



OUR LADY OF AFRICA

PARISH BULLETIN

Sunday, March 26, 2023



Served by the Society of the Divine Word

LIFE



“I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live.”

JOHN 11:25

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

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 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.

Pastor

Father Bob Kelly, 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.

Parish Administrator: Ms. Shirley McKinney



This Week at OLA

Sunday, March 26

- OCIA - after 9 a.m. Mass
| Parish Hall Room
- COVID/Flu/Booster Shots Available
10 a.m. to 1 p.m. | Parish Hall
- Sunday School - 11:30 a.m.
| Sunday School Room
- Confirmation - 1:30 p.m. | Tolton Center
- Public Meeting of Mayoral Candidates
3:00 p.m. | Holy Angels Catholic School

Tuesday, March 28

- Phone-in Bible Study - 6 p.m.

Wednesday, March 29

- School Mass - 10 a.m.
| Holy Angels School Gym
- Bible Study - 11 a.m. | Parish Hall
- Evenings with Venerable Father Augustus
Tolton - 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.
| Tolton Heritage Center

Thursday, March 30

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

Friday, March 31

- Stations of the Cross - 12 noon | Parish
Food and Refreshments to follow
- Stations of the Cross - 6:30 p.m. | Parish
Light Supper and Fellowship to follow
Provided by the Men's Coalition

Saturday, April 1

- Choir Rehearsal - 1 p.m. | Parish
- Altar Server Training - 2 p.m. | Parish
- First Communion - 3 p.m. | Parish Hall

Sunday, April 2

- OCIA - after 9 a.m. Mass
| Parish Hall Room
- First Communion - 10 a.m. | Tolton Center
- 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 contact our Parish Office Administrator, Ms. Shirley McKinney at 773- 624-5375.

Ministry List for Next Weekend

Saturday 4 p.m. - April 1

- Lectors: Keith Wilson
Denise Wilson

Sunday 9 a.m. - April 2

- Lectors: Sr Joanne Delehanty
Eileen Foggie
Edith Lane (Passion-Speaker)
- Eucharistic Ministers:
Miriam Hunter
Gladys St. Leger

Sunday 11:30 a.m. - April 2

- Lectors: Larry Cope
David Powell
Christine Stewart (Passion-Speaker)
- Eucharistic Ministers:
Regina Cook
Earlene Hodges

Mass Intentions

Saturday, March 25

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

Sunday, March 26

- 9 a.m. Mass - Divine Word College Benefactors
- 11:30 a.m. Mass - CLA Church Family

Monday, March 27

- Rita White

Tuesday, March 28

- Phyllis Shackelford

Wednesday, March 29

- Marjorie Heard

Thursday, March 30

- Willie B. Clay

Friday, March 31

- Barbara McGee-Berry

Saturday, April 1

- 4 p.m. Mass - OLA Church Family

Sunday, April 2

- 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. Please submit a Mass Intention request by calling the Parish Office.

Please Pray For the Following

- James Burgess ▪ Diana Williams ▪ Tasha McShan

NEW Stations of the Cross



Stations of the Cross is a Lenten devotion that everyone should experience at least once during Lent. We follow Jesus on the Via Dolorosa (the way of suffering) to Calvary. It is one way that we can enter into Lent more deeply. Stations are on Fridays at noon and 6:30 p.m. and after, there is time for the Sacrament of Reconciliation and Food and Fellowship.

The Arts and Environment artists Larry Cope and Alan Hicks and I have been in conversation about adding to our church the Stations of the Cross that have been painted by the Artist Father Engelbert Mveng, SJ who created the Beautiful Mural in our sanctuary.

It is our prayer that these Stations will make our worship space more attractive and welcome more devotion and reverence in drawing our hearts and minds to our Savior's Redemptive Sacrifice for us all.

We would like your feedback. We hope that they will be received favorably.

Thank you for your understanding. I pray that these African Icons will inspire more participation and help the prayer life of the church.

