



# OUR LADY OF AFRICA

PARISH BULLETIN

Sunday, March 17, 2024



Served by the Society of the Divine Word



PRODUCES  
MUCH  
FRUIT.

— JOHN 12:24 —

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

©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](mailto: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 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
- Confirmation Class | 1:30 p.m.  
| Tolton Center

### Tuesday, March 19

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

### Wednesday, March 20

- Bible Study | 11 a.m. | Parish Hall
- OCIA Meeting | 6 p.m. | Parish Hall
- **Daily Mass | 6:30 p.m.**

### Thursday, March 21

- 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
- Chicago Help Initiative Community Meal  
| 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. | Parish Hall

### Friday, March 22

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

### Saturday, March 23

- Mobile Food Pantry | 10 a.m. to 12 Noon  
| Tolton Heritage Center Hall
- Choir Rehearsal | 12:30 p.m. | Church
- Altar Server Training | 2 p.m. | Church

### Sunday, March 24

- 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 23

- Priest: Fr. Carl Gales, SVD
- Lectors: Theresa Rhea  
James Asenso

### Sunday 9 a.m. - March 24

- Priests: Fr. Carl Gales, SVD
- Lectors: John Preston  
Flora Smith
- Eucharistic Ministers:  
Shirley McKinney  
Eileen Foggie

### Sunday 11:30 a.m. - March 24

- Priests: Fr. Carl Gales, SVD
- Lectors: Greg Chappell  
Liz Mardis
- Eucharistic Ministers:  
Sharon Binion  
Lena Young

## Stewardship

### Offertory - March 9/10, 2024

\$ 5,702.00  
\$ 1,906.86 - online offertory  
\$ 7,608.86

### Offertory - March 11/12, 2023

\$ 5,486.00  
\$ 850.00 - online offertory  
\$ 6,336.00

### Average Weekly Operating Costs

\$ (14,423.08)  
\$ 7,608.86 - Total Offertory  
\$ **6,814.22**

**Thank you for your generosity!**

## Attendance March 9/10

4 p.m. Mass	19
9 a.m. Mass	83
11:30 a.m. Mass	177
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>279</b>

## Homeless and Migrants

**Thank you for your continued support of the homeless and migrants.**

**Your donations are really helping and they are really grateful.**



Over the last summer my preschooler and I would be out and about all across Chicago. We noticed the skyscrapers and he would yell out, 'Wooo Chicago.' We would pass familiar parks and he would reminisce. And when we drove past police departments, he noticed the many migrant neighbors who were sitting on the sidewalk and gathered among their tents week after week.

I did not want to pass up an opportunity to engage him in the language of human dignity where we recognized someone as a neighbor and a friend. We led with curiosity and had honest conversations about the unhoused folks in Chicago. We addressed homelessness with gentleness. We talked about our migrant neighbors with love. His heart was longing for answers and my husband and I patiently answered as best we could.

We went into those places that we hear about in today's Gospel from John. Those grains of wheat can sometimes be people who are on the margins of society. We hear about the grain of wheat that falls to the ground and dies. Those grains in some ways are those in our world we encounter daily - people struggling to find adequate housing, people who are victims of violence, and those who are living in places of great conflict such as Ukraine, Congo, and the Holy Land.

As Christians we believe that in those moments of encounter, we come face to face with Jesus. Today's Gospel tells us that when the grain of wheat dies, it can produce much

fruit. In our own lives there are opportunities to follow those grains of wheat to experience a new understanding. Think about the ways you have tried to avoid something uncomfortable. Or maybe it's happening when you have scrolled past something on social media. Maybe it was the person we passed on the way to the subway.

Children can sometimes push forth those grains of wheat in the questions they ask and through their view on the world. Instead of stepping around what could be fallen grains of wheat, imagine if like a child we observed and began to be curious to imagine another's experience.

There was a movement in my son's heart this Fall and he was convinced we needed to feed our migrant neighbors. We collected funds from family and friends and invited another family to come to the police station in West Englewood on a weekend morning to serve breakfast. Instead of ignoring or brushing past uncomfortable conversations, our hearts deeply listened not just as individuals but as a community to respond in loving ways. Where do you believe God is calling you to encounter those fallen grains of wheat? How does your heart want to respond?

