



OUR LADY OF AFRICA

PARISH BULLETIN

Sunday, March 10, 2024



Served by the Society of the Divine Word



4TH SUNDAY OF LENT

For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come toward the light, so that his works might not be exposed. But whoever lives the truth comes to the light, so that his works may be clearly seen as done in God.

- Jn 3:20-21

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

Mail: 615 East Oakwood Boulevard

Chicago, IL 60653

Church Address

607 East Oakwood Boulevard

Chicago, IL 60653

Office Hours

Monday - Friday: 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.



This Week at OLA

Sunday, March 10

- Sunday School | 11:30 a.m.
| Sunday School Room
- Medical Ministry | 10 a.m. | Parish Hall
- Confirmation Class - Lenten Retreat
| 1:30 p.m. | Tolton Center

Tuesday, March 12

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

Wednesday, March 13

- OCIA Meeting | 6 p.m. | Parish Hall
- Social Justice Meeting | 6 p.m.
| Tolton Center
- **Daily Mass | 6:30 p.m.**

Thursday, March 14

- 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

Friday, March 15

- **Daily Mass | 10:30 a.m.**
- Stations of the Cross | 12 Noon | Church
- Stations of the Cross | 6:30 p.m. | Church

Saturday, March 16

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

Sunday, March 17

- Adoration | after 9 a.m. Mass | Chapel
- 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. - March 16

- Priest: Fr. Patrick Mugisho, SJ
- Lectors: Dr. Denise Wilson
Dr. Keith Wilson

Sunday 9 a.m. - March 17

- Priests: Fr. Adam MacDonald, SVD
- Lectors: Rosemary Sykes
Patricia Brown
- Eucharistic Ministers:
Sr. Joanne Delehanty, OP
Barbara Edwards-Hill

Sunday 11:30 a.m. - March 17

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

Stewardship

Offertory - March 2/3, 2024

\$ 7,455.00
\$ 2,830.00 - online offertory
\$ 10,285.00

Offertory - March 4/5, 2023

\$ 8,823.00
\$ 2,595.00 - online offertory
\$ 11,418.00

Average Weekly Operating Costs

\$ (14,423.08)
\$ 10,285.00 - Total Offertory
\$ **4,138.08**

Thank you for your generosity!

Attendance February 24/25

4 p.m. Mass	26
9 a.m. Mass	90
11:30 a.m. Mass	165
1:30 p.m. Mass	9
TOTAL	290

Migrants in Need

Thank you for your continued
support of the migrants.

Your donations are really helping and
they are really grateful.



Our national pastime isn't baseball. It's what the Bible calls "condemning the world." We generally enjoy pronouncing curses upon those whom we see as trouble, wrong, or evil. Don't believe me? Listen to almost any podcast, cable news network, or social media platform to hear it. It will be some version of: "We all agree that if they are eradicated, things will be great." Condemning is almost always clothed in virtue. It basks in its good intentions. That's why it is so attractive. Condemning seems like our best path to saving what is good.

What a shock, then, to hear Jesus announce: "For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him" (Jn 3:17). He comes to save the world, as we all want, but he will

accomplish it without an act of condemnation. How hard it is to accept this! Condemning feels godlike. I judge who and what must be lost to protect the good. But in the light of Jesus' endless mercy and love, this is the least godlike thing we can do.

Lenten challenge: This week, I invite you to give up the delicious experience of condemning whomever in the world you most would like to see gone. Perhaps write down their names. Secondly, I invite you to consider fasting from any media that feeds the tasty but deadly tendency to condemn.

Sacrament of Matrimony

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 several times, either in person or on Zoom to talk about their plans, their commitment to one another, what the Sacrament of Marriage truly means, and complete the necessary steps to get married. To discuss your future wedding plans, please contact Father Carl at the Parish Office: (773)624-5375

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



GIVE TO OUR CHURCH
NO MATTER WHERE
YOU ARE

zelle



You can send your offertory through Zelle:

ourladyofafricachicago@gmail.com



Holy Week

Palm Sunday

March 24

9 & 11:30 a.m.



Easter Sunday

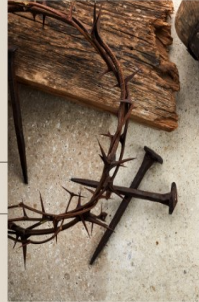
March 31

9 & 11:30 a.m.



Holy Thursday, March 28

7 p.m.



Good Friday

March 29

3 p.m. Stations

7 p.m. Service

Easter Vigil

March 30

7 p.m.



**O DEATH, WHERE
IS YOUR STING?**

OLA MUSICAL GALA RAFFLE TICKETS ON SALE!!!

**GET YOUR RAFFLE TICKETS!!
SUPPORT THE OLA MUSIC FUND!**

OLA MUSICAL GALA RAFFLE PRIZES

FIRST PRIZE: \$2,000

SECOND PRIZE: \$1,000

THIRD PRIZE: \$500

ONE TICKET: \$25
FIVE TICKETS: \$100

**ORDER ONLINE ON OUR WEBSITE, BY ZELLE,
AFTER MASS, OR CALL THE PARISH OFFICE!**

March Birthdays

3/05 Raymond Hillard
3/06 William Higginbotham
3/08 Michelle Farrar
3/09 Virginia Coleman
3/12 Cassiette West-Williams
3/13 Barbara Edwards-Hill
3/18 Vivian Clark

3/19 Willa Biglow
3/22 Patricia Anderson
3/23 Jayden Banks
3/28 Rosemary Gardner
3/29 Juanita Hern
3/31 Judith Easter