Donations

Your continued donations to support Our Lady of Africa Parish can be given by going to the following links:

<https://donate.holyangelschicago.com/give>

Or Scan this QR Code



Or mail to: **Our Lady of Africa Parish**
615 E Oakwood Blvd
Chicago, IL 60653

Parish Directory

Baptisms

Tina Carter
tinalcarter71@gmail.com

Blessed Sacrament Society

Tasha McShan - President

Confirmation

Tina Carter, Stephanie Gado
Theresa Rhea

Clergy

Fr. Bob Kelly, SVD - Pastor
bkellysvd@gmail.com
Fr. Carl Gales, SVD - Associate
galesce0422@gmail.com
Fr. Tracy O'Sullivan, O.Carm.
Dcn. Michael Foggie
Dcn. Ivan Lazcano
Dcn. Merv Johnson
Dcn. Manie Manuel, SVD

Events Committee

Keisha Chavers - Chairperson

First Communion

Barbara Edwards-Hill
Lisa Littleton

Food Pantry

Ladell Johnson

Funerals

Katie Jordan
kwcluwpresident@gmail.com

Knights of Peter Claver

Thomas Rich - Grand Knight

Knights of Peter Claver Lady's Auxiliary

Lena Young - Grand Lady

Maintenance

Bobby Malone
Tyrone Smith

Men's Coalition

Michael Morman - President

Music Ministry

Maestro Tyrone Pittman

Parish Administrator

Shirley McKinney
773-624-5375

Religious Missionary

Brother Alu Aisi, SVD

School and Church Liaison

LaTanya Berry-Johnson

Seminararian

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



Stations of the Cross



Stations OF THE CROSS

Mark your calendars for the Fridays of Lent

12 noon and 6:30 p.m.

MARCH 31

There will be Food and Fellowship
immediately following.

Stations of the Cross is a great devotion that we pray
especially during the Season of Lent.

Fourteen Stations that follow in Christ's footsteps
in His Passion and Death.

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

PALM SUNDAY - APRIL 1/2

SATURDAY VIGIL MASS - 4 p.m.

SUNDAY - 9 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.

1:30 p.m. Ghanaian Mass

6 p.m. French Speaking Community

HOLY THURSDAY APRIL 6

SEDER MEAL - 5 p.m.

MASS OF THE LAST SUPPER

7 p.m.

GOOD FRIDAY APRIL 7

SOLEMN STATIONS

OF THE CROSS

3 p.m.

THE LORD'S PASSION

7 p.m.

EASTER VIGIL APRIL 8

7 p.m.

EASTER RESURRECTION SUNDAY APRIL 9

9 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.

Ghanaian Mass - 1:30 p.m.

Igbo Mass - 2:30 p.m. at Tolton Center
Chapel

French Mass - 5:00 p.m. OLA

PASCHAL TRIDUUM





I'll Hold Your Hand

Let Our Lady of Africa Parish Medical Ministry support you as you receive your COVID-19/Flu vaccine and/or booster shot.



Date: Sunday, March 26, 2023

Time: 10:00a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Location: 615 E. Oakwood Blvd, Chicago, IL 60653

- Anyone age 6 months and older is eligible to receive a COVID-19 vaccine
- All Chicagoans age 5+ should get a COVID-19 booster dose at least 5 months after completing their initial vaccination series
- Anyone age 50 and older or people over the age of 12 who are moderately or severely immunocompromised should get a second mRNA booster (Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna) at least 4 months after their first booster dose

Members of Our Lady of Africa Parish are available to hold your hand and offer support as you get your shot.

Call (773) 642-6532 to secure your appointment.

Protect Yourself, Your Loved Ones, Your Community





CALLING ALL YOUNG ADULTS

YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY



CALLED TO MAKE
A DIFFERENCE

ON APRIL 16TH, THERE WILL BE A MEET
AND GREET FOR THE YOUNG ADULT
MINISTRY.

YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY IS OPEN TO ALL
AGED 18 UP TO 39.

PLEASE SIGN UP IN THE NARTHEX AFTER
MASS! YOU CAN ALSO CALL THE PARISH
OFFICE TO LET US KNOW THAT YOU WILL
ATTEND.

