



OUR LADY OF AFRICA

PARISH BULLETIN

Sunday, March 31, 2024



Served by the Society of the Divine Word

THE STONE REMOVED FROM **THE TOMB.**

— JOHN 20:1 —

EASTER SUNDAY

CLPI

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.

Website

www.ourladyofafricachicago.com



This Week at OLA

Sunday, March 31 RESURRECTION SUNDAY

- EASTER MASSES:
9 a.m., 11:30 a.m. 2:30 p.m. (Igbo)
- Sunday School | 11:30 a.m.
| Sunday School Room

Monday, April 1

Easter Holiday: Parish Office Closed

Tuesday, April 2

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

Wednesday, April 3

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

Thursday, April 4

- 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
- CHI Community Meal | 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.
| Parish Hall

Friday, April 5

- **Daily Mass | 10:30 a.m.**
- Adoration, Taize, and Devotion
| 6:30 p.m. | Church

Saturday, April 6

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

Sunday, April 7

- First Communion Class | 10 a.m.
| Tolton Center
- Blessed Sacrament Society Meeting
| 10 a.m. | Parish Hall
- Sunday School | 11:30 a.m.
| Sunday School Room
- Confirmation Class | 1:30 p.m.
| Tolton Center

Attendance March 16/17

4 p.m. Mass	18
9 a.m. Mass	90
11:30 a.m. Mass	203
2:30 p.m. Mass	72
TOTAL	383

Ministry List for Upcoming Liturgies

Saturday 4 p.m. April 6

- Priest: Fr. Brian Barron, MM
- Lectors: Dr. Dorothy Williams
Art Reliford

Sunday 9 a.m. April 7

- Priests: Fr. Brian Barron, MM
- Lectors: Sr. Joanne Delehanty, OP
Marcheta Smith
- Eucharistic Ministers:
Miriam Hunter
Gladys St. Leger

Sunday 11:30 a.m. April 7

- Priests: Fr. Brian Barron, MM
- Lectors: Larry Cope
David Powell
- Eucharistic Ministers:
Earlene Hodges
Theresa Rhea



Stewardship

Offertory - March 23/24, 2024

\$ 5,189.00
\$ 2,657.00 - online offertory
\$ 7,846.00

Offertory - March 25/26, 2023

\$ 4,457.00
\$ 1,995.00 - online offertory
\$ 6,452.00

Average Weekly Operating Costs

\$ (14,423.08)
\$ 7,846.00 - Total Offertory
\$ **6,577.08**

Thank you for your generosity!



Jesus is Risen! Alleluia!

This Holy Week has been a blessed time and I want to thank all of you for your active participation in the celebrations!

It is truly a wonderful thing when all of us come together during these high Holy Days and pray and worship in unity. Jesus's battle has been won. His victory over death is our victory, too! We can rest assured that sin and death will NEVER have the final word. It is LOVE that conquers and breaks every chain.

Therefore, let us continue to abide in ALLELUIA. Let us walk with renewed purpose because God gives us hope that all our sorrow and pain will, one day, come to an end. Let us live in ALLELUIA and have thankful hearts. We can leave regret, shame, and despair behind and see the empty tomb and know that our story doesn't end there. With Jesus, new life begins. In Jesus, all things are made new.

Sing Alleluia! And if you are bold, **SHOUT ALLELUIA!** LOVE IS ALIVE AND REIGNS FOREVER!

OLA Church Family, I pray that you have a beautiful Eastertide!

May God's abundant joy live in you and remain with you now and always. Amen!

In Easter Joy and in the Divine Word,

Father Carl

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



zelle



You can send your offertory through Zelle:

ourladyofafricachicago@gmail.com



The Tolton Ambassadors-Chicago would like to announce that they are accepting essays from Catholic school students and students who faithfully attend a Catholic Church in the Archdiocese of Chicago for the **2024 Venerable Father Augustus Tolton Essay Contest**.

The contest is for students in grades 5 through 8

Essays must be 500 –1500 words in length.

Parent permission is required to participate.

