



OUR LADY OF AFRICA

PARISH BULLETIN

Sunday, October 22, 2023



Served by the Society of the Divine Word



29th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“Repay to Caesar
what belongs to
Caesar and to God
what belongs to God.”
- Mt 22:21

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 22

- Adoration - after 9 a.m. Mass | Chapel
- Sunday School - 11:30 a.m.
| Sunday School Room

Tuesday, October 24

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

Wednesday, October 25

- Bible Study - 11 a.m. | Parish Hall

Thursday, October 26

- 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

Saturday, October 28

- Mobile Food Pantry - 10 a.m. to Noon
| Tolton Center
- Choir Rehearsal - 1 p.m.
- Altar Server Training - 2 p.m.

Sunday, October 29

- Sunday School - 11:30 a.m.
| Sunday School Room
- Confirmation Classes - 1:30 p.m.
| Tolton Center

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.

Stewardship

Offertory - October 14/15, 2023

\$ 5,176.00
\$ 1,290.00 - online offertory
\$ 330.00 - Zelle Donations
\$ 6,796.00

Offertory - October 15/16, 2022

\$ 6,053.88
\$ 290.00 - online offertory
\$ 6,343.88

Expenses for October 2023 to date

\$ 13,760.42 - correction from last week

Thank you for your generosity!

Ministry List for Upcoming Liturgies

Saturday 4 p.m. - October 28

- Priest: Fr. Brian Barrons, MM
- Lectors: James X.
Eileen Foggie

Sunday 9 a.m. - October 29

- Priest: Fr. Brian Barrons, MM
- Lectors: Don McKinney
Flora Smith
- Eucharistic Ministers:
Sr. Joanne Delehanty, OP
Marcheta Smith

Sunday 11:30 a.m. - October 29

- Priest: Fr. Brian Barrons, MM
- Lectors: Katie Jordan
Taleah Cage
- Eucharistic Ministers:
Theresa Rhea
Trish Rawls

Attendance October 14/15, 2023

259

Mass Intentions

Saturday, October 21

- 4 p.m. Mass - Virginia Goodman

Sunday, October 22

- 9 a.m. Mass - ✠ Grace & ✠ Leon Howell ✠
- 11:30 a.m. Mass - Nick Ayon and Joyce Ramey

Monday, October 23

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

Tuesday, October 24

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

Wednesday, October 25

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

Thursday, October 26

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

Friday, October 27

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

Saturday, October 28

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

Sunday, October 29

- 9 a.m. Mass - ✠ Salvadore Herrera ✠
- 11:30 a.m. Mass - ✠ Kevin Ammons ✠

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.



Father Carl Gales, SVD
Administrator

Dear Parishioners,

Greetings to Our Lady of Africa Church Family! As always, it is a blessing to see you all each week at Mass and at our various celebrations of fellowship. There are several exciting things happening up the road that I wanted to make sure you were aware of. Time is moving fast and 2024 is right around the corner. Please mark your calendars for the following dates!

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2023 - ALL SAINTS - HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION

This is one of the most holy days of liturgical year and one filled with heavenly graces. It is a special time when one can experience the veil between heaven and earth being parted as the Communion of the Saints is expressed in our devotion and prayer. We will have two opportunities for Mass on that day: 10 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2023 - ALL SOULS - DAY OF REMEMBERING OUR DECEASED LOVED ONES

The following day, we will remember our loved ones who have passed. We will remember them in a special way with our tribute and photo display. If you would like to also pray with me the Novena for the Souls of the Faithful Departed, the sign up sheet and booklets will be made available.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2023 - UNITY MASS

The Townhall Meeting brought out an important focus for the need to have more opportunities for all the different communities that worship at Our Lady of Africa to worship together as one. Based on this need, we are having a Unity Mass that will unite our African-America, Ghanaian, Nigerian-Igbo, and French-speaking Communities. Bishop Perry will be the main celebrant. On that Sunday, we will have only ONE Mass at 11:30 a.m.

