



OUR LADY OF AFRICA

PARISH BULLETIN

Sunday, September 10, 2023



Served by the Society of the Divine Word



23rd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“If your brother sins
against you, go and tell
him his fault between
you and him alone.
If he listens to you,
you have won over
your brother.”
- Mt 18:15

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.

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, September 10

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

Tuesday, September 12

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

Thursday, September 14

- 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, September 16

- Choir Rehearsal - 1 p.m.
- Altar Servers Training - 2 p.m.
- **Perpetual Vows - Techny Towers - 2 p.m.**
2001 Waukegan Rd
Techny, IL 60082
Frt. Zachary Smith, SVD
Frt. Andrew Wang, SVD

Sunday, September 17

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

Stewardship

Offertory - September 2/3, 2023

\$ 5,546.00
\$ 1,225.00 - online offertory
\$ 250.00 - Zelle Donations
\$ 7,021.00

Offertory - September 3/4, 2022

\$ 7,120.50
\$ 935.00 - online offertory
\$ 8,055.00

Thank you for your generosity!

Second Collection

Our Second Collection will be for the Seminarian's Fund. Thank you in advance for your donations to further priesthood vocations!

Attendance September 2/3, 2023

392

Ministry List for Upcoming Liturgies

Saturday 4 p.m. - September 16

- Priest: Fr. Brian Barrons, MM
- Lectors: Dr. Dorothy Williams
Silmon Reed

Sunday 9 a.m. - September 17

- Priest: Fr. Carl Gales, SVD
- Lectors: John Preston
Flora Smith
- Eucharistic Ministers:
Miriam Hunter
Gladys St. Leger

Sunday 11:30 a.m. - September 17

- Priest: Fr. Carl Gales, SVD
- Lectors: Mary Johnson
Lisa Pruitt
- Eucharistic Ministers:
Stephanie Inis
Shawnece Wilson

Mass Intentions

Saturday, September 9

- 4 p.m. Mass - Maestro Tyrone Pittman

Sunday, September 10

- 9 a.m. Mass - Divine Word College Benefactors
- 11:30 a.m. Mass - OLA Music Ministry

Monday, September 11

- 8 a.m. Mass - Deacon Merv Johnson

Tuesday, September 12

- 8 a.m. Mass - Edith Lane

Thursday, September 14

- 8 a.m. Mass - Tina Carter

Friday, September 15

- 8 a.m. Mass - Judith Easter

Saturday, September 16

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

Sunday, September 17

- 9 a.m. Mass - Seminararians
- 11:30 a.m. Mass - OLA Catechists

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.



There is something about numbers. We like counting. We fill our lives with counting: salaries, weight, cost of living, gas mileage, sacraments, Beatitudes, even Sundays in Ordinary Time. We have come to believe life is measureable somehow. We're like that. But God?

Today's responsorial psalm refrain: "If today you hear God's voice, harden not your heart."

If you hear God's voice... Notice the condition is not on God's communication. It is on our listening. Today. And each day. Faithfully attending to the ever-present God-with-us. Protecting that holy connection that is our source of life and reason for existence, which we dare to call communion.

Divinity is within us and all around us, yet we are blind and deaf to it so much of the time. We think in such small ways. God doesn't. God is lavish in loving us: prodigal, expansive, tireless. Prayer connects us to the One who loves us endlessly. Mirabai Starr writes: "You sit down to meditate not only because it helps you to find rest in the arms of the formless Beloved but also because it increases your chances of being stunned by beauty when you get back up."

We are not stunned by beauty with hardened hearts, hearts that are defensive, decided, planned, sure, and isolated. We have become people who look for things instead of seeing what the world so generously offers always.

What do we do about hearts that are hardened? We must deliberately ask for and choose the grace to be pliable, poised, on tiptoe, expectant, awake, receptive...ever seeking to broaden our minds and hearts and spirits. Life is not a method or matter of willpower. Nor is it an accumulation of goals, objectives, and achievements. Life is a witness to the never-ending revelation of the divine, the endless accessibility of the sacred that makes us and the entire world sacramental.

Thomas Merton: "If we could let go of our own obsession with what we think is the meaning of it all, we might be able to hear (God's) call and follow (Him) in (His) mysterious cosmic dance."

"If today you hear God's voice, harden not your heart." We have our holy work cut out for us. And it is pure joy!

NEW Gender-Based Violence Ministry NEEDS YOU!

Do you believe everyone can help end gender-based violence?

If so, we invite you to join the new gender-based violence ministry formed through a collaborative initiative between Our Lady of Africa and St. James on Wabash churches. The churches are joining forces to better serve their South Side parishes and leverage their resources.

We are a team of dedicated volunteers whose mission is to increase awareness about gender-based violence, advocate for prevention, education, and policy changes, and provide support and resources to survivors and their loved ones.

We are looking for volunteers who are compassionate, empathetic, discreet, and committed to ending gender-based violence. No experience is necessary, and we will provide you with all the training you need.

Volunteers will have the opportunity to:

1. Educate the community about gender-based violence
2. Raise awareness of the issue and promote prevention
3. Develop communitywide programming and events
4. Make a positive impact on your community

Together, we all can make a difference in the lives of survivors of gender-based violence. Join us today!

