



OUR LADY OF AFRICA

PARISH BULLETIN

Sunday, November 19, 2023



Served by the Society of the Divine Word



33RD
SUNDAY
IN
ORDINARY
TIME

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, 2nd, (3rd) Sunday of each month*)

2:30 p.m.—Igbo Community (*last two Sundays of 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.

Parish Administrator

Father Carl Gales, 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.

Office Administrator: Ms. Shirley McKinney



This Week at OLA

Sunday, November 19

- **NO MASS AT 9 a.m.**
- Men's Coalition Meeting - 9 a.m. | Zoom
- **ONE UNITY MASS at 11:30 a.m.**
- Sunday School - 11:30 a.m.
- Confirmation Class - 1:30 p.m.
| Tolton Center

Tuesday, November 21

- Phone-In Bible Study - 6 p.m.
(267) 807-9601 - Code: 340-355-967

Wednesday, November 22

- **PARISH OFFICE CLOSED**

Thursday, November 23

- Angels on Air Phone Prayer Line - 9 a.m.
(267) 807-9601 - Code: 340-355-967
- **THANKSGIVING MASS - 10 a.m.**

Friday, November 24

- **PARISH OFFICE CLOSED**
- Devotion and Adoration - 6:30 p.m.
| Church

Saturday, November 25

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

Sunday, November 26

- Sunday School - 11:30 a.m.
| Sunday School Room

Stewardship

Offertory - November 11/12, 2023

\$ 7,466.00
\$ 2,100.00 - online offertory
\$ 9,566.00

Offertory - November 12/13, 2022

\$ 5,547.18
\$ 780.00 - online offertory
\$ 6,327.18

Average Weekly Operating Costs

\$ (14,423.08)
\$ 9,566.00 - Total Offertory
\$ (4,857.08)

Thank you for your generosity!

Attendance

4 p.m. Mass	40
9 a.m. Mass	73
11:30 a.m. Mass	171
1:30 p.m. Mass	13
TOTAL	297

Ministry List for Upcoming Liturgies

Saturday 4 p.m. - November 25

- Priest: Fr. Carl Gales, SVD
- Lectors: Dr. Dorothy Williams
Silmon Reed

Sunday 9 a.m. - November 26

- Priests: Fr. Carl Gales, SVD
- Lectors: John Preston
Flora Smith
- Eucharistic Ministers:
Sr. Joanne Delehanty, OP
Barbara Edwards-Hill

Sunday 11:30 a.m. - November 26

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



Mass Intentions

Saturday, November 18

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

Sunday, November 19

- 11:30 a.m. Mass - OLA Church Family

Monday, November 20

- 8 a.m. Mass - ✠ Argentry Mitchell ✠

Tuesday, November 21

- 8 a.m. Mass - Poor Souls in Purgatory

Wednesday, November 22

- 8 a.m. Mass - Poor Souls in Purgatory

Thursday, November 23

- 10 a.m. Mass - OLA Church Family

Friday, November 24

- 8 a.m. Mass - Poor Souls in Purgatory

Saturday, November 25

- 4 p.m. Mass - For the Faithful Departed

Sunday, November 26

- 9 a.m. - For the Faithful Departed
- 11:30 a.m. Mass - For the Faithful Departed



MEET MS IRENE DOVE AND GRANDDAUGHTER KIALI

For Irene Dove, she has been calling this church home, on and off for almost 75 years. Born in Mississippi, Ms. Dove and her family moved to Chicago in 1949. It was simply fate that the Baptist family moved across the street from Holy Angels school and church. The proximity of the school and her reasonable father is what led Ms. Dove and her siblings to eventually become Catholic.

Ms. Irene's grandmother was a strong influence on her life. Teaching her to pray and develop a strong relationship with God was the lesson that she received. Even today, she can be on her knees for hours praying to God, just as her grandmother taught her, and not even get tired.

The strong faith that Ms. Dove learned from her grandmother and developed at Holy Angels, she passed on to her son and now her 11-year-old granddaughter Kiali who is beginning to ask questions about the faith that has strengthened her for so long.

As a member of the **Blessed Sacrament Society** and an usher, Ms. Irene models the importance of volunteering to us and her granddaughter. You don't always have to be a leader in a ministry or group to lead. Just helping with various events and activities can be the most essential thing that a person does. These lessons are being passed on to Kiali who is a member of the soccer team and the group **Sister to Sister** at school.

