



OUR LADY OF AFRICA

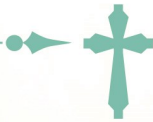
PARISH BULLETIN

Sunday, March 5, 2023



Served by the Society of the Divine Word

PLEASED



“This is my beloved Son,
with whom I am well
pleased; listen to him.”

MATTHEW 17:5B

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

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.

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 5

- 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

Tuesday, March 7

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

Wednesday, March 8

- Holy Angel's School Mass - 10 a.m. | Gym
- Bible Study - 11 a.m. | Parish Hall

Thursday, March 9

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

Friday, March 10

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

Saturday, March 11

- Choir Rehearsal - 1 p.m. | Parish
- Altar Server Training - 2 p.m. | Parish

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.

Inspiration for the Week

"Although the life of a person is in a land full of thorns and weeds, there is always a space in which the good seed can grow. You have to trust God." Pope Francis

Rest in the Peace of Christ

Please pray for the repose of the soul of +Ira M. Phillips, the brother of Debra Crosby.

The church continues to lift up in prayer the Hill Family in the loss of their son, Michael Hill Jr.

Floyd Cavin, Doc Cavin's brother, passed from this life on Saturday, February 18th. Please pray for the repose of his soul and the consolation of Doc Cavin and his family at this time.

Ministry List for Next Weekend

Saturday 4 p.m. - March 11

- Lectors: Art Reliford
Eileen Foggie

Sunday 9 a.m. - March 12

- Lectors: Don McKinney
Shirley McKinney

- Eucharistic Ministers:
Ladell Johnson
Eileen Foggie

Sunday 11:30 a.m. - March 12

- Lectors: Vita Faulkner
Silmon Reed

- Eucharistic Ministers:
Katie Jordan
Shawnece Wilson

Mass Intentions

Saturday, March 4

- +Michel Henri Block

Sunday, March 5

- 9 a.m. Mass +Tamara Hudson and
+Arthemise Washington
Requested by Taliva Tillman
- 11:30 a.m. Mass +Ira M, Phillips (brother of
Debra Crosby)

Monday, March 6

- Mildred Jackson

Tuesday, March 7

- Joanne Wallace & Joyce Wallace

Wednesday, March 8

- Anastacia Mebane

Thursday, March 9

- Bettie Green

Friday, March 10

- Minnette Penman

Saturday, March 11

- 4 p.m. Mass +Deacon Willie Foggie, Jr.

Sunday, March 12

- 9 a.m. Mass +Floyd Cavin
- 11:30 a.m. Mass +Michael Hill, Jr.

Laudato Si!



Pope Francis

"LAUDATO SI', mi' Signore" – "Praise be to you, my Lord". In the words of this beautiful canticle, Saint Francis of Assisi reminds us that our common home is like a sister with whom we share our life and a beautiful mother who opens her arms to embrace us. "Praise be to you, my Lord, through our Sister, Mother Earth, who sustains and governs us, and who produces various fruit with colored flowers and herbs".

This month of March, we pay particular attention to the care of our common home...Mother Earth.

Consider a "fast" for Creation Care... sacrificing some comfort, giving up a wasteful practice, or modifying your actions to reduce harm to the environment. Some ideas include:

- **A Meat Fast:** How about adding a meatless Monday to meatless Fridays? What about eating only chicken when you do eat meat, or sustainably caught fish?
- **An Energy Fast:** How about turning the thermostat down 2°-5° F lower than usual and putting that sweater on? And maybe turn the water heater down to 120° F and only take 3-minute showers?
- **A "Stuff" Fast:** Buying only the bare minimum of essentials you need and simplifying your life? And how about staying away from as much plastic as you can and minimizing your waste stream?

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
kwclwupresident@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

Frazer Zachary Smith, SVD

Sunday School

Eileen Foggie

Tolton Heritage Center

Regina Cook
773-268-1518

Ushers and Greeters

Jackson Lucas

Youth Ministry

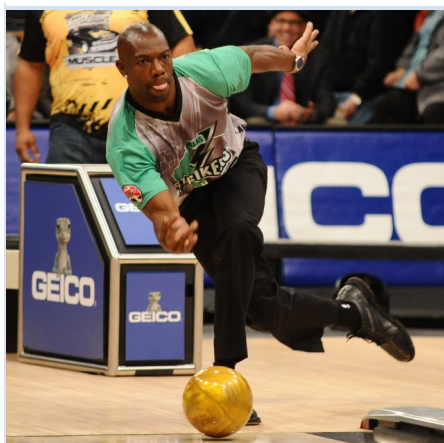
Taleah Cage
Silmon Reed



Stations of the Cross



Stations OF THE CROSS



Bowling Outing for Youth - Our
Lady of Africa



Mark your calendars for the Fridays of Lent

12 noon and 6:30 p.m.

