



# OUR LADY OF AFRICA

## PARISH BULLETIN

Sunday, October 1, 2023



Served by the Society of the Divine Word



## 26<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“When John came to you in the way of righteousness, you did not believe him; but tax collectors and prostitutes did. Yet even when you saw that, you did not later change your minds and believe him.”  
- Mt 21:32

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, 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, October 1

- Blessed Sacrament Society Meeting  
10 a.m. | Parish Hall
- **Diaconate Ordination  
of Zachary Smith, SVD  
and Andrew Wang, SVD  
At the 11:30 a.m. Mass**
- Sunday School - 11:30 a.m.  
| Sunday School Room

### Tuesday, October 3

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

### Wednesday, October 4

- School Mass - 10 a.m.  
| Holy Angel's School Gym
- Bible Study - 11 a.m. | Parish Hall
- Peace and Social Justice Meeting  
6 p.m. | Tolton Center

### Thursday, October 5

- Angels on Air Phone Prayer Line - 9 a.m.  
(267) 807-9601 - Code: 340-355-967
- Food Pantry - 10 a.m. to noon  
| Tolton Center
- Community Meal and Social Services  
1 p.m. to 3 p.m. | Parish Hall

### Saturday, October 7

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

### Sunday, October 8

- KPCLA Meeting - 10 a.m. | Parish Hall
- Sunday School - 11:30 a.m.  
| Sunday School Room

## Stewardship

### Offertory - September 23/24, 2023

\$ 6,779.00  
\$ 2,080.00 - online offertory  
\$ 50.00 - Zelle Donations  
\$ 8,909.00

### Offertory - September 24/25, 2022

\$ 5,222.80  
\$ 745.00 - online offertory  
\$ 5,967.80

### Expenses for September 2023 - to date

\$41,242.46

Thank you for your generosity!

**Attendance September 23/24**

## Ministry List for Upcoming Liturgies

### Saturday 4 p.m. - October 7

- Priest: Fr. Carl Gales, SVD
- Lectors: Dr. Dorothy Williams  
Theresa Rhea

### Sunday 9 a.m. - October 8

- Priest: Fr. Carl Gales, SVD
- Lectors: Parris Washington  
Larry Carter
- Eucharistic Ministers:  
Barbara Hill  
Eileen Foggie

### Sunday 11:30 a.m. - October 8

- Priest: Fr. Carl Gales, SVD
- Lectors: Jamil Wilson  
Shawnece Wilson
- Eucharistic Ministers:  
Velma Hill  
Silmon Reed

## Mass Intentions

### Saturday, September 30

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

### Sunday, October 1

- 9 a.m. Mass - Mr. Robert L. Clark
- 11:30 a.m. Mass - Divine Word Missionaries

### Monday, October 2

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

### Tuesday, October 3

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

### Wednesday, October 4

- 10 a.m. Mass - Students at HACCS

### Thursday, October 5

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

### Friday, October 6

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

### Saturday, October 7

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

### Sunday, October 8

- 9 a.m. Mass - Divine Word College Benefactors
- 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. Mass stipends during the weekends (\$20 per intention) and during the weekdays (\$10 per intention) are the recommended donations.

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



Dear Friends,

The events of today's text from Matthew take place just after Jesus's glorious entry into Jerusalem on the back of a donkey. The next item leading to further conflict is the cleansing the temple. The impact of these events set the scene for even deeper conflict with the religious leaders. With today's parable of the two sons, Jesus is not subtle in escalating the tension.

The contrary actions of the two sons highlighted in today's parable point out the contradiction of the leaders' program and the all-inclusive mercy of the God revealed by Jesus. Jesus's point about the tax-collectors and prostitutes entering the kingdom before the chief priests and elders was intended as a challenge to those who thought themselves to be God's chosen and, therefore, the favored sons and daughters. Later on, this was going to be a test for the Christian Jews to accept Gentiles into the early church. It also questions our acceptance of the ever-expanding invitation of the gospel for the outcasts of our day in whatever manner they invade our complacency.

The parable is a vessel of self-awareness. It does not take much insight to see that we share the ambiguity of commitment that Jesus discloses in the two sons. The perennial fickleness of the human heart is never far from us. We play the role of both sons at different times in our lives. The struggle for us is to constantly search for the singleness of purpose. We need to make our yes to God more faithful and more determined in our daily lives.

A true spiritual life helps us come to grips with the problem of personal ambiguity. Prayer opens the eyes of heart to the experience of the Hound of Heaven, God's grace in relentless in pursuit of us. God's love continually seeks to make our yes ever more generous and more consistent. Faithful and committed personal prayer lets us see our situation. God's wondrous and merciful love is always present to us no matter the distractions, attachments or fancies of our fractured heart. We need to simply accept our poverty which enables us to respond to the unending call to new life. This is our yes to Jesus. It is especially fitting that we use our weekly presence at the Eucharist as a time of renewing our yes to God for the entire week. Our weekly encounter with the Eucharistic Christ is always preparing us for the special and, so often, surprising moments of grace that await us during the week.