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.

I look forward to all these celebrations as we continue being united in prayer and in good works to build up the Kingdom of God!

Peace and all good,
Fr. Carl Gales, SVD



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

**October 15th & 29th
November 5th & 19th
December 3rd & 17th**

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

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, Jr.
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 22

Readings: Is 45: 1. 4-6/ Ps 96: 1. 3. 4-5. 7-8. 9-10
(7b)/ 1 Thes 1: 1-5b/ Mt 22: 15-21

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

Monday, October 23

Readings: Rom 4: 20-25/ Lk 1: 69-70. 71-72. 73-75/
Lk 12: 13-21

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

Tuesday, October 24

Readings: Rom 5: 12. 15b. 17-19. 20b-21/ Ps 40: 7-
8a. 8b-9. 10. 17/ Lk 12: 35-38

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

Wednesday, October 25

Readings: Rom 6: 12-18/ Ps 124: 1b-3. 4-6. 7-8/
Lk 12: 39-48

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

Thursday, October 26

Readings: Rom 6: 19-23/ Ps 1: 1-2. 3. 4 and 6/
Lk 12: 49-53

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

Friday, October 27

Readings: Rom 7: 18-25a/ Ps 119: 66. 68. 76. 77.
93. 94/ Lk 12: 54-59

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

Saturday, October 28

Readings: Eph 2: 19-22/ Ps 19: 2-3. 4-5/ Lk 6: 12-16

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

Bobby Malone
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



UPCOMING EVENTS!



YOU'RE INVITED
TO A BIRTHDAY
CELEBRATION FOR...

Sr. Helen Strueder

SUNDAY
OCTOBER 29TH
1PM-5PM

LOCATION:

ST. ELIZABETH HALL

44 E. 41ST ST.

CHICAGO, IL 60653

PLEASE RSVP BY

OCTOBER 15, 2023

TO TERRI JOHNSON AT

JTJMAXIN@AOL.COM

CONTACT NUMBER

(773) 520-7435

**LIGHT REFRESHMENTS
WILL BE SERVED**

SAVE THE DATE!!

Chicagoland Walk

Saturday, October 21, 2023

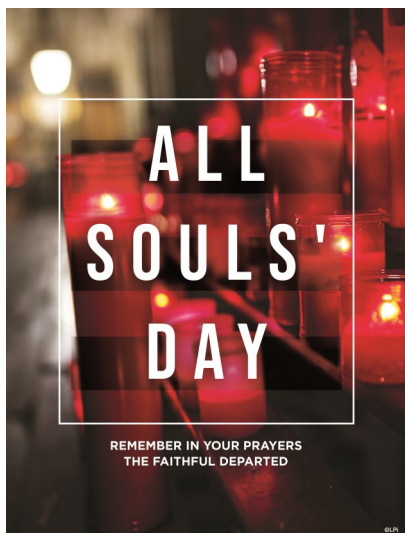
9:00 am | Montrose Harbor -- Chicago, IL

Scan the QR code or register at:

afsp.org/chicago



All Souls Remembrance



Next month is the time in our Liturgical Year when we honor our loved ones who have passed. We are asking that you send in photos of all your loved ones who have passed away that you would like the church to remember so that we can make a presentation honoring their lives. Please send your photos by email: ourladyofafricachicago@gmail.com or by coming to the parish office where we can scan the photos.

Migrants in Need of Clothing for the Winter

**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.**

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.**



Today's Gospel has Jesus undergoing four conflicts with different groups. Each separate group tries to entrap Jesus in way that endangers his life. He turns each disagreement into a teaching opportunity.

Today's message is not about the separation of church and state. It is a clear mandate to put God at the center in all things. By saying, **"then repay to Caesar what belong to Caesar and to God what belongs to God."** (Mt 22:21) Jesus sets a clear standard for all to follow. All are to obey the civil power within the context of paying to God what belongs to God.