MARCH 10
MARCH 17
MARCH 24
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.

Youth Ministry Bowling Sign-Up

Youth Ministry is looking for youths ages 7 to 18 and
their families
to participate in our first bowling outing for the year.

Please sign up using the QR code,
call the parish office,
OR SIGN UP IN THE NARTHEX AFTER MASS
by **March 5** if parents are interested in going.

We need at least 20 sign ups
to make this possible.

The cost is \$15 per person.

Lenten Virtual Bible Study

Join the Lenten Bible Study online every
Thursday of the Lenten Season at 6 p.m. until the
30th of March. The series will be presented by
Father Charles Smith, SVD who heads the
Bowman-Francis Ministry.

To register and download the study guide,
please go to: **www.bowmanfrancis.org**

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



Dear Friends.

In all three cycles of Lent, each Second Sunday's gospel focuses on the Transfiguration. This gospel episode is obviously an important element of our Lenten journey. Our task is to let it truly enlighten us as we prepare to celebrate the great act of love that is the Passion, Death and Resurrection of Jesus.

The key to the passage in all its beauty and complexity are the words of the Father: **"This is my beloved Son with whom I am well pleased; listen to him."** (Mt 17:5)

Right before this, Peter had recognized Jesus as the Messiah only to deny his mission to suffer and die. (Mt 16:13-23) Now the Father is once again inviting Peter and us to take Jesus in all of his truth, not just a diluted version to fit our limited standards.

In rebuking Peter, Jesus challenged all of us to lose our life, to take up the cross and to follow him. (Mt 16:24-25) The event of the Transfiguration is our invitation into the mystery of the Suffering Messiah. Like Peter, we are called to try to balance the seemingly contrary truths of Jesus as Messiah and Jesus the Crucified Savior.

The Father's words tell us it is as God's Beloved Son that he will suffer and die. Our task is to embrace Jesus on his terms and **"Listen to him."** (Mt 17:5)

Peter had a long journey ahead of him. Only slowly did he learn to **"Listen to him."** (Mt 17:5) Eventually, he did indeed learn to let both the life and teaching and especially the Pascal Mystery of Christ be his model. Jesus became a map and a guide. Not doubt, his recalling the experience of the Transfiguration helped him to

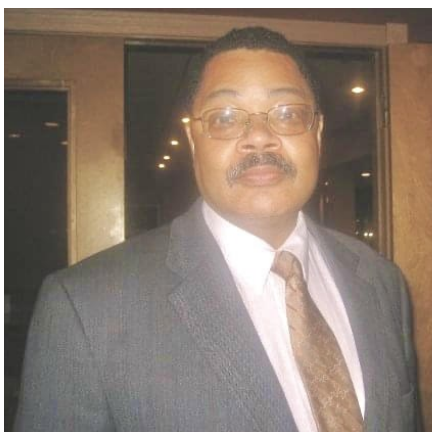
face the darkness of life.

It is the same with us. As we face the seemingly endless challenges of good and evil: whether the war in Ukraine or the unending gun violence, the turbulence of our political scene or the burden of the distortion and abuse of the multiple expressions of our sexuality, or the simple but relentless demands of family life or the various passages in life from beginning school to aging. All these, and so much more, call us to **"Listen to him."** (Mt 17:5) He is the Beloved Son.

Lent is a time to prepare to celebrate the Death and Resurrection of Jesus the Christ with new joy, stronger faith and growing love. This is the great mystery of our faith and that opens the mystery of our life

As many times as we have heard the story, it still holds the seeds of light and wisdom, of hope and tenderness. It reminds us how close God is to us and how thin the curtain between the divine and human truly is. We are always on the edge of our human frailty and mortality. Equally, we are on the threshold of eternal life and happiness. Whether it is the brokenness of our relationships, the consequences of sin, or the corruption of our world, we need to search the depths of our hearts and **"Listen to Him!"** (Mt 17:5) He will reveal anew that the last word is not sickness, injustice, prejudice, and the foibles of nature's awesome power or even death. The last word revealed in the Crucified and Risen Christ is life and the victory of love. Once again, our journey to Jerusalem in Lent and, more so in our life, is an invitation to enter into the mystery. This mystery joins the Divine and suffering in the suffering and glorious Messiah. It leads to the victory of Easter.