As we get to know ourselves, we become more familiar with our tendency to self-deception. Our strongest inclinations are to work out a comfortable compromise where our yes is a minimum for God and a maximum for us. By faithfulness to prayer, we learn the geography of the human heart. We learn to identify the great chasm between the good intention in the mind and the lived reality.

God is patient with us but just like the disciples, there comes a time we when have to walk with Jesus to Jerusalem. It is in faithfulness to prayer that we die to ambiguity. We are left with only one longing in our heart, a free and generous yes to Jesus.

**SAVE THE DATE!!**

# Chicagoland Walk

**Saturday, October 21, 2023**

9:00 am | Montrose Harbor -- Chicago, IL

Scan the QR code or register at:

**[afsp.org/chicago](https://afsp.org/chicago)**



American  
Foundation  
for Suicide  
Prevention  
Illinois





## The Sacrament of Baptism

Baptisms during Sunday Mass are available at the following times:

**October 29, 2023**

For more information about the Sacrament of Baptism and Baptismal Prep Classes, please speak with Tina Carter or email her: [tinalcarter71@gmail.com](mailto:tinalcarter71@gmail.com)

## October Birthdays

10/3 Theresa Enaholo  
10/4 Dcn Michael Foggie  
10/6 Lauren Martin  
10/10 Sandra Houston  
10/13 Katherine Brown  
10/16 Don McKinney, Sr  
10/22 Rosemary Sykes

10/24 Louise Bates  
10/26 Debra Causay  
10/27 Cecelia Douglass  
10/28 Shirley Simmons  
10/29 Joyce Nevils  
10/30 JoAnn Porter  
10/30 Lisa Pruitt

## Please Remember in Daily Prayer and Devotions

### **Sunday, October 1**

Readings: Ez 18: 25-28/ Ps 25: 4-5. 6-7. 8-9 (6a)/  
Phil 2: 1-11/ Mt 21: 28-32

**OLA Book of Prayer:** Pamela Jones, John Littleton,  
Tasha McShan, Anastacia Mebane,  
Euphrasia Mutinda

### **Monday, October 2**

Readings: Zec 8: 1-8/ Ps 102: 16-18. 19-21. 29 and  
22-23/ Mt 18: 1-5. 10

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

### **Tuesday, October 3**

Readings: Zec 8: 20-23/ Ps 87: 1b-3. 4-5. 6-7/  
Lk 9: 51-56

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

### **Wednesday, October 4**

Readings: Neh 2: 1-8/ Ps 137: 1-2. 3. 4-5. 6/  
Lk 9: 57-62

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

### **Thursday, October 5**

Readings: Neh 8: 1-4a. 5-6. 7b-12/ Ps 19: 8. 9. 10.  
11/ Lk 10: 1-12

**OLA Book of Prayer:** Sr. Eleanor Doidge,  
Tyrone Fuller, Bettie Green, Lorraine Henderson,  
George James

### **Friday, October 6**

Readings: Bar 1: 15-22/ Ps 79: 1b-2. 3-5. 8. 9/  
Lk 10: 13-16

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

### **Saturday, October 7**

Readings: Bar 4: 5-12. 27-29/ Ps 69: 33-35. 36-37/  
Lk 10: 17-24

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



## 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**

### 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

**Bobby Malone**  
**Tyrone Smith**

### Medical Ministry

**Dr. James Hunter**

### Men's Coalition

**Michael Morman** - *President*

### Music Ministry

**Maestro Tyrone Pittman**

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



DIASPORAL RHYTHMS  
PRESENTS

# INTIMATE SPACES



**October 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> 2023**

TICKETS GO ON SALE AUGUST 15, 2023 ON LINE AT:

**DiasporalRhythms.Org**

Featuring 3 collections for each tour track:

**Track A-Bronzeville**  
**Track B South Shore**

Registration and Boarding  
Logan Center for the Arts 8:30AM

DIASPORAL



RHYTHMS



## Hope and Healing Circle



Mark your calendars for October 14!!!

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

The circle is usually made up of 12 to 15 individuals and is meant to offer a space for hope and healing for those who are dealing with grief and in need of emotional support.

The ministry will be lead by Sr. Janet Ryan and Trenesha Boyd.

To register, please email Sr. Janet: [janet@pbmr.org](mailto:janet@pbmr.org) or Sign-Up in the Narthex.



DATE: OCTOBER 14, 2023  
TIME: 9:30 A.M. to 11 A.M.  
BREAKFAST SERVED AT 9 A.M.

## Want to become Catholic? Let's talk about OCIA\*\*\*!

Becoming Catholic is to enter into history. You become linked to the earliest traditions that are at the roots of all Christian denominations.

What you will discover is that being Catholic unites all peoples all over the world. You will travel to one side of the world to the other and still experience the worship of the One Holy Catholic Church.