The priority of God puts the image of the coin into this context. The image on the coin is countered by the continuous and pervasive teaching of Jesus that every human being is in the image of God. **"Whatever you did for one of the least brothers (or sisters) of mine, you did for me."** (Mt. 25:40)

The Gospel invites us to participate in each and every group whether it is social, economic, political, civil or even family by respecting the image of God in our brothers and sisters. This leads us to always being in search for the common good.

This is no easy task. All groups are a mixture of the good and the bad and a whole lot in between. It takes true wisdom to discern the most responsible level of participation. Whether it is as simple as a block club or active participation in a labor union, whether it is the direction of an economic corporation or a PTA group: they all suffer the consequences of the weeds and the wheat, generosity and selfishness, private agendas and self-sacrificing service.

All of our involvement in political or civic activity needs to be driven by the image of God in our brothers and sisters. This leads us to the very tricky task of discerning the presence of God on our quest for the common good. This complex search for the truth allows persons of good will to choose very different paths. That is why we have Republicans and Democrats. Truly understanding Jesus' message will always lead us to go deeper into what seems an either /or situation. Most times, there are several sides to be discerned in the state of affairs. In the end, today's Gospel calls us to be involved in the very problematic reality of our social, economic and political life. Giving to God what is God's does not mean staying aloof. It demands our being engaged in the work for justice and peace and the integrity of creation at some level in our quest for the common good. This takes a lot of wisdom.

I remember being very active in a community organization as a young priest. Our goals were very clear. We were seeking justice for a poor, neglected community that was suffering all kinds of social ills. It was all to the good in the beginning. But because there were flawed and weak human beings on all sides of the issues, I slowly realized the thrust of our actions was moving steadily away from the gospel values. Hatred, anger and gross self interest usurped much of the program. No matter how righteous our goal, the means often were in conflict with Jesus' teachings and values.

The same potential is in every group whether it be a PTA or a large bank, the President or the most local politician, the bishops or the parish council. We always stand in need of deep and discerning prayer if our life commitments are to give **"to God what belongs to God."** (Mt 22:21)

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



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!



Mark your calendars for November 4th!!

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 or Sign-Up in the Narthex.



HOPE AND HEALING

©LPi

DATE: NOVEMBER 4, 2023
TIME: 9:30 A.M. to 11 A.M.
BREAKFAST SERVED AT 9 A.M.

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*



Please join Our Lady of Africa's
Confirmation class
for a fun time
with the



Briar Street Theatre
3133 N Halsted St. Chicago, IL 60657
www.briarstreetbroadway.com

Saturday, November 18th at 2 pm
For ages 5 & up

The bus will leave Our Lady of Africa at 12:45 pm and
return to the parish no later than 5:30 pm

~~\$80.00~~, \$20.00 per person
50 tickets are available.

Money is due by November 10th.

For more information, please contact the rectory.

615 E Oakwood Blvd
Chicago IL 60653
773-624-5375

<http://www.ourladyofafricachicago.org>



SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2023

OUR LADY OF AFRICA-ST. JAMES-WABASH MINISTRY



LOVE IS NOT ABUSIVE

1 IN 4 WOMEN AND 1 IN 9 MEN EXPERIENCE SEVERE INTIMATE
PARTNER PHYSICAL VIOLENCE.

ABOUT 20 PEOPLE PER MINUTE ARE PHYSICALLY ABUSED BY
AN INTIMATE PARTNER IN THE UNITED STATES.

BUT THE VIOLENCE IS MORE THAN PHYSICAL.

Join this new ministry in raising awareness & discussing solutions to end gender-based violence. It's time to make a difference in all of our lives.

What: Gender-Based Violence Ministry Inaugural Event

When: 10:30 am-Noon, Sat., Nov. 4, 2023

Where: Tolton Heritage Hall, 44 E. 41st St., Chicago

Cost: Free, open to all