For Kiali, **Sister to Sister**, a mentoring and peer program designed to motivate young women to become future leaders in their communities, is helping her to become a strong Black woman. Now, Kiali is turning to her grandmother for questions about faith, prayer, and how God fits into her life. Ms. Irene shares with Kiali the importance of prayer. She reminds Kiali to talk to God like you would talk to anyone else. God is with you everywhere. Any place you and God are together, you are in church. She also provides prayer books and most importantly, makes herself available to Kiali if she has any questions about God, the Catholic Christian faith, and prayer.

As Kiali learns more and more about being Catholic from her wonderful grandmother, let us pray that her faith journey is one filled with the love and joy that God and Christ have given us all.



Confirmation Class Schedule

Classes take place on Sundays from 1:30 pm until 3:00 pm at

**The Tolton Center
4058 S Michigan Ave.**

CONFIRMATION CLASSES WILL TAKE PLACE ON

**November 19th
December 3rd & 17th**

Contact Tina Carter tinalcarter71@gmail.com for more information.

November Birthdays

**11/03 Keisha Chavers
11/03 Tasha McShan
11/07 Vircy Spight-Harris
11/08 Larry Carter
11/09 Florence Glenn
11/10 Stephanie Inis**

**11/11 Jacqueline Perisee
11/12 Meltonia Swain
11/19 Fr. Manie Manuel, SVD
11/19 Sr Mary Pokorny, OP
11/20 Jordan Amman
West-Williams**

**11/21 Jackson Lucas
11/22 Ola Credit
11/27 Vanessa Beavers
11/27 Altha Williams
11/29 Carolena & Gabriella
McEwen**

Please Remember in Daily Prayer and Devotions

Sunday, November 19

Readings: Prv 31: 10-13. 19-20. 30-31/ Ps 128: 1-2.
3. 4-5/ 1 Thes 5: 1-6/ Mt 25: 14-30

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

Monday, November 20

Readings: 1 Mc 1: 10-15. 41-43. 54-57. 62-63/ Ps
119: 53. 61. 134. 150. 155. 158/ Lk 18:35-43

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

Tuesday, November 21

Readings: 2 Mc 6: 18-31/ Ps 3: 2-3. 4-5. 6-7/
Lk 19: 1-10

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

Wednesday, November 22

Readings: 2 Mc 7: 1. 20-31/ Ps 17: 1bcd. 5-6. 8b
and 15/ Lk 19: 11-28

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

Thursday, November 23

Readings: Sir 50: 22-24/ 1 Cor 1: 3-9/ Lk 17: 11-19

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

Friday, November 24

Readings: 1 Mc 4: 3-37. 52-59/ 1 Chr 29: 10bcd.
11abc. 11d-12a. 12bcd/ Lk 19: 45-48

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

Saturday, November 25

Readings: 1 Mc 6: 1-13/ Ps 9: 2-3. 4 and 6. 16 and
19/ Lk 20: 27-40

OLA Book of Prayer: Nolan Humphries,
Cindy Jirsa, Monica Lewers, Bernadine McNeal,
Jeff Moore

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,
Shawnece Wilson

Clergy

Fr. Carl Gales, SVD
Parish Administrator
galesce0422@gmail.com
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

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

Peace and Social Justice

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

THE JOY OF STEWARDSHIP MINISTRY



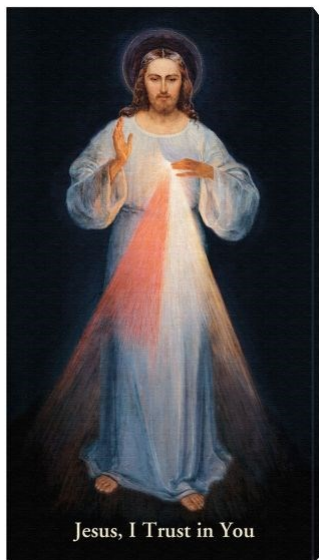
zelle

You can send your offertory through Zelle:

ourladyofafricachicago@gmail.com



Devotion to the Divine Mercy - FRIDAYS at 6:30 P.M.



Beginning the first week of November, we will have Devotion and Adoration on Fridays at 6:30 p.m.

After a hectic and busy week, you can come and spend time in communal prayer. Our world has been besieged by injustice and cruelty. The war in the Middle East is but one effect of all the hatred that is plaguing humanity. Prayer changes things. And the Devotion to Divine Mercy is powerful in moving mountains.

I hope you will come and spend time in prayer and devotion on at least one Friday of the month. In addition to the Divine Mercy Chaplet, there will be time for sharing, reflection, music, contemplation and adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.

“For the sake of His Sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world.”

