

## OUR LADY OF AFRICA

## PARISH BULLETIN Sunday, June 18, 2023



Served by the Society of the Divine Word



# 11th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"Go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. As you go, make this proclamation: 'The kingdom of heaven is at hand.' Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse lepers, drive out demons. Without cost you have received; without cost you are to give." - Mt 10:6-8

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, June 18

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

#### Thursday, June 22

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

#### Saturday, June 24

- Choir Rehearsal 12 p.m. | Parish
- Altar Server Training 2 p.m. | Parish
- KPC 4th Degree Meeting after 4 p.m. Mass | Parish Hall

#### Sunday, June 25

Sunday School - 11:30 a.m.
 Sunday School Room

#### **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 - June 10/11, 2023

\$8,813.00

\$ 430.00 - online offertory

\$ 9,243.00

#### Offertory - June 11/12, 2022

\$ 6,665.00

\$ 480.00 - online offertory

\$ 7,145.00

#### Expenses for June 2023 - to date

\$15,321.72

#### Weekly average of expenses

\$12,787.37

Thank you for your generosity!

#### Ministry List for Upcoming Liturgies

#### Saturday 4 p.m. - June 24

Priest: Fr. Patrick Mugisho, SJ

Lectors: Arthur Reliford
 Eileen Foggie

#### Sunday 9 a.m. - June 25

• Priest: Fr. Brian Barrons, MM

Lectors: Edith Lane

Zachary Smith

• Eucharistic Ministers:

Miriam Hunter Gladys St. Leger

#### Sunday 11:30 a.m. - June 25

Priest: Fr. Tracy O'Sullivan, OCarm

Lectors: Patrick Egwiekhor

Marcheta Smith

• Eucharistic Ministers:

Sharon Binion Lena Young

#### **Mass Intentions**

#### Saturday, June 17

4 p.m. Mass - Divine Word College Benefactors

#### Sunday, June 18

9 a.m. Mass +Argentry Mitchell

• 11:30 a.m. Mass - OLA Confirmation Class

#### Monday, June 19

Lorraine Henderson

#### Tuesday, June 20

■ Emma Stewart

#### Saturday, June 24

• 4 p.m. Mass - OLA Family

#### Sunday, June 25

 9 a.m. Mass +Mary Ann Clifford (req. by Theresa Dishman)

 11:30 a.m. Mass - Fr. Bob Kelly, SVD (req. by Theresa Dishman)

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.

#### **OUR FATHERS - An Essay by Tina Carter**





"As a father shows compassion to his children, so the Lord shows compassion to those who fear him" - Psalm 103:13

One of the greatest joys that I see is the interaction a father or father figures have with children. When I watch my brother play video games with his daughters or a library patron with his son playing with Lego blocks, a smile comes across my face. When my nephew became a father for the first time this past November, the number of emotions that he displayed over the course of a minute was astounding to see. Feelings of pride about this new life that he helped create. Fear about how was he going to protect this blessing from the cruelties of the world. Love for a daughter that he would go to the ends of the world for. Concern about what could he teach her and relief when he knew that the men and women in his own life will help him raise her to become a good and God-fearing woman of the Father most high.

In many ways our society has deemed fatherhood as a choice that men can make, their presence in a child's life is not necessary, or they are simply a donor and a number. And yet children have proven time and again the desire, need, and demand that fathers and father figures remain active in their lives.

Students in the confirmation class at Our Lady of Africa's Parish shared with me what their fathers mean to them. For Genesis, her father is the one who protects her more than anyone else. Daniella recognizes her father's strength and the hard work that he does to provide for their family. describes his Desmond also hardworking. Vanessa concurs with Desmond and Daniella that their father is hardworking and does his best for their family all the time. Jeremiah appreciates his father's kindness and how cool he is. It also helps that his father let him get whatever he wants. For Yannick, his father is a counselor. His father is the person that he goes to when he needs advice, man to man. Cedric sees his father as a genuine, handsome, caring, and intelligent man who always look out for people. Cedric says that he loves his father and wouldn't trade him for the world. As I think of my own father, he has blessed me with a strong work ethic, patience, and an even temperament.

