish
- Altar Server Training - 2 p.m. | Parish

### Sunday, July 23

- Sunday School - 11:30 a.m.

### 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 1/2, 2023

\$ 5,688.00  
\$ 447.00 - Peter's Pence  
\$ 1,300.00 - online offertory  
\$ 7,435.00

### Offertory - July 2/3, 2022

\$ 6,900.00  
\$ 930.00 - online offertory  
\$ 7,830.00

### Expenses for July to date 2023

\$ 16,111.04

Thank you for your generosity!

## Ministry List for Upcoming Liturgies

### Saturday 4 p.m. - July 22

- Priest: Fr. Brian Barrons, MM
- Lectors: Theresa Rhea  
Ted Budzynski

### Sunday 9 a.m. - July 23

- Priest: Fr. Patrick Mugisho, SJ
- Lectors: Debra Causay  
Pat Brown
- Eucharistic Ministers:  
Sonia Davis  
Eileen Foggie

### Sunday 11:30 a.m. - July 23

- Priest: Fr. Tracy O'Sullivan, OCarm
- Lectors: Greg Chappell  
Liz Mardis
- Eucharistic Ministers:  
Sharon Binion  
Lena Young

## Mass Intentions

### Saturday, July 15

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

### Sunday, July 16

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

### Monday, July 17

- Sr. Jamie Phelps, OP

### Tuesday, July 18

- Beverly Sims

### Saturday, July 22

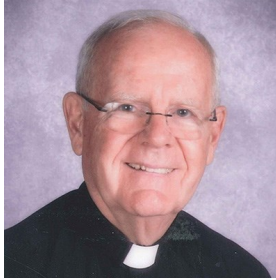
- 4 p.m. Mass - Divine Word College Benefactors

### Sunday, July 23

- 9 a.m. Mass - OLA Church Family
- 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. 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 Friends

Today we begin the first of three Sundays exploring parables from chapter thirteen of St. Matthew. A parable is simply a story taken from the ordinary events of daily life that leads to a deep insight into reality. Even though the parables are prone to different interpretations, they all lead to an insight into the main message of Jesus, the kingdom of God. They unveil the saving presence of God in our ordinary human experience.

Today's parable is about the Sower of the seeds. A few facts about the agricultural practice at the time of Jesus are very helpful in coming to terms with the message of the parable.

First of all, the casting of the seed so indiscriminately does not seem like a bright idea. However, it makes a little more sense when one realizes the Jewish custom was to plow after the sowing. Most of the world does the opposite.

Secondly, a return between seven and ten percent was considered a very good yield on the seed sown.

For Jesus, the primary message of the kingdom relates to the human heart. It is in the heart where one finds the struggle between sin and grace, love and hatred, inclusion and exclusion and, in today's example, between the weeds and the wheat.

Consequently, we can enter into the world of Jesus' parable and draw some interpretations. The first item is that Jesus' message is for all people no matter what their circumstances. The universal call is at the heart of Jesus' message. Everyone is welcome at the table. The seeds are cast on all kinds of soil.

Of course, "all people" has always had the difficulty of Christians inevitably having a group

of "those people" or outsiders who were not to be included. Many decades ago, it was the Protestants and divorced. Recently, gays and Muslims were at the top of the charts for "those people."

Today, we are filling the void made by progress in societal understanding and acceptance of yesterday's rejects with new rejects, transgenders. The fractured human heart will make sure we will never run short of groups to isolate and discard.

A second point to consider was the return of thirty, sixty, and one hundred fold. These numbers are outrageous. Even more outrageous is God's love. The heart is the home of that good soil that opens up to incredible new possibilities even in this dark valley of tears.

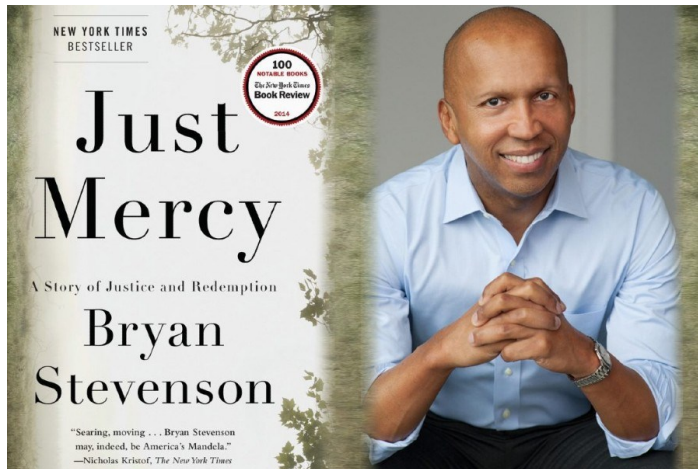
The parable of the Sower reveals a mystery in life, a possibility of an explosion of love that is hidden in the ordinary flow of events. Reality is impregnated with a graciousness and giftedness beyond our dreams when we embrace the call of Jesus. The upshot of the yes to Jesus leads to a new life of freedom and reconciliation that guides us in seeking to create a new world of justice, healing and peace. Acceptance of Jesus' call is the transition to an innovative world of acceptance and service, the beginning of God's reign here and now. In Jesus' lottery, the winning combination is 30, 60, and 100. The prize is in victory of love over hate, peace over violence, harmony over division and a human heart with a deep sense of wholeness and integrity.

Today's parable of the Sower celebrates the universality of the gospel. There are no outsiders in Jesus' agenda. It is a program of indiscriminate love and tolerance.