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



# zelle



You can send your offertory through Zelle:

[ourladyofafricachicago@gmail.com](mailto:ourladyofafricachicago@gmail.com)





# Holy Week

**Palm Sunday**

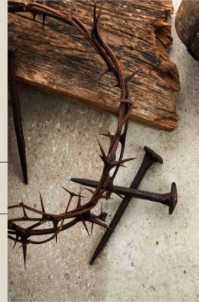
**March 24**

**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 Sunday**

**March 31**

**9 & 11:30 a.m.**



**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**

**DATE OF RAFFLE: APRIL 19, 2024**  
**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 17

FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

**Readings:** Jer 31: 31-34/ Ps 51: 3-4. 12-13. 14-15  
(12a)/ Heb 5: 7-9/ Jn 12: 20-33

**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:** Pamela Jones,  
Anastacia Mebane, Euphrasia Mutinda

### Monday, March 18

MONDAY: 5TH WEEK OF LENT

**Readings:** Dn 13: 1-9. 15-17. 19-30. 33-62 or 13:  
41c-62/ Ps 23: 1-3a. 3b-4. 5. 6/ Jn 8: 1-11

**OLA Book of Prayer:** Irene Dove, Barbara Golden,  
Kelly Robin Hill, Leslie Jackson

### Tuesday, March 19

**THE SOLEMNITY OF SAINT JOSEPH: HUSBAND OF THE  
BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**

**Readings:** 2 Sm 7: 4-5a. 12-14a. 16/ Ps 89: 2-3. 4-5.  
27 and 29/ Rom 4: 13. 16-18. 22/ Mt 1: 16. 18-21.  
24a or Lk 2: 41-51a

**Mass Intentions:**

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

**OLA Book of Prayer:** Judith Easter,  
Frederick Gibson, Rita Holland, Mildred Jackson

### Wednesday, March 20

WEDNESDAY: 5TH WEEK OF LENT

**Readings:** Dn 3: 14-20. 91-92. 95/ Dn 3: 52. 53. 54.  
55. 56/ Jn 8: 31-4

**Mass Intentions:**

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

**OLA Book of Prayer:** Majorbelle James,  
Annette Lee, Gail McGruder, Minnette Penman

### Thursday, March 21

THURSDAY: 5TH WEEK OF LENT

**Readings:** Gn 17: 3-9/ Ps 105: 4-5. 6-7. 8-9/  
Jn 8: 51-59

**Mass Intentions:**

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

**OLA Book of Prayer:** Sr. Eleanor Doidge,  
Bettie Green, Lorraine Henderson

### Friday, March 22

FRIDAY: 5TH WEEK OF LENT

**Readings:** Jer 20: 10-13/ Ps 18: 2-3a. 3bc-4. 5-6. 7/  
Jn 10: 31-42

**Mass Intentions:**

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

**OLA Book of Prayer:** Andre D. Golden,  
Katherine Harper, Doris Humphries, Therese Jessie,  
Gloria Leonard

### Saturday, March 23

SATURDAY: 5TH WEEK OF LENT

**Readings:** Ez 37: 21-28/ Jer 31: 10. 11-12abcd. 13/  
Jn 11: 45-56

**OLA Book of Prayer:** Mary Crawford,  
Nazaree Fuller, Mable Gray, Marjorie Heard  
Sr. Jamie Phelps, OP





ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO



# SUPPORT CRS RICE BOWL THIS LENT

**February 14 – March 28, 2024**

This Lent, all are invited to participate in CRS Rice Bowl, Catholic Relief Services' Lenten program to pray, fast, learn, and give.

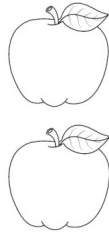
For more information on how you and your parish can participate, please visit [archchicago.org/crs-rice-bowl](https://archchicago.org/crs-rice-bowl). Contact Danielle Bodette at [dbodette@archchicago.org](mailto:dbodette@archchicago.org) with any questions. Please consider donating to CRS Rice Bowl today at [givecentral.org/location/132/event/39434](https://givecentral.org/location/132/event/39434).







## Mobile Food Pantry



# FREE



**Fresh Fruits, Vegetables and Non-Perishable Groceries**

Where: Our Lady of Africa- St. Elizabeth Site

SVD P Food Pantry  
44 E. 41<sup>st</sup> Street

When: Saturday March 23, 2024  
10:00 am – 12:00 pm



## 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](http://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 30<sup>th</sup>**

For more information, call (312) 534-8325



## Social Justice Story Time



### Saturday, April 13, 10 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Join our social justice story time for our youngest friends on Saturday, April 13, from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. at the King Branch of Chicago Public Library. We share stories, songs, and rhymes around a specific theme. Come and make new friends and learn more about a social justice topic. Our theme for April will be "Celebrate the Earth." This event is aimed at children aged 2-6. This will be co-hosted by Our Lady of Africa Social Justice Ministry and Chicago Public Library King Branch, which is located at 3435 S. King Dr.

### **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**