Please sign-up here: <https://forms.office.com/r/hhpQXuht0J>.

Or call the Parish Office: 773-624-5375.



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

September Birthdays

9/02 Jennifer Iwuchukwu
9/02 Joyce Lane
9/04 D.E. Simmons
9/05 Thomas Craig Rich
9/07 Blanche Price
9/08 Fr. Carl Gales, SVD

9/09 Maestro Tyrone Pittman
9/11 Deacon Merv Johnson
9/14 Tina Carter
9/22 Ajike Sumpter
9/23 Celestial Kolheim-Smith
9/25 Jada E. Lucas

9/25 Shirley Peoples
9/26 Yoconda Bowen
9/26 Trent Dean
9/26 Gussie McShan
9/28 Christine Bowden
9/29 James Hunter

Please Remember in Daily Prayer and Devotions

Sunday, September 10

Readings: Ez 33: 7-9/ Ps 95: 1-2. 6-7. 8-9 (8)/ Rom 13: 8-10/ Mt 18: 15-20

OLA Book of Prayer: Cecelia Douglass, Eleanor Griffin, Jim Henkel, Janet James

Monday, September 11

Readings: Col 1: 24 2: 3/ Ps 62: 6-7. 9/ Lk 6: 6-11

OLA Book of Prayer: Louise Ray, Emma Stewart, Audrey Tuggle, Eryn Whitaker, Michael Williams

Tuesday, September 12

Readings: Col 2: 6-15/ Ps 145: 1b-2. 8-9. 10-11/ Lk 6: 12-19

OLA Book of Prayer: Denise Lawson, Lenda Mason, Deborah Mitchell, Clara Reisner

Wednesday, September 13

Readings: Col 3: 1-11/ Ps 145: 2-3. 10-11. 12-13ab/ Lk 6: 20-26

OLA Book of Prayer: Elsie Freeman, Florence Glenn, Exie Haralson, Sandra Houston

Thursday, September 14

Readings: Nm 21: 4b-9/ Ps 78: 1bc-2. 34-35. 36-37. 38/ Phil 2: 6-11/ Jn 3: 13-17

OLA Book of Prayer: Jan Johnson, Lugenia Lewis, Carolyn McQuenter, Michael Moore

Friday, September 15

Readings: 1 Tm 1: 1-2. 12-14/ Ps 16: 1b-2a and 5. 7-8. 11/ Jn 19: 25-27

OLA Book of Prayer: Janice Taylor, Tandra Watson, Arlene G. Williams, Wanda Finney

Saturday, September 16

Readings: 1 Tm 1: 15-17/ Ps 113: 1b-2. 3-4. 5a and 6-7/ Lk 6: 43-49

OLA Book of Prayer: Edith Lane Alfrances Sharpe, Deniece Thomas, Rachel Watson, Dr. Dorothy Williams

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



Our Lady of Africa Parish



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
Chicago, IL 60653

When: 1-3 PM, First and Third Thursday of each month, starting
September 7th and 21st

Interested in volunteering at a meal?
Contact Father Carl Gales at 773-624-5375



SAVE THE DATE: SEPTEMBER 23

ARCHERY CLINIC
AT

NEW LOCATION
WASHINGTON PARK
5758 S COTTAGE GROVE BLVD
11AM TO 1PM

THIS EVENT IS SPONSORED BY
THE MEN'S COALITION

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.



UPCOMING EVENTS

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)

1st Prize: \$200.00

2nd & 3rd Prizes: \$100.00

4th-6th Prizes: \$50.00

7-8th 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







CATHOLIC CHARITIES
Archdiocese of Chicago



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.

Needed Sizes: Newborn, 1, 2, 3

Our Lady of Africa & the Diaper Bank Project of Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Chicago
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



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



Upcoming Events!



BRONZEVILLE ART DISTRICT

TROLLEY TOUR 2023

DATES:

JUNE 16

JULY 21

AUGUST 18

SEPT 15

**3rd FRIDAYS
6-9PM**

SPACES:

Blanc Gallery

Bronzeville Artist Lofts

Faie Afrikan Art

Gallery Guichard

South Side Community
Art Center

Continuous rotating
double decker buses!
Board at any location!

RSVP on Eventbrite for events and gallery schedules:

<https://bit.ly/2023bronzevillearttour>

Sponsors:



PEOPLES GAS®



BlueCross BlueShield
of Illinois

UI Health
MILE SQUARE HEALTH CENTER





With praise and thanksgiving
to the Holy Triune God:

THE SOCIETY OF THE DIVINE WORD
Chicago Province

joyfully announces and invites you to

THE PROFESSION OF PERPETUAL VOWS



Saturday | September 16 | 2023
2:00 PM (C.T.)

Chapel of the Holy Spirit
Northbrook, Illinois

CANDIDATES FOR THE PROFESSION OF PERPETUAL VOWS IN THE SOCIETY OF THE DIVINE WORD



JOHN NKUM, SVD
Ghana



ZACHARY SMITH, SVD
United States



BOROMEO PYI SOE, SVD
Myanmar



ROGER KYAW THU, SVD
Myanmar



SHOUZHAO WANG, SVD
China