## OLA Book Club - August 6 - SAVE THE DATE!



Our next book for the OLA Book club was selected after our second meeting on April 30th. We voted to read *Just Mercy* by Bryan Stevenson.

**Our next meeting will be on Sunday, August 6th** 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!

### July Birthdays

7/01 Byron Diggs  
7/04 Kim Brooks  
7/04 Wilbur Bourne  
7/09 Linda Broadnax  
7/09 Rose Washington

7/13 Donald McKinney, Jr  
7/13 John Preston  
7/20 Debra Crosby  
7/20 Fr Bob Kelly, SVD  
7/20 Gladys St. Leger

7/25 Deborah Powell  
7/26 Lyndon Henderson  
7/26 Robyn Rogers  
7/27 Genoria Fields  
7/28 Marilyn Massey

### Please Remember in Daily Prayer and Devotions

#### Sunday, July 16

Readings: Is 55: 10-11/ Ps 65: 10. 11. 12-13. 14 (Lk 8:8)/ Rom 8: 18-23/ Mt 13: 1-23

**OLA Book of Prayer:** McShan Family, Geraldine Moore, Allen Peoples, Phyllis Shackelford

#### Monday, July 17

Readings: Ex 1: 8-14. 22/ Ps 124: 1b-3. 4-6. 7-8/ Mt 10: 34 -- 11: 1

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

#### Tuesday, July 18

Readings: Ex 2: 1-15a/ Ps 69: 3. 14. 30-31. 33-34/ Mt 11: 20-24

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

#### Wednesday, July 19

Readings: Ex 3: 1-6. 9-12/ Ps 103: 1b-2. 3-4. 6-7/ Mt 11: 25-27

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

#### Thursday, July 20

Readings: Ex 3: 13-20/ Ps 105: 1 and 5. 8-9. 24-25. 26-27/ Mt 11: 28-30

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

#### Friday, July 21

Readings: Ex 11: 10 -- 12: 14/ Ps 116: 12-13. 15 and 16bc. 17-18/ Mt 12: 1-8

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

#### Saturday, July 22

Readings: Ex 12: 37-42/ Ps 136: 1 and 23-24. 10-12. 13-15/ Jn 20: 1-2. 11-18

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

## 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**

### 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**  
**Silmon Reed**

## THE JOY OF STEWARDSHIP MINISTRY







# BRONZEVILLE ART DISTRICT

# TROLLEY TOUR 2023

**DATES:**

**JUNE 16**

**JULY 21**

**AUGUST 18**

**SEPT 15**

**3rd FRIDAYS  
6-9PM**

**SPACES:**

Blanc Gallery

Bronzeville Artist Lofts

Faie Afrikan Art

Gallery Guichard

South Side Community  
Art Center

Continuous rotating  
double decker buses!  
Board at any location!

RSVP on Eventbrite for events and gallery schedules:

<https://bit.ly/2023bronzevillearttour>

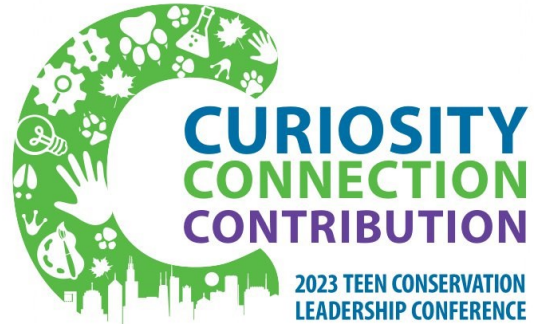
Sponsors:



PEOPLES GAS







## July 21, 2023: Conference Sessions at Brookfield Zoo, Brookfield, Illinois

## July 22, 2023: Community Action Day

The conference is being hosted by the Chicago Zoological Society's King Conservation Science Scholars with support from Lincoln Park Zoo's teen leaders. This year's theme, "Curiosity, Connection, and Contribution," is based on a natural leadership journey that inspires teens to champion, work toward, and make change. Conference attendees will connect with hundreds of emerging and seasoned teen leaders from around the Chicagoland area and beyond, and also have fun.

Kicking off this leadership conference will be a keynote speaker. Interactive sessions led by experts in community, conservation, and sustainability will encourage curiosity, amplify connections, and empower contributions that are authentic and personal.

The hybrid (live and online) Expo area will connect young people with internships, jobs, youth programs, and volunteer opportunities that promote connection and grow leadership skills. After interacting with a multitude of diverse voices, faces, and experiences, they will leave feeling invigorated and excited about their future contributions to the natural world.

There will also be the unique opportunity to join us at multiple locations around the Chicagoland area for a day of service known as our Community Action Day! Locations to be announced.

### **This year's conference is FREE!**

*Registration is essential as it covers:*

- Admission to all sessions • Notification of all special events
- Conference Swag Bag • Lunch and snack • Raffle entry

**Register at [CZS.org/TeenConference](https://CZS.org/TeenConference)**







THE CHICAGO POLICE 002ND DISTRICT PRESENTS

# NATIONAL NIGHT

# OUT 2023



**FREE**

**FRIENDS | FOOD | FAMILY FUN**

Joined by hundreds of Families every year!  
Will you join them this year?!

**All ages Welcome**

**Save the date**

**AUGUST 1ST | 3:00 - 7:00 PM -- TAYLOR PARK 39 W. 47TH ST.**

For More Info contact CAPS:  
[caps.002district@chicagopolice.org](mailto:caps.002district@chicagopolice.org)  
312-747-5109