Essays should answer the following question:

We know that Father Tolton was the first recognizable Black Catholic priest in the United States. The road to priesthood and his life after ordination was not easy. We know his life was full of challenges, yet he continued to pursue his dream and became a Catholic priest. Reflect on Father Tolton's life as you answer the following:

Chicago has received over 30,000 men, women and children who fled from their home countries in South America in pursuit of a better life in the United States. You have seen news reports and read articles on their plight since arriving in Chicago. Some say, "We do not have enough resources to share with them." How do you think Fr. Tolton would want us to handle this crisis? What message would he give to inspire Catholics to live out the gospel of Jesus Christ?

Essays will be judged on *Originality, Connection to Theme, Paragraph Construction, Organization and Mechanics*.

Essays must be submitted by an Archdiocese of Chicago Catholic school faculty member or a Catholic Church administrator to:

toltonambassador.chicago@gmail.com

Essays must be submitted by 11:59 pm Sunday April 14, 2024.

Winners will be announced Monday April 22, 2024. Three people will be awarded prizes.

Winners will receive a cash prize 1st place \$300, 2nd place \$200, 3rd place \$100

The prizes will be awarded Saturday May 4, 2024 during the Tolton Essay Luncheon. Luncheon tickets are free for students who submit essays and their parents. Tickets are \$30 or \$15 for those 12 and under.



April Birthdays

March

3/29 Juanita Hern
3/31 Judith Easter

April

4/05 Rosetta Batiste
4/05 Avis Green

4/07 Thelma Jackson
4/09 Chery Tyson
4/11 Joyce Franklin
4/15 Marcia Berry
4/17 Dwight Hearn
4/17 Merrill Tyson
4/18 Julie Sumpter

4/22 Barbara Golden
4/25 Gail Betty
4/26 Ku-San Thomas
4/27 Jean Parkham-Jacques
4/28 Alan Emerson Hicks
4/30 Edith Smith

Mass Schedule

Sunday, March 31

EASTER SUNDAY

Readings: Acts 10: 34a. 37-43/ Ps 118: 1-2. 16-17. 22-23/ Col 3: 1-4 or 1 Cor 5: 6b-8/ Jn 20: 1-9 or Mk 16: 1-7

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: Dorla Allen, David Berry, Roscoe Burns, Naiya Williams

Monday, April 1

EASTER MONDAY

Readings: Acts 2: 14. 22-33/ Ps 16: 1-2a and 5. 7-8. 9-10. 11/ Mt 28: 8-15

OLA Book of Prayer: Rosemary Gardner, Barbara Golden, Kelly Robin Hill, Leslie Jackson

Tuesday, April 2

EASTER TUESDAY

Readings: Acts 2: 36-41/ Ps 33: 4-5. 18-19. 20 and 22/ Jn 20: 11-18

Mass Intentions:

10:30 a.m. | OLA Church Family

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

Wednesday, April 3

EASTER WEDNESDAY

Readings: Acts 3: 1-10/ Ps 105: 1-2. 3-4. 6-7. 8-9/ Lk 24: 13-35

Mass Intentions:

6:30 p.m. | OLA Church Family

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

Thursday, April 4

EASTER THURSDAY

Readings: Acts 3: 11-26/ Ps 8: 2ab and 5. 6-7. 8-9/ Lk 24: 35-48

Mass Intentions:

7:00 p.m. | OLA Church Family

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

Friday, April 5

EASTER FRIDAY

Readings: Acts 4: 1-12/ Ps 118: 1-2 and 4. 22-24. 25-27a/ Jn 21: 1-14

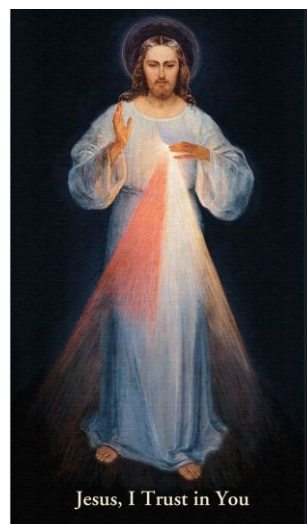
OLA Book of Prayer: Donald Barner, Barbara McGee-Berry, Marilyn Campbell, Catherine Crosby

