

# St. Alexander Catholic Church

*LOVE ONE ANOTHER AS I LOVE YOU*

300 S. Cornell Avenue, Villa Park, Illinois 60181/630.833.7730  
office@stalexanderparish.org/www.stalexanderparish.org

THIRD SUNDAY OF

# Advent



DECEMBER 11, 2022

“Go and tell John what you hear and see:  
the blind regain their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed,  
the deaf hear, the dead are raised,  
and the poor have the good news proclaimed to them.”

MATTHEW 11:4-5

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## Mass Intentions

<b>Monday</b> 8:45a.m.	<b>Dec. 12—Our Lady of Guadalupe</b> Timothy Doherty
<b>Tuesday</b> 8:45a.m.	<b>Dec. 13—St. Lucy, Virgin and Martyr</b> Evelyn Pasek
<b>Wednesday</b> 8:45a.m.	<b>Dec. 14—St. John of the Cross, Priest &amp; Doctor of the Church</b> Martin Gallagher
<b>Thursday</b> 8:45a.m.	<b>Dec. 15—Advent Weekday</b> Roberto Perez
<b>Friday</b> 8:45a.m.	<b>Dec. 16—Advent Weekday</b> People of St. Alexander parish
<b>Saturday</b> 5:00p.m.	<b>Dec. 17—Advent Weekday</b> Hubert & Therese Klaus/Prisoners serving their time
<b>Sunday</b> 8:30 a.m. 10:30a.m. 6:00 p.m.	<b>Dec. 18—Fourth Sunday of Advent</b> Lenore Boyer & Family/Dolores Finnegan/Mary Hartnett Int. Susanne Strickland Spanish Mass—People of St. Alexander Parish

## TODAY'S READINGS

**First Reading** — The barren deserts will rejoice and flower. Tired bodies will receive strength. Aching hearts will be made glad (Isaiah 35:1-6a, 10).

**Psalm** — The Lord saves us when he comes (Psalm 146).

**Second Reading** — Be patient, for the coming of the Lord is as sure as the rain (James 5:7-10).

**Gospel** — Tell of what you hear and see: The blind regain their vision, the crippled their movement, the deaf their hearing (Matthew 11:2-11).

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK

**Monday:** Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab; Jdt 13:18bcde, 19; Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47, or any readings from the Common of the Blessed Virgin Mary, nos. 707-712

**Tuesday:** Zep 3:1-2, 9-13; Ps 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-19, 23; Mt 21:28-32

**Wednesday:** Is 45: 6b-8, 18, 21b-25; Ps 85:9ab, 10-14; Lk 7:18b-23

**Thursday:** Is 54:1-10; Ps 30:2, 4-6, 11-12a, 13b; Lk 7:24-30

**Friday:** Is 56:1-3a, 6-8; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 7-8; Jn 5:33-36

**Saturday:** Gn 49:2, 8-10; Ps 72:1-4ab, 7-8, 17; Mt 1:1-17

**Sunday:** Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-6; Rom 1:1-7; Mt 1:18-24

## Facilities Schedule

<b>Mon. 12/12:</b>		
Spanish Ministry (Mañanitas)	Hall/Gym	5:00am
Spanish Ministry (OLG)	Multiple Rooms	6:00pm
<b>Tues. 12/13:</b>		
Rental—ICPREP Basketball	Hall/Gym	3:30pm
Rental-Lions Volleyball	Hall/Gym	6:00pm
Music-Children's Choir	Church	6:00pm
Grandparent Ministry	Kennedy Center	6:00pm
Fishers of Men	Fr. Tuan Room	6:30pm
Music Ministry-Chancel Choir	Church	7:00pm
<b>Wed. 12/14:</b>		
Rental—ICPREP Basketball	Hall/Gym	3:30pm
Rental-Lions Volleyball	Hall/Gym	6:00pm
Faith Form. Sacrament Catchup	Library	6:00pm
Music-Joystirs	Maguire	6:45pm
St. Vincent de Paul	Sister's Room	7:00pm
Music-Witness Choir	Church	7:00pm
Bible Study-What We Believe	Fr. Tuan Rm	7:00pm
Music-Spanish Choir	Library	7:00pm
<b>Thurs. 12/15:</b>		
Mittens for Mary Knitting Group	Sister's Room	9:30am
CCW Christmas Party	Gathering Space	7:00pm
<b>Sun. 12/18:</b>		
Hospitality	Gathering Space	After 8:30am Mass
Faith Formation Classes	Multiple Rooms	9:00am
Spanish Ministry Christmas Party	Hall/Gym	7:00pm



## Reconciliation

### St. Alexander:

Tuesdays from 5:00—6:00pm  
Saturdays from 4:00—4:45pm  
or by appointment 630-833-7730.