DATE: APRIL 16, 2023

TIME: AFTER 11:30 a.m. MASS

PLACE: OLA PARISH HALL

Please Remember in Daily Prayer and Devotions

Sunday, March 26

Readings: Ez 37: 12-14/ Ps 130: 1-2. 3-4. 5-6. 7-8/
Rom 8: 8-11/ Jn 11: 1-45

OLA Book of Prayer: Sr. Jamie Phelps, OP,
Alfrances Sharpe, Alice Thompson,
Rachel Watson

Monday, March 27

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: Marionette Phelps,
Beverly Sims, Cynthia Thompson,
Cassette West-Williams, Evelyn Williams

Tuesday, March 28

Readings: Nm 21: 4-9/ Ps 102: 2-3. 16-18. 19-21/
Jn 8: 21-30

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

Wednesday, March 29

Readings: Dn 3: 14-20. 91-92. 95/ Dn 3: 52. 53. 54.
55. 56/ Jn 8: 31-42

OLA Book of Prayer: Louise Ray, Emma Stewart,
Audrey Tuggle, Eryn Whitaker, Michael Williams

Thursday, March 30

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

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

Friday, March 31

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

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

Saturday, April 1

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

OLA Book of Prayer: Janice Taylor,
Tandra Watson, Arlene G. Williams,
Diana Williams, Sunnette Varnado Smith

Sunday, April 2

Readings: Procession: Mt 21: 1-11. Mass: Is 50: 4-7/
Ps 22: 8-9. 17-18. 19-20. 23-24/ Phil 2:6-11/
Mt 26: 14 - 27: 66

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



Today, in the Lazarus story, we have the third of our Lenten messages from John's Gospel. The Samaritan woman, the man born blind and Lazarus are stand-ins for us, sinful humankind. Water, light and life are the basic necessities that Jesus uses to draw us into the depths of the spirit. These stories unveil our need for these basic spiritual necessities. The stories are rich in many dimensions of our human experience but especially in the theme of conversion for the Lenten journey

Lazarus is described as the one Jesus loved. We, too, are the one Jesus loves. We are invited to let the story open us to the presence of divine love in our life. One passage can unseal our eyes and heart to this love of Jesus for us. "When Jesus saw her weeping and the Jews who had come with her weeping, he became perturbed and deeply troubled, and said, 'Where have you laid him?' They said to him, 'Sir, come and see.' And Jesus wept.'" (John 11: 33-35)

"Jesus wept" lends itself to many interpretations. The following is especially beautiful. Jesus was encountering in the death of Lazarus the universal reality of death and evil. It would be this very same face of sin that would shortly draw Him to the Cross. But it was more.

Just as Jesus wept for Lazarus, He weeps for each of us and the people of all time as we encounter the consequences of sin and death.

No injustice nor any expression of evil is free of this divine compassion. Whether it is the horror of war or the hatred of prejudice or the ravages of disease and poverty, they all touch the heart of Jesus. God's answer to the great mystery of evil and death was to enter into it. This is part of

the deepest truth of the Passion and Death. But this was not the end. In Lazarus, God shows that Jesus can bring life even in death. He passed through it with a transforming love. In the Resurrection, God has the last word on all death. It is the Easter Alleluia!

We have many tombs in the journey of life that make us feel like the dry bones Ezekiel refers to in the first reading. It may be the paralyzing hostility within a family situation. It may be the empty house of a new widow or widower. Often it is the life-draining consequences of the abuse of alcohol or drugs or more often, the destructive relationships that flow from these addictions. Then there are the abuses surrounding various manifestations of sexuality outside the socially accepted norms or racism or poverty or gang violence. They all are the tombs we experience. They come in all different sizes and durations but they all feel like death. To all of these, Jesus speaks the word to us, "Come out, for I am the resurrection and the life!"

Indeed, we need to come out. We need to experience the conversion of this Lenten Season. We need to embrace the power and beauty of the Gospel so we are part of the solution not the problem. We need to cast off the bondage of the death-cloths of our addictions and sin so we are free to walk with Jesus.