There are a variety of reasons a father is unable to be there for his children. From serving and working to create a better world to helping their children understand the power of making amends and accepting the consequences of actions, the power and strength of fatherhood cannot be understated. Even when fathers make the ultimate sacrifice behalf of their families, they leave a legacy of complete unconditional love for their children. One of the greatest examples of a good father is Joseph, the earthly father of Jesus. Even though he knew Jesus was not of his flesh and blood, he still embraced him in his spirit. Joseph was patient and understanding when his wife Mary came to him pregnant with a child that was not his own. He took on the role of sharing with Jesus all the knowledge that he had to become a good and decent man in the world. Joseph shared with Jesus the skill of carpentry so Jesus could make a living for himself when he left home. The inheritance this poor carpenter left his adopted son is priceless and we are still reaping the benefits of the love that Joseph had for Jesus today.

Finally, as confirmation student Jamil reminds us, we also have a father in heaven who is God, and it is the gift of fatherhood that God has bestowed on men to ensure that his legacy lives on. Proverbs 13:22 reminds us that "A good man leaves an inheritance to his children's children, but the sinner's wealth is laid up for the righteous." We have faith that the inheritance fathers leave their children is one of hope, resilience, strength, and fortitude. For children, their father or father figure should be the first man they will ever know. That man reflects God's love for that child. To All Fathers, Have a Happy and Blessed Father's Day!



#### Congratulations to our First Communion Class of 2023!!!!



## June Birthdays

6/04 Louis B. Ray

6/05 Harolyn Cain

6/06 LaJeunee Davis

6/10 Sharon Binion

6/10 Stephanie Gado

6/12 Deniece Thomas

6/12 Shirley McKinney

6/14 Theresa Rich

6/16 James Teemer

6/18 Lutricia Thomas-Rawls

6/22 Marcheta Smith

6/24 Monica Broderick

6/24 Clifford Doyle

## Please Remember in Daily Prayer and Devotions

#### Sunday, June 18

Readings: Ex 19: 2-6a/ Ps 100: 1-2. 3. 5 (3c)/ Rom 5: 6-11/ Mt 9: 36 10: 8

**OLA Book of Prayer:** Nolan Humphries,

Cindy Jirsa, Monica Lewers, Bernadine McNeal,

Jeff Moore

#### Monday, June 19

Readings: 2 Cor 6: 1-10/ Ps 98: 1. 2b. 3ab. 3cd-4/

Mt 5: 38-42

**OLA Book of Prayer:** Marionette Phelps,

Beverly Sims, Cynthia Thompson,

Cassiette West-Williams, Evelyn Williams

#### Tuesday, June 20

Readings: 2 Cor 8: 1-9/ Ps 146: 2. 5-6ab. 6c-7. 8-

9a/ Mt 5: 43-48

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

#### Wednesday, June 21

Readings: 2 Cor 9: 6-11/ Ps 112: 1bc-2. 3-4. 9/

Mt 6: 1-6. 16-18

**OLA Book of Prayer:** Susan & Larry McKeever,

Betty Lumpkins, Judy Michaelis,

Maria Jossey Owen

#### Thursday, June 22

Readings: 2 Cor 11: 1-11/ Ps 111: 1b-2. 3-4. 7-8/

Mt 6: 7-15

**OLA Book of Prayer:** Margaret Stewart,

Joanne Wallace, Rita White, Patricia Williams

#### Friday, June 23

Readings: 2 Cor 11: 18. 21-30/ Ps 34: 2-3. 4-5. 6-7/

Mt 6: 19-23

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

#### Saturday, June 24

Readings: Is 49: 1-6/ Ps 139: 1b-3. 13-14ab. 14c-

15/ Acts 13: 22-26/ Lk 1: 57-66. 80 **OLA Book of Prayer:** McShan Family,
Geraldine Moore, Allen Peoples,

Phyllis Shackelford,

## **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. Manie Manuel, SVD

Fr. Tracy O'Sullivan, OCarm Dcn. Michael Foggie

Dcn. Michael roggie 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

Your continued ministry of giving to support Our Lady of Africa Parish can be done by going to the following links:

https://donate.holyangelschicago.com/give

**QR** Code



By Mail: Our Lady of Africa Parish 615 E Oakwood Blvd Chicago, IL 60653

Thank you for your generous giving of Time, Talent and Treasure!