### St. John the Apostle:

Mondays from 5:00—6:00pm  
Saturdays from 4:00—4:45pm  
or by appointment 630-279-7404

# Gospel Reflection

THIRD SUNDAY OF

# Advent



DECEMBER 11, 2022

“Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind regain their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have the good news proclaimed to them.”

MATTHEW 11:4-5

## GOOD NEWS

Good news is good news is . . . Today’s messages from Isaiah (prophetic ancestor of John the Baptist and Jesus of Nazareth) and James (spiritual offspring of John and Jesus) both have messages that resonate across the five centuries that separate them: hope in the coming power and presence of God. Isaiah was attempting to comfort and encourage the people of Israel in geographic and spiritual exile. Their exile will end, Isaiah says, with God’s presence shown forth through spectacular occurrences in nature. James likewise has a community in need of encouragement and hope, since they despair over the delayed parousia, the final coming of God in glory. In the meantime, James urges patient endurance. Until Jesus returns, they ought to persist without complaint, with the lives of the prophets as their guide. Then will come the time of sight, and healing, and life and ... Good News for the poor!

## PATIENCE . . . NOW!

A friend walked me through his newly planted garden to help me see how it would look in spring. He finally stopped and said, “You can’t picture any of this, can you?” I couldn’t until I saw it in full bloom the following springtime. Then I could understand why he planted the seeds where he had. Then I saw the beauty and bounty that his planting represented. “Tell John what you hear and see,” Jesus says to John’s disciples. The signs of the Messiah proclaimed by the prophets are beginning to bloom. Look and see! Hear the singing of those once mute and the rejoicing of the crowds who witness these works. The beauty and the bounty of our generous God are all around.

## JUST IMAGINE

James wrote to a community experiencing hardship, like the exiled Israelites in today’s first reading. Isaiah and James exhort people to trust that they will see God’s presence in their midst once again, so be patient. That’s easier said than done, isn’t it? Saint Francis de Sales says to be patient with everyone, and most of all with ourselves. Patience means accepting suffering and delay without becoming angry or upset. Easier said than done. Praying for this virtue each day, sometimes often throughout the day, does help. Breathe in the Spirit of God and say, “Give me patience, Lord.” Then exhale anger, upset, and impatience. Staring at a garden won’t make a shoot spring up any faster; however, giving thanks for the seed, the water, the soil, and the Giver of all life can deepen our trust that the garden will grow. So be patient. Rejoice always. See and be the signs of God’s beauty and bounty in our world today.

### Today’s Readings:

Is 35:1–6a, 10;  
Ps 146:6–7, 8–9, 9–10;  
Jas 5:7–10;  
Mt 11:2–11

# Parish/Diocesan News



## St. Alexander Advent Sacrament of Reconciliation

**Tuesdays:** 5:00—6:00pm  
**Saturdays:** 4:00—4:45pm

### Additional/Extended Confession time:

**Tuesday, 12/13:** 6:00—8:00pm  
**Friday, 12/16:** 5:30—6:30pm  
**Tuesday, 12/20:** 5:00—7:00pm

## St. Alexander's Advent/Christmas Schedules

### Monday, December 12<sup>th</sup>—Our Lady of Guadalupe

5:00am-Mañanitas, 8:45am-English, 6:00pm-Spanish

### Saturday, December 24<sup>th</sup>—Christmas Eve Masses

4:00pm, 6:30pm, and 12:00 Midnight

*(Christmas caroling will begin at 11:15pm)*

### Sunday, December 25<sup>th</sup>—Christmas Day Masses

8:30am, 10:30am and 6:00pm in Spanish

### January 1, 2023—Mary the Mother of God

*(Holy day of obligation)*

**Saturday: December 31, 2022 @ 5:00pm**

**Sunday, January 1, 2023:** 8:30am, 10:30am

6:00pm in Spanish

\*\*\*\*\*

## St. John the Apostle Christmas Mass Schedule

### Saturday, December 24<sup>th</sup>—Christmas Eve Masses

5:00pm and 10:00pm

### Sunday, December 25<sup>th</sup>—Christmas Day Masses

9:00am, 11:00am and 12:30pm

### January 1, 2023—Mary the Mother of God

*(Holy Day of Obligation)*

**Saturday, December 31, 2022:** 5:00pm,

**Sunday, January 1, 2023:** 9:00am, 11:00am

12:30pm in Spanish

## 7 Hours of Confession

**When was the last time you received Reconciliation?**

**You are invited to prepare your heart and soul for Christmas.**

The priests of the 16 parishes of Eastern DuPage County will be available to celebrate the Sacrament of Healing of Sin.