Beautiful in its unity and multifaceted in its diversity, Catholicism embraces the most humble to the richest philosophical and theological minds. In prayer and through the intercession of the Holy Spirit, the diverse gifts of each member shines through the ages in the history of the Saints.

If you would like to explore becoming Catholic, please let us know. You can contact the Parish Office (773) 624-5375 and start your process of discernment.

\*\*\* OCIA stands for Order of Christian Initiation of Adults, formerly known as the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) . It was changed by the USCCB in November 2021.

## 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 sign up in the Narthex or contact our Parish Office: (773)624-5375.



**You're cordially invited to Our Lady of Africa's  
Blessed Sacrament Society  
Stay at Home Tea**



**Sunday, October 15, 2023**

**(After the 11:30 mass)**

**Raffle tickets available**

**(\$5 each or 6 \$25.00)**

**1<sup>st</sup> Prize: \$200.00**

**2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Prizes: \$100.00**

**4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> Prizes: \$50.00**

**7-8<sup>th</sup> Prizes: \$25.00**

**No worries, no special prep, no need to stress, just enjoy this cup, then kindly  
send your donation of any amount to aid the continuation of our good work.**

**Enjoy, relax, savor and know this pleasure for your donation is making a  
difference.**

**All proceeds go to Our Lady of Africa Church**



**For more information contact:**

**Deborah Powell (Chair) @ 708-547-9097**

**Gloria Dean (Financial Officer) @ 773-502-5035**

**Virey Spight Harris (Financial Officer) @ 773-651-0891**

**Tasha McShan (President) @ 773-474-2823**







# Our Lady of Africa Parish

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 Parish**  
**607 E Oakwood Blvd**  
**(2 blocks South of Pershing Rd. )**  
**Chicago, IL 60653**

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



CHICAGO BLACK CATHOLIC ALLIANCE PRESENTS

*Looking Back: Where  
We Have Been as  
Black Catholics"*

**OCTOBER 16TH**

**REVIVALIST**  
**REV. ART ANDERSON, OFM**  
**ST ALPHONSUS**  
**& ST PATRICK PARISH**

**WORD ON FIRE SPEAKER:**  
**DR. MARK NIMO.**

**ST. SIMON OF CYRENE**  
(St. Martin de Porres site)  
5112 W. Washington Blvd,  
Chicago, IL 60644



**AUTHENTICALLY BLACK & TRULY CATHOLIC:**  
**FAITH, PEACE, AND LOVE IN UNITY**

**OCTOBER 17TH**

**REVIVALIST**  
**REV. CARL GALES, SVD**  
**OUR LADY OF AFRICA**

**WORD ON FIRE SPEAKER:**  
**DR. C. VANESSA WHITE**

**OUR LADY OF AFRICA**  
615 E. Oakwood Blvd,  
Chicago, IL 60653

*Where We are NOW  
as Black Catholics"*

**5PM-6PM | FOOD AND FELLOWSHIP | 6:30PM-9PM | REVIVAL SERVICE**

there will be a love offering collection

*Where we are going  
as Black Catholics"*

**OCTOBER 18TH**

**REVIVALIST**  
**REV. MICHAEL PFLEGER**  
**ST SABINA**

**WORD ON FIRE SPEAKER:**  
**DR KIMBERLY LYMORE**

**ST. SABINA**  
1210 W. 78th Pl,  
Chicago, IL 60620





JAMMY JAM - OCTOBER 20th

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20TH

# TIME TO JAMMY JAM

Our Lady Of Africa Church  
Holy Angels School



## DIAPER DRIVE

We are also collecting diapers  
for our church. We would  
appreciate any donations!

You're invited!

Join us on Friday, October  
20th from 3pm - 6pm, for  
an evening of food and  
fun while we celebrate  
Jammy Jam

750 E 40th St

OLA BOOK CLUB - The 1619 PROJECT

OLA BOOK CLUB

NOVEMBER 12

"IF WE ARE TRULY A GREAT NATION, THE TRUTH  
CANNOT DESTROY US."

OUR NEXT BOOK IS THE 1619 PROJECT

"James Baldwin famously said, 'Not everything  
that is faced can be changed, but nothing can be  
changed unless it is faced.'"

Nikole Hannah-Jones, *The 1619 Project: A New Origin Story*





## Donate Diapers



**Our Lady  
of Africa**



Catholic Charities Diaper Depot distributes diapers throughout Chicagoland.  
**Donate** new, unopened diaper boxes to support families in need.

Diapers can be brought to mass on Sundays.

To **volunteer** to pack diapers for families, contact [ourladyofafricachicago@gmail.com](mailto:ourladyofafricachicago@gmail.com).

***Needed Sizes: Newborn, 1, 2, 3***

*Our Lady of Africa & the Diaper Bank Project of Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Chicago*  
[catholiccharities.net](http://catholiccharities.net)



## 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 once a week, either in person or on Zoom to talk about their plans, their commitment to one another, and what the Sacrament of Marriage truly means. To discuss your future wedding plans, please contact Father Carl at the Parish Office:  
**(773)624-5375**