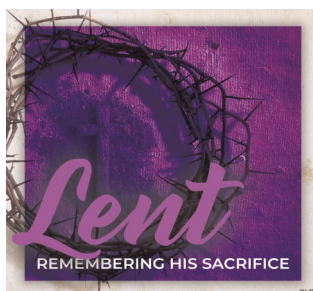
The victory over death needs to be embraced and celebrated again. That is the goal of our Lenten journey. We need to learn not only does Jesus weep for us but Psalm 56:9 tells us He "put my tears in your bottle. Are they not counted?" He reaches out the saving hand that is the "resurrection and the life."

March Birthdays

3/05 Raymond Hillard	3/18 Vivian Clark
3/06 William Higginbotham	3/19 Willa Biglow
3/08 Michelle Farrar	3/22 Patricia Anderson
3/09 Virginia Coleman	3/23 Jayden Banks
3/12 Cassiette West-Williams	3/28 Rosemary Gardner
3/13 Barbara Hill	3/29 Juanita Hern
	3/31 Judith Easter

April Birthdays

4/05 Rosetta Batiste	4/22 Barbara Golden
4/07 Thelma Jackson	4/25 Gail Betty
4/09 Chery Tyson	4/26 Ku-San Thomas
4/11 Joyce Franklin	4/27 Jean Parkham-Jacques
4/15 Marcia Berry	4/28 Alan Emerson Hicks
4/17 Dwight Hearn	4/30 Edith Smith
4/17 Merrill Tyson	
4/18 Julie Sumpter	





It's official! The **Disciple Maker Index (DMI) Survey** is a great way to reflect on your own spiritual growth while helping our parish plan for the future.

Please help by completing the short, 10-15 minute survey as soon as possible. Visit catholicleaders.org/chicagodmi or scan the code below.

There are also opportunities to complete the survey after daily and Sunday Mass. You can obtain a paper copy in the narthex or parish office.

The survey is available from **Ash Wednesday, February 22 to March 31** and will ask you to consider your spiritual growth and provide feedback on our parish's efforts to help you grow. All responses are **anonymous** and the parish will only receive information about the community as a whole.

We will receive the results this spring/summer at which time we will share what we have learned with the entire parish.

Don't miss this opportunity to be heard.

Thank you for helping our parish!





ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO



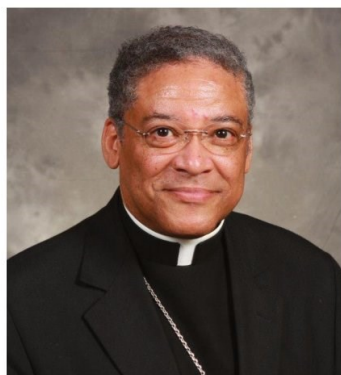
Evenings with Venerable Augustus Tolton



A five-part series featuring Bishop Perry

Join Bishop Joseph Perry at the Tolton Heritage Center in Chicago to learn about Venerable Augustus Tolton, the first recognized African American Roman Catholic priest. He is on the road to canonization. These events will include a short video, a presentation by Bishop Perry and plenty of time for conversation.

All events are free



Starting on March 8 | 4 – 6 p.m.

Tolton Heritage Center

44 East 41st Street, Chicago, IL 60653

March 8 The Man, Not Myth

Fr. Augustus Tolton's story begins more than a century ago, yet it remains relevant today. Who was Augustus Tolton? What does his life story teach us?

March 29 Tolton Spirituality

Fr. Augustus Tolton led an extraordinary and exemplary life. What tenets guided this former slave turned engaging Catholic priest? Is it possible to lead a holy life as Tolton did?

April 12 Spreading the Word

Venerable Augustus Tolton: The pioneer, spiritual leader, and social justice advocate. Discover how Tolton's legacy extends beyond Catholics, and why everyone should know about his impact.

May 3 Embodying Forgiveness

Today, there are deep divisions in this country. What does Fr. Tolton's life teach us about forgiveness and understanding that would move us toward healing?

May 10 All Things Tolton

You've probably heard a lot about Tolton or perhaps nuggets about several organizations bearing his name. Learn about the various groups and how they work together to advance Tolton's legacy.

Sponsored by the **Tolton Spirituality Center**. Register at www.toltonspirituality.org under Events.