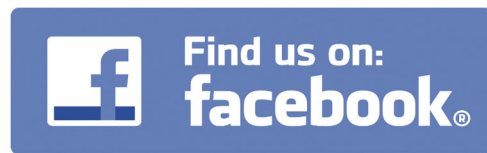
**Saturday, December 17,  
from 9am until 4pm**

There will be select times when the Sacrament will be offered in both Polish and Spanish.

**All Catholics are invited to receive God's grace.**

Please come to Visitation Church  
779 S York St, Elmhurst, IL/630 834-6700

For St. Alexander News and Faith Enrichment follow us on:



**Saint Alexander Villa Park Illinois**



**You are all invited for hospitality and fellowship!!!** Parish Council will host hospitality 4 times a month at one of the Masses, unless there is something else going on..

### Here is the schedule:

- 1st Weekend: 6:00pm Spanish Mass
- 2nd Weekend: 5:00pm Mass
- 3rd Weekend: 8:30am Mass
- 4th Weekend: 10:30am Mass



**Faith Formation/Parish/Diocesan News**  
Director Faith Formation: Kathy Halloran—stasfaithform.dre@gmail.com



**"Save the Date"**

**December 11 Breakfast with Jesus/  
Virgen de Guadalupe.  
Parish Event in the Hall**

Doors Open: 8:30 am  
Opening Prayer: 8:40 am  
Breakfast and Crafts: 8:45 am - 9:45 am  
Nativity Play: 9:45 am - 10:15 am  
Closing Prayer: 10:15 am  
Mass: 10:30am

**VOLUNTEER**



**Many hands make light work!**

Help is needed with preparations for *"Breakfast with Jesus"* on Saturday, December 10th from 10:00am to Noon in the Fr. Tuan Room. This is open to all grade levels.



*St. Alexander  
Council of Catholic  
Women*



**Invites all women of the parish to a**

***Christmas Party***

**Celebrating 100 Years of Women  
Serving Our Parish**

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 15  
7:00pm—GATHERING SPACE**

**The evening will include light punch,  
finger sandwiches, cookies and  
Short Presentations on the  
Women of Christmas and  
what our CCW is doing today**

**Council of Catholic Women**  
*Beginning as an Altar and Rosary Society  
leading to our current Council of Catholic  
Women*



## Parish/Diocesan News

### EARLY BULLETIN DEADLINES

**Bulletin Date:**

December 25  
January 2, 2023

**Article Due:**

December 13  
December 22

Please submit your articles to:  
[bulletin@stalexanderparish.org](mailto:bulletin@stalexanderparish.org).

*Thank you!*



The Arts and Environment team could use help decorating the church for Christmas.

If you can help, please contact:

**Dina Ranieri at [Dina@vistpm.com](mailto:Dina@vistpm.com) or  
630-816-0312**

### Coat Drive Update

Our coat drive ended the last weekend November. Your response to Sr Stephanie's request for coat donations to The Mission of Our Lady of the Angels in Humboldt Park Chicago, was again amazing! December 3 was the handout and the line for coats extended a city block and a quarter. Thanks to the generosity of the people of St Alexander many people in that neighborhood now have warm winter coats.

I would like to acknowledge some contributors:

- ✦ Fr. Tran and the Society of the Divine Word, \$1000
- ✦ Knights of Columbus council #8365: \$900 and help ordering coats in bulk at a great price.
- ✦ Council of Catholic Women here at St A's: \$500
- ✦ Mittens for Mary knitting group: 75 beautiful handmade hats and 37 scarves
- ✦ A special thanks to those who donated the 301 coats.

And thanks to those volunteers who sorted, bagged, and delivered all the donated coats!