Saturday, April 6

EASTER SATURDAY

Readings: Acts 4: 13-21/ Ps 118: 1 and 14-15ab. 16-18. 19-21/ Mk 16: 9-15

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





EASTER IS THE SEASON OF BAPTISMS

THE NEXT BAPTISM DATES ARE FAST APPROACHING

IF YOU WOULD LIKE YOUR CHILD BAPTIZED,
NOW IS THE TIME TO SCHEDULE AND MEET WITH TINA CARTER,
OUR BAPTISM COORDINATOR AND CATECHIST.

EMAIL: TINALCARTER71@GMAIL.COM

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Jesus answered (Nicodemus), "Amen, amen, I say to you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit." -John 3:5

Catechism of the Catholic Church 2nd edition paragraph 1215 states "Holy Baptism is the basis of the whole Christian life, the gateway to life in the Spirit (vitae spiritualis ianua), and the door which gives access to the other sacraments. Through Baptism we are freed from sin and reborn as sons of God; we become members of Christ, are incorporated into the Church, and made sharers in her mission: "Baptism is the sacrament of regeneration through water in the word."

It is through this sacrament of initiation that we enter a new life with Christ and fellow believers.

Faith communities are built and nourished with committed believers. At Our Lady of Africa, it is important that we share what the sacred gift of Baptism has brought us and develop a deeper faith-filled relationship with all those who wish to have their children baptized. We are a faith family of believers and for any relationship to grow, it requires commitment, attention, and mutual intentional care. In that light, parents who desire Baptism for their child must be parishioners at Our Lady of Africa, attend Mass regularly, and attend a mandatory baptismal preparation class.

Baptism requests will be confirmed upon submission of the following requirements:

1. Completion of the application.
2. Parents and Godparents attend Baptismal Prep Class.

Families can decide to have the class via Zoom or meet in person with Ms. Carter. Only 1 Godparent is needed, but 2 are acceptable. Godparents should attend the class even if they will not be physically present on the day of the Baptism.

Requirements for Godparents

The Catholic Church requires the following of Godparents: (canon 874.1)

The godparents are to be chosen by the parents or guardians. They are to be at least sixteen years of age. They must be Catholics who have already been confirmed and have received the holy Eucharist. They should be leading a life in harmony with the faith, i.e., practicing Catholics (attending Mass), if married, in a valid Catholic Marriage, etc. They may not be the father or mother of the one to be baptized. You may choose one or two godparents. If you choose two, one must be male and the other female. The godparents must have the qualifications and intention to carry out this duty.

PLEASE NOTE:

****Non-Catholic Witness (Can.874.2)** A baptized person from a non-Catholic ecclesial (church) community may be admitted as a witness to baptism but only with a Catholic Godparent. This person is not formally called a Godparent but will be referred to as a Christian Witness.

Children aged 5 and up are encouraged to attend Sunday school regularly to help them also learn about their faith.

Adults interested in Baptism are encouraged to enroll in the Order for Christian Initiation for Adults (OCIA) and will be baptized at the Easter Vigil Mass.

Public Baptisms (baptisms during Mass) are available at the following times within the next two months:

April 14th, May 26th,

Private baptisms are also available by appointment.

The suggested donation offertory for baptisms is \$50.00.

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

Mass Intention Envelopes Available

DATE OF RAFFLE: APRIL 19, 2024

**ORDER ONLINE
ON OUR WEBSITE,**

**BY ZELLE,
AFTER MASS,
OR CALL THE PARISH OFFICE!**

**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**

DIVINE MERCY - ADORATION - DEVOTION - WILL RESUME



“COME AND SEE”

JOHN 1:29-34

“STAY WITH ME FOR
ONE HOUR”

MATTHEW 26:40-45

**FRIDAY ADORATION SCHEDULE FOR APRIL:
APRIL 5TH, APRIL 12TH, APRIL 26TH
6:30 PM**



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.

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