For more info:

<https://www.thedivinemercy.org/message/devotions/chaplet>

ANGEL TREE CHRISTMAS

Angel Tree provides an opportunity for local congregations to extend the hope of the Gospel and enfold Angel Tree families into church life through delivering Christmas gifts on behalf of incarcerated parents. We are asking for OLA Church Family members to be generous and extend love to kids are really in need of care and support through the holidays.

Please bring your gifts to the church for the Angel Tree Christmas no later than December 19th.

For further information, please contact the Parish Office 773-624-5375 or Debra Crosby.

Your gifts will make a difference in the youth of our future. Help bring hope and healing through love and compassion and acts of care.



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2023 - CHRISTMAS MIDNIGHT MASS

This year, we will have Midnight Mass for the first time in many years! I am very excited and I hope that you will be too! We will start Carol Singing at 11 p.m. For those concerned with safety, we will have police patrolling so as to make sure that we are all safe.

UPCOMING EVENTS!



Mark your calendars for December 9th.

We will have a Hope and Healing Circle at Our Lady of Africa.

The ministry, going forward, will now be lead by Velma Hill.

To register, please contact the Parish Office by calling: 773-624-5375.

DATE: DECEMBER 9, 2023
TIME: 9 A.M. to 11 A.M.



Coffee and Donuts Provided

PLACE: OUR LADY OF AFRICA PARISH CHURCH

**Our Lady of
Africa Church**

THE CHICAGO
HELP
INITIATIVE



What: Community Meal & Resource Assistance

- **Referrals and Assistance for Essential Resources like:**
 - Medicaid and SNAP signup help
 - Government phone signup
 - CHA housing application help

Where: Our Lady of Africa Church
607 East Oakwood Blvd
(1 block South of Pershing Rd.)
Chicago, IL 60653

When: 1 - 3 PM
1st and 3rd Thursdays of EVERY MONTH!



33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time - Reflection by Fr. Tracy O'Sullivan, O'Carroll

Today's Gospel puts the focus on the end of time for both the Church Year and, more importantly, it highlights fact that our world, personal and communal, will come to an end sooner than later. The gift of life expressed in our time, talent and treasure needs to be cherished. It also needs to be developed and used responsibly as we face the relentless clock that moves us to the conclusion of our earthly journey. This trustworthy action is our way into the Mystery. There is nothing in life more important for us.

The simple and clear truth of the Gospel passages of the last two weeks is the daily challenge of our mortality. This means we have only the present moment to live! The past and the future are beyond our control. This is an overwhelming truth that we can grasp only in a minimal fashion. The saints are the ones who really get what it means to be mortal. Yet, each year the Church offers us a reminder at the end of the liturgical year that this life will come to an end. The more we are aware of it, the more we are able to direct our lives to our final destiny.

The message for us in today's Gospel is clear: to realize that God is calling us to use our time, talent and treasure in harmony with the coming kingdom of God. Our call is to create and support life in all of its various manifestations. This is seamless garment of life, from the womb to the tomb. We are invited to enter into and embrace the Gospel message of Jesus by always discovering new horizons of inclusion and acceptance and celebration. Our fundamental human task is to let reality open up the hidden

presence of our loving God in all the wide-ranging expressions of humanity.

The image of God is a central driving force in the story of the three servants in today's parable. For the first two, even though they differ quite a bit in personal talents, God was seen as a generous and loving benefactor. They see God calling them to life in every way possible. The invitation to responsible living was rooted in God's merciful love.

For the third servant, fear was the consequence of an image of God as a harsh and demanding judge. This image relegated his world to a minimum of generosity and a maximum of evasion of any mistake. Love was just not a factor.

We have to move beyond the "dos and don'ts" of religion. The third servant operated out of a narrow and negligible investment of time, talent and treasure. He sees a "go to mass on Sunday" as a nominal effort to satisfy a harsh and demanding judge who holds out the threat of eternal punishment. He puts God on the fringe of life, a necessary but onerous obligation.

We need an image of God where love and mercy liberate and enrich us. We are empowered to advance in confidence with the gifts of our time, talent and treasure. God is calling us to share in the creation of his kingdom by walking with Jesus.

MIGRANTS - PLEASE HELP

**THE TEMPORARY SHELTER ON 35TH AND MICHIGAN AVE
IS LOOKING FOR WINTER CLOTHES FOR MIGRANTS.**

**IF YOU HAVE GENTLY USED WINTER CLOTHES
THAT YOU WOULD LIKE TO DONATE,
PLEASE CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICE.**

WE WILL DROP OFF THE ITEMS TO THE SHELTER.

**THANK YOU IN ADVANCE FOR YOUR GENEROUS GIFTS OF CLOTHING
FOR THE MIGRANTS.**