



OUR LADY OF AFRICA

PARISH BULLETIN

Sunday, July 23, 2023



Served by the Society of the Divine Word



16th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“The righteous will
shine like the sun in the
kingdom of their Father.”
- Mt 13:43a

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 23

- Sunday School - 11:30 a.m.

Wednesday, July 26

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

Thursday, July 27

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

Saturday, July 29

- CPR Training and Certification -
9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. | Parish Hall
- Choir Rehearsal - 1 p.m. | Parish
- Altar Server Training - 2 p.m. | Parish

Sunday, July 30

- Sunday School - 11:30 a.m.
| Sunday School Room
- Ushers and Greeters Meeting
After 9 a.m. Mass | Chapel

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 15/16, 2023

\$ 5,600.00
\$ 50.00 - Peter's Pence
\$ 780.00 - online offertory
\$ 6,430.00

Offertory - July 16/17, 2023

\$ 3,946.24
\$ 1,217.00 - online offertory
\$ 5,163.24

Expenses for July to date 2023

\$ 20,228.13

Thank you for your generosity!

Ministry List for Upcoming Liturgies

Saturday 4 p.m. - July 29

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

Sunday 9 a.m. - July 30

- Priest: Fr. Carl Gales, SVD
- Lectors: Sr. Joanne Delehanty, OP
Eileen Foggie
- Eucharistic Ministers:
Rosemary Sykes
Ladell Johnson

Sunday 11:30 a.m. - July 30

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

Mass Intentions

Saturday, July 22

- 4 p.m. Mass - Elissa Thomas +

Sunday, July 23

- 9 a.m. Mass - Norman Walton +
- 11:30 a.m. Mass - Brian Sims +

Saturday, July 29

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

Sunday, July 30

- 9 a.m. Mass - Caroline Freeman +
- 11:30 a.m. Mass - Renault Robinson +

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.





As Children of God, sometimes we find ourselves in situations where we misjudge certain people and situations. Over the course of time, these judgments reveal to us the shallow lens that we have because we refuse to apply the time and wisdom to recognize what is right and wrong. Sometimes we erroneously label evil people as good and good people as evil. There are situations where we act upon it prematurely and then there are times when we don't act on a case that needs attention. Much of this is rooted in confusion, which is the primary weapon of the Devil. The only way one counters this is with wisdom and vigilance, which is endowed to us by God.

In this world, good and evil can sometimes look the same, but they are not. Evil has a deceptive nature of looking like it is good. This is how we get confused about identifying evil in this world. We assume that evil is obvious to spot but it is not. There is a false assumption that we should know what is good. However, if we are not attempting to live our lives righteously with love, how can we tell what is good? If we are not living with the love of God, then it is easy for us to ignore, or even miss seeing, the evils of this world.

In our gospel reading, Jesus is teaching his followers about the Kingdom of Heaven and uses the parable commonly known as the "Parable of the Wheat and Weeds." In this parable, Jesus describes a man who sows seeds to grow wheat. When everybody was asleep, an enemy came into the field and sowed weeds among the wheat. When the wheat started to grow, so did the weeds. The servants saw this and asked the owner if he wanted them to pull up the weeds. The owner told them not to do that because pulling up the weeds might pull up the wheat that is not yet grown. He told them to wait until harvest time to pull them all up. At that time, they can separate the wheat and the weeds. They will bundle the weeds together and have them burned while the wheat will be stored in the barn.

Later in this chapter, Jesus' disciples ask him to explain this parable. Jesus defines the symbolism of the metaphor by explaining to them that the field is the world, the person sowing the good

seed is Jesus, the wheat are children of the kingdom, the one sowing the weeds is the Devil, the weeds are children of the Devil, and the servants who will pull both the wheat and weeds are the angels. He described to them that the harvest is the day of judgment when the wheat and weeds will be separated.

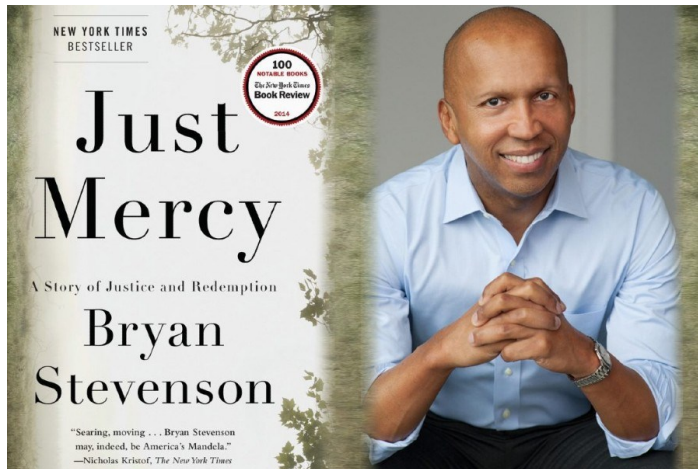
Jesus' explanation to his disciples about this parable focuses more about the ending of it. Being that this parable is what theologians call **eschatology**, a teaching about the end times, it makes sense. But this parable has several layers to be explored. Another theological term that is used to describe this parable is **theodicy**. This term is defined as the reason why God allows evil to exist in this world. In the parable, the owner, who is symbolized as God, makes the decision to allow the weeds to grow with the wheat.