Mass Schedule

Sunday, March 10

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

Readings: 2 Chr 36: 14-16. 19-23/ Ps 137: 1-2. 3. 4-5. 6 (6ab)/ Eph 2: 4-10/ Jn 3:14-21

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, March 11

MONDAY: 4TH WEEK OF LENT

Readings: Is 65: 17-21/ Ps 30: 2 and 4. 5-6. 11-12a and 13b/ Jn 4: 43-54

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

Tuesday, March 12

TUESDAY: 4TH WEEK OF LENT

Readings: Ez 47: 1-9. 12/ Ps 46: 2-3. 5-6. 8-9/ Jn 5: 1-16

Mass Intentions:

10:30 a.m. | Family Members of Trish Rawls

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

Wednesday, March 13

WEDNESDAY: 4TH WEEK OF LENT

Readings: Is 49: 8-15/ Ps 145: 8-9. 13cd-14. 17-18/ Jn 5: 17-30

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, March 14

THURSDAY: 4TH WEEK OF LENT

Readings: Ex 32: 7-14/ Ps 106: 19-20. 21-22. 23/ Jn 5: 31-47

Mass Intentions:

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

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

Friday, March 15

FRIDAY: 4TH WEEK OF LENT

Readings: Wis 2: 1a. 12-22/ Ps 34: 17-18. 19-20. 21 and 23/ Jn 7: 1-2. 10. 25-30

Mass Intentions:

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

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

Saturday, March 16

SATURDAY: 4TH WEEK OF LENT

Readings: Jer 11: 18-20/ Ps 7: 2-3. 9bc-10. 11-12/ Jn 7: 40-53

OLA Book of Prayer: Nolan Humphries,

Cindy Jirsa, Monica Lewers, Bernadine McNeal, Jeff Moore





Town Hall Meeting Questionnaire Responses



Our Lady of Africa Townhall Meeting Survey **29 Surveys were submitted | 2.24.24**

1. How productive was the Townhall Meeting?
 - a. Very productive = **75.8% (22 respondents)**
 - b. Somewhat productive = **24.1% (7 respondents)**
 - c. Not productive at all
2. Were your ideas, concerns and/or issues addressed properly? If not, please add your ideas, issues and/or concerns in the box below.
 - a. Yes = **79.3% (23 respondents)**
 - b. No
 - c. Somewhat = **20.6% (6 respondents)**
3. Were you comfortable with sharing your ideas, issues and/or concerns?
 - a. Very comfortable = **86.2% (25 respondents)**
 - b. Somewhat comfortable = **10.3% (3 respondents)**
 - c. Not comfortable at all
 - d. No response = **3.4% (1 respondent)**
4. Overall, how would you rate the Townhall Meeting?
 - a. Excellent = **44.8% (13 respondents)**
 - b. Good = **51.7% (15 respondents)**
 - c. Fair = **3.4% (1 respondent)**
 - d. Poor
5. Would you like the Parish to host more forums, like the townhall meeting?
 - a. Yes = **86.2% (25 respondents)**
 - b. No
 - c. Maybe = **13.7% (4 respondents)**
6. Did the Financial and Parish Leadership presentations meet your expectations?
 - a. Yes = **86.2% (25 respondents)**
 - b. No = **3.4% (1 respondent)**
 - c. Somewhat = **10.3% (3 respondents)**
 - d. Not at all

Additional Comments

- Summarize meeting highlights in bulletin and at upcoming Masses; consider townhall meeting from 10am - Noon
- How do we create more engagement with the youth of our community?



- What outreach opportunities can we do as a parish that are not part of a specific ministry? What can we do to keep our members engaged beyond Mass?
- If the Nigerian service is not contributing offerings, can we charge rent?
- Host Townhall meeting after Mass so more parishioners will possibly attend.
- Invite the other multicultural parishioners from the other Masses to attend the Townhall meeting.
- Announce at every Mass that there are refreshments being served in the lower hall being served by the different ministries.

Scholarships for Catholic High School Seniors (Female)



Opportunity for High School Seniors
(Female)

The **Archdiocesan Council of
Catholic Women (ACCW)**

4 Year \$1,000 Scholarship

Application and guidelines available on
accw.archchicago.org

Submit a 300-word essay titled, "How Would You,
as a Young Catholic Woman, Navigate the
Challenges We Face in the World Today?" (Typed
and double-spaced on a standard 8.5x11" page)

Deadline: APRIL 30th

For more information, call (312) 534-8325



Women's History Month Reflection—Renate Schneider

Friday, March 8th, marks International Women's Day, a global event calling for equality and celebrating achievements of women.

On this day, we celebrate the strength, the courage, and the grace of women all around the world who have stepped up to the race. We honor those who've fought for us, to win the right to vote, and those who've spoken out against the violence that they've fought. We celebrate the mothers, the sisters, and the friends, who lift us up and hold us close.

Women have always been at the center of the story of Christianity: From first carrying the

body and blood of Christ, to the foot of the cross, to the garden of the empty tomb. From presiding at the first house churches, to the wisdom of the desert mothers, to the words (and music) of Hildegard, Julian, Teresa, Catherine, and more.

March is also Women's history month, and the theme for this year is to inspire inclusion. When we inspire others to understand and value women's inclusion, we forge a better world. And when women themselves are inspired to be included, there's a sense of belonging, relevance, and empowerment.

**SOLEMNITY OF SAINT JOSEPH
TUESDAY, MARCH 19TH
MASS AT 10:30 A.M.**



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

Social Justice and Peace

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