THIS SUNDAY! Public Meeting!



Our Lady of Africa
WE ARE ONE

Holy, Catholic & Apostolic
IN Christ • Chicago



**coalition for spiritual
& public leadership**

PRESENTS A

PUBLIC MEETING

SUNDAY, MARCH 26TH, 2023

3:30 PM

REGISTRATION STARTS AT 3:00 PM

HOLY ANGELS SCHOOL | 750 E. 40TH ST.

CSPL and Our Lady of Africa invites members of the community to a public meeting with the two remaining mayoral candidates to share our vision for the City of Chicago

www.csplaction.org

REGISTER HERE:

bit.ly/csplolapublic





Mission Experience to Jamaica

Sponsored by Divine Word Missionaries
Vocation Office

June 19 - 27, 2023

Get ready for an adventure! There are many needs in Jamaica. People need adequate housing, kids need help in school and others just need someone to care. This is your chance to make a difference. **Apply today!**



Join a group of volunteers and assist the **Divine Word Missionaries** in southeast Jamaica in their day-to-day ministries. Activities include:

- Building a house
- Parish maintenance
- Bible Study with youth
- Visit a school
- Assist with food program
- Other day-to-day activities

Program Goals

The goals are to expose those interested in the missionary work of the Church to the day-to-day activities of some missionaries, to learn more about the Divine Word Missionaries, and learn more about Jamaican language and culture.

Mission Jamaica

Divine Word Missionaries staff seven churches in Jamaica. Three are in the civil parish of St. Thomas and four are in the greater Portmore area in and around the city of Kingston. This mission experience will be centered at St. Patrick Parish in Portmore/Kingston.

Divine Word Missionaries participate in a great diversity of ministries with the poor and marginalized, including the youth and elderly. Our missionary priests and brothers invite you to work alongside them in their ministries to serve those in need in Jamaica—to get off the sidelines and no longer be a spectator, but be an active minister of God's love.

Housing

During your stay in Jamaica, volunteers will stay at St. Patrick Parish Rectory. Accommodations are modest, but adequate. Each volunteer will have his/her own bed, though some may be a mattress on the floor. The team will prepare meals from funds provided by participants. Most evenings will be spent with fellow volunteers and missionaries discussing the day's experiences and learning more about the missionary work of the Church.



Apply Today!

Please contact:

Mr. Len Uhal
Divine Word College Seminary
PO Box 380
Epworth, IA 52045
800-553-3321
luhal@dwci.edu

Dates/Schedule

June 19 - 27, 2023

June 19: Arrival and Orientation
June 20 - June 26: Mission Jamaica
June 27: Return to the States

Cost

The cost of the Mission Experience trip is approximately \$1,000.

This includes air travel plus \$400. The \$400 covers the cost of housing, meals and travel while the group is in Jamaica. It also includes the cost of some supplies and materials for the housing project. Other travel is at the participant's expense.

Partial scholarships are available.

Participation Criteria

The Mission Experience trip is planned principally with Catholics in mind, but can accommodate people of other faiths under special circumstances. In addition, those wishing to participate must:

- Be 18 years or older
- Have a passport to travel outside the country
- Be physically able to participate in manual labor (painting, carrying up to 40 pounds, etc)
- Have health insurance or purchase insurance
- Sign a liability waiver



ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO



Kolbe House Jail Ministry

Palm Sunday Prayer Walk at Cook County Jail

Sunday, April 2 at 3 p.m.

2810 South Sacramento Avenue
Chicago, IL 60608

Let us commemorate the beginning of Holy Week with a prayer walk around Cook County Jail with Kolbe House Jail Ministry. We will reflect on Jesus' entrance into Jerusalem, as well as his own arrest and detention, as a call to unite in our commitment to defend the human dignity of those incarcerated and promote reconciliation and healing for all those impacted by the criminal justice system.

Parking is available on Sacramento Avenue, as well as in the parking lot of La Villita Park at 3018 South Albany Avenue. For more information, contact Emily Cortina at ecortina@kolbehouseministry.org.

**All ages are welcome.
Please bring your own palms.**

Scan the QR code to
the right for more
information or to register.