Health Prevention Series



Dr. James Hunter, M.D.

On March 18th, **Dr. James Hunter, M.D.** (OLA Church Member) will deliver a presentation on "Allergy and Asthma: How to Live With It".

Please register for this session by signing up in the Narthex or calling the parish office: (773) 624-5375

SAVE THE DATE!!!
"ALLERGY AND ASTHMA: HOW TO LIVE WITH IT"
SATURDAY, MARCH 18, 2023
10 a.m. to Noon
OLA Parish Hall



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.

MARCH 8 at 4 - 6 p.m. - "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?

Please register for these events at www.toltonspirituality.org under Events.

LOCATION: Tolton Heritage Center Chapel
41st Street and Michigan Avenue
Chicago, IL 60653

Sponsored by the **Tolton Spirituality Center**.

Please Remember in Daily Prayer

Sunday, March 5

Readings: Gn 12: 1-4a/ Ps 33: 4-5. 18-19. 20. 22/
2 Tm 1: 8b-10/ Mt 17: 1-9

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

Monday, March 6

Readings: Dn 9: 4b-10/ Ps 79: 8. 9. 11 and 13/
Lk 6: 36-38

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

Tuesday, March 7

Readings: Is 1: 10. 16-20/ Ps 50: 8-9. 16bc-17. 21
and 23/ Mt 23: 1-12

OLA Book of Prayer: Dorla Allen, David Berry,
Roscoe Burns, Lillian Cherry

Wednesday, March 8

Readings: Jer 18: 18-20/ Ps 31: 5-6. 14. 15-16/
Mt 20: 17-28

OLA Book of Prayer: Patrice Anderson,
Mary Berry, Michael Burt, Michael A. Clark

Thursday, March 9

Readings: Jer 17: 5-10/ Ps 1: 1-2. 3. 4 and 6/
Lk 16: 19-31

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

Friday, March 10

Readings: Gn 37: 3-4. 12-13a. 17b-28a/
Ps 105: 16-17. 18-19. 20-21/ Mt 21: 33-43. 45-46

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

Saturday, March 11

Readings: Mi 7: 14-15. 18-20/ Ps 103: 1-2. 3-4. 9-10.
11-12/ Lk 15: 1-3. 11-32

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

Sunday, March 12

Readings: Ex 17: 3-7/ Ps 95: 1-2. 6-7. 8-9/ Rom 5: 1-
2. 5-8/ Jn 4: 5-42

OLA Book of Prayer: Mary Crawford,
Nazaree Fuller, Mable Gray, Marjorie Heard



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





Laudato Si is an encyclical that Pope Francis published in May of 2015. It begins with the word "Praise be to You" (Laudato Si), and its subtitle is "Care for our Common Home." As people of faith we honor God through our engagement with creation.

Pope Francis calls the earth "our common home" which is like our Sister and our mother. By harming the environment, we damage that familial relationship and also we damage the relationship with other human beings, particularly those least equipped to defend themselves: the poor and future generations.

The Pope stresses that we are all connected. Therefore the Pope does not only address Catholics, but all people since we are united by the same concerns.

Pope Francis does not shy away from speaking clearly about the many symptoms of environmental degradation, the impacts of climate change, depletion of fresh water and the loss of biodiversity. Poor countries are suffering more than rich countries even though they contribute less to climate change. Many migrants leave their homes, because of environmental degradation in their countries. Even here in Chicago we see how industrial polluters built factories in poor areas. None of the metal shredding facilities, for example, will be placed on the North side of the city.

At times these problems seem overwhelming, and we ask ourselves what can we do? Pope Francis encourages us to prayer and contemplation, learning more about nature, and to live intentionally. Look at how we are wasteful in our daily lives, and think about how to reduce this waste by recycling, composting and other means. But the Pope also encourages us to enter the arena of national and international politics, pushing back against leaders who prioritize short term gains and instead advocate for policies that support the disadvantaged and advance the long term common good.

The encyclical *Laudato Si* has inspired a spirit-led movement all over the world with many thousands of people participating in all five continents.

Pope Francis call us right here at Our Lady of Africa to join the *Laudato Si* movement. To that end you will find a **Creation Corner** in our Sunday bulletin with suggestions for action that we each can take to impact change in our environment, our communities, our world.

Renate Schneider, for further information contact Renate at 312/493-3719 or at schn067@yahoo.com