# Our Lady of Africa Parish







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,

starting July 6th & August 3rd 2023

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

## Father's Day Tribute





MAY YOUR SKIES BE FILLED WITH SUNSHINE EACH DAY YOUR WHOLE LIFE THROUGH.

MAY EFFORTS YOU NOW PUT FORTH BRING RICH REWARDS TO YOU.

MAY EACH CHERISHED GOAL YOU HAVE IN SIGHT BE YOURS
TO HAVE AND GAIN.

MAY HOPE AND DREAMS THAT YOU POSSESS ONE DAY FOR YOU COME TRUE.

MAT GOD WALK ALWAYS BY YOUR SIDE AND LIGHT THE WAY FOR YOU.

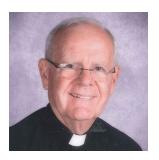
HAVE A BLESSED AND WONDERFUL FATHER'S DAY!



**OUR LADY OF AFRICA'S BLESSED SACRAMENT SOCIETY** 



### 11th Sunday in Ordinary Time A - Reflection by Fr Tracy O'Sullivan, OCarm



Dear Friends,

We have just finished our communal celebration of the Pascal Mystery with added celebrations for the Trinity and Eucharist. In that special time, the love of God in Christ Crucified and Christ Risen shines before us. We were called to share the overwhelming love and mercy of God. It was our invitation to walk in the footsteps of Jesus. This special time was our passage through the debris of life, through the pull of our selfishness and through our ever-expanding search for happiness.

Now, our liturgical journey switches to Ordinary Time. For the next twenty four weeks we will delve into the Gospel of Matthew. It will invite us to make our search for meaning, our search for justice and, most of all, our search for that very elusive love that lasts forever. Each Sunday, we will meet Jesus once again in the wonderous gift of the Liturgy. This journey with Jesus will be an encounter of faith. We will bring our daily experience to the Word of God. We will be challenged to slow down and open our hearts to the presence of God in our daily struggles. We will be offered a weekly gift of Jesus calling us away from our confusion and distractions. This call of love will open our hearts to a God who passionately loves us. In fact, there is no way this God could love us more. Our weekly encounter with Jesus in the season of Ordinary Time is calling us into the extraordinary time of mercy and love. Jesus will lay before us the continuing gift of forgiveness and merciful love leading to eternal life.

In today's gospel selection, we see Jesus moved to awe-inspiring compassion for the sick and suffering, stirred by the pain of others and by the hunger and thirst of the crowds. His heart aches with concern for the alienated, marginalized and all of burdened humanity.

If we open our eyes and cast off the false security of our consumer-driven and materialistic culture, we will be able to see ourselves much in need of Jesus' compassion.

An open and uncluttered heart will let us see the marvel of God's intense concern for our dire situation. We find ourselves engulfed in deceiving attachments and a reality immersed in a mortality we deny with obsessive intensity.

We read in today's gospel text: "At the sight of the crowds, Jesus' heart was moved with pity for them because they were troubled and abandoned, sheep without a shepherd." (Mt 9:36)

Jesus calls the twelve to share his ministry of witnessing to the kingdom with healing and service. This kingdom is God's plan to restore our original innocence. This will be the beginning of the elimination of sickness, hatred, isolation, racism, and every other form of prejudice along with the beginning of justice, peace and the reign of love. Most of all, we will grow to appreciate and embrace the victory over death.

Today we are called to both receive and share that loving response to human suffering, isolation and marginalization. Jesus wants us to help and heal. Jesus wants us to share in the unleashing of the power of love that is the Father's reign.

The task of the kingdom is love, love for God and love for our neighbor. If we are honest in responding to Jesus' call, we can truly make a difference. Not all of our pleas will be heard and not every heart we approach will be healed. However, our effort, no matter how seemingly inconsequential it may appear, will be wrapped in divine love. It will be like the mustard seed that blossoms beyond human comprehension. We have been sent. We are not by ourselves. Jesus makes it ever so clear, "I am with you always." (Mt 28:20)