One important aspect we have to grasp is the deeper meaning of why the owner does not allow the servants to pull the weeds. In the parable, the owner informs the servants that in pulling up the weeds, they might uproot the wheat as well. The original word used in this scripture is **zizanium**, a Greek name for a plant that is grown in Palestine. Also known as 'false wheat', this plant closely resembles a wheat plant until the ear of the plant starts to grow. Before that time, you cannot tell if the plant is an actual wheat plant or a **zizanium**. This is why the owner instructed the servants to wait until harvest where they could distinguish the difference between the wheat and the weeds.

This parable not only tells us about the coming of the kingdom, but it also speaks to us now. It gives us a lesson on how we can be easily confused with what is good and/or evil. Because we live in a world that traumatizes us in one way or another, many things we may see could be inverted. We must exercise patience in love. We must also have faith in God to give us the divine wisdom to see things the way they are. When we achieve this wisdom, which is our harvest time, we can liberate ourselves from the sins that keep us from having a righteous relationship with each other and God.



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 23

Readings: Wis 12: 13. 16-19/ Ps 86: 5-6. 9-10. 15-16 (5a)/ Rom 8: 26-27/ Mt 13: 24-43

OLA Book of Prayer: Donald Barner, Barbara McGee-Berry, Marilyn Campbell, Catherine Crosby, Wanda Finney

Monday, July 24

Readings: Ex 14: 5-18/ Ex 15: 1bc-2. 3-4. 5-6/ Mt 12: 38-42

OLA Book of Prayer: James Barker, Christine Brown, James Brazier, Willie B. Clay

Tuesday, July 25

Readings: 2 Cor 4: 7-15/ Ps 126: 1bc-2ab. 2cd-3. 4-5. 6/ Mt 20: 20-28

OLA Book of Prayer: Jessie Andrews, Helen Brooms, Dean Brazier, Lydia Clark

Wednesday, July 26

Readings: Ex 16: 1-5. 9-15/ Ps 78: 18-19. 23-24. 25-26. 27-28/ Mt 13: 1-9

OLA Book of Prayer: Patrice Anderson, Mary Berry, Michael Burt, Michael A. Clark

Thursday, July 27

Readings: Ex 19: 1-2. 9-11. 16-20b/ Dn 3: 52. 53. 54. 55. 56/ Mt 13: 10-17

OLA Book of Prayer: Dorla Allen, David Berry, Roscoe Burns, Lillian Cherry

Friday, July 28

Readings: Ex 20: 1-17/ Ps 19: 8. 9. 10. 11/ Mt 13: 18-23

OLA Book of Prayer: Curtis Albright, Myra Baugh, Patricia Brown, James Burgess, Russell Carter

Saturday, July 29

Readings: Ex 24: 3-8/ Ps 50: 1b-2. 5-6. 14-15/ Jn 11: 19-27

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

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





THE CHICAGO POLICE 002ND DISTRICT PRESENTS

NATIONAL NIGHT

OUT 2023



FREE

FRIENDS | FOOD | FAMILY FUN

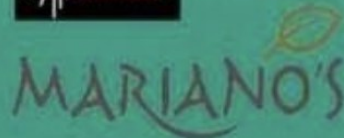
Joined by hundreds of Families every year!
Will you join them this year?!

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
312-747-5109





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

-PARISH-
PICNIC

©LPi

SUNDAY
AUGUST 20th

12 Noon to 4pm
Tolton
Heritage
Center

FOOD, FUN, DANCING
50/50 RAFFLE
BACK TO SCHOOL SUPPLIES



Our Lady of Africa Parish

THE CHICAGO
HELP
INITIATIVE



What: Community Meal & Resource Assistance

• **Referrals and Assistance for Essential Resources like:**

- Medicaid and SNAP signup help
- Government phone signup
- CHA housing application help

**Where: Our Lady of Africa Parish
607 E Oakwood Blvd
Chicago, IL 60653**

**When: 1-3 PM, First Thursday of each month,
AUGUST 3, 2023**

Interested in volunteering at a meal?
Contact Father Carl Gales at 773-624-5375