**St. Alexander, you are a special parish.**

-Deacon Matt



**NAMI**  
(National Alliance for Mental Illness)  
**Ending the Silence**

**24/7 Crisis Text Line**  
Text "NAMI" to 741741

**National Suicide Prevention Line: 988**

**To learn more about NAMI: text "ETS" to 31996**

**NAMI near you:** 115 N. County Farm Road, Wheaton  
[Namidupage.org/630.752.0066](http://Namidupage.org/630.752.0066)

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having you as part of our flock



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**Text STALEXANDER to 84576 to sign up!**

# Prayer Intentions

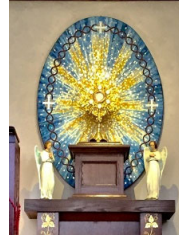


## Dec. 2022 Prayer for Vocations

*Remember these religious men and women from the Diocese of Joliet in your daily prayers .*

- 12. Fr. Zygmunt Ostrowski S.Ch.
- 13. Frl. Tomasz Sielicki S.Ch.
- 14. Fr. Mirosław Stepien S.Ch.
- 15. Sr. Patricia Skowronski OSF, Sr. Rose Marie Surwilo OSF, Sr. Faith Szambelancyk OSF
- 16. Fr. Thomas Logue
- 17. **Pope Francis**
- 18. Dcns. Joseph Urso, Glenn Vanek, Joseph Verdico, Herbert Waldron, Robert Wallace

## Eucharistic Adoration



The Adoration Chapel is open:  
**Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 3:00pm—10:00pm.**  
*The Chapel is located in the Kennedy Center building North of the Church on Cornell Avenue.*

## Rosebud Program

*“Please pray for the following who have requested prayers of CCW’s Rosebud Program.”*



### CONGRATULATIONS!

To the Jahns family on the birth of their daughter.  
Laura and Josh on the birth of their daughter, Rosalie Nancy.  
Paul and Alexa on the birth of their daughter, Maria Louisa.

George & Patricia due 12/2022  
Shanetra due 12/2022

Kristen & Taylor due 3/2023  
Nathaniel & Amy due in 6/2023

### Special Intentions for:

- |                 |               |                |
|-----------------|---------------|----------------|
| Tracey & Bob    | Maria & Bobby | Carl & Terrie  |
| Tony & Andrea   | Amy & Sam     | Amanda & Scott |
| Rose & Eleodoro | Mary Frances  | Bob & Cyndy    |
| Mary            | Julie & Rus   | Jason & Leah   |
| Lisa & Jim      | Cin           |                |

Please call Michele if you have any questions or would like to add a name or update: 630.564.8423.



## Sick

We pray for those who have recently been added to our prayer list for the sick. Names will remain in the bulletin list for 1 month.

- Gunnar Andersen, Rita Angeloupoulus, Phil Coleman, Dennis Finegan, Gary Forenewold, Joe Frank, Gene & Joy Gassensmith, Sue Jansen, Lynn Jones, Peter Maney, Kay Marnell, Sue Mecklenburg, Hannah Medow, Karen Mocarski, Patrick (P.J.) O’Connor Anparo Rodriguez, Trisha Salvino, Barb Soundheim, Ruben Stortzman, Susan Strickland, Judy Suffin, Gina Szyska, and Kevin Wallace**

We continue to pray for all the names listed on our online prayer page for the sick. Please visit our website : [www.stalexanderparish.org](http://www.stalexanderparish.org)



## Our Faithfully Departed Mary Hartnett, and Georgene Oplawski



## Vocations Cross (3rd Sunday of the Month @ 10:30 Mass)

Recognizing the importance of praying for Vocations to the Priesthood and Religious life, the Council of Catholic Women (CCW) is asking one family a month to pick up the Vocations Cross at Mass and pray for an increase of vocations that month.

If you are interested, please contact Judy Emerson @ 630-620-1425 to sign up for the Vocations Cross.

# Stewardship Message from Fr. Rosenbaum

I would like to give thanks to God and to thank all of you who continue to serve one another, not only by your presence here every Sunday, but by your financial contributions to our parish family here at St. Alexander.

Below you will find our annual financial statement for the last fiscal year. I am proud and happy to announce that with the contribution of your generosity we were able to have a year in which we were \$11,186 dollars in the positive for our parish. That is truly an amazing act of generosity from one another for our parish. If you recall, about a month before the end of the fiscal year, I appealed to those who could help alleviate our deficit of \$35,000 at the time. In roughly a month, your fellow parishioners were able to donate enough, so that, not only did we take a little off the deficit, as I was praying to at least do, but we eliminated the deficit and pushed ourselves to \$11,186 dollars to the good.

Again, I give thanks to God for the generosity of my parishioners and how well they try to take care of each other and their Church. Look around you to those next to you in this Church, as we have all contributed in this past year. God bless those who offered from home, and those who even increased their offering, to see in one another the family that Christ has given to us. A family that takes care of one another through their presence and offering, including financial, as Jesus encourages us in the Scriptures. May God bless us, St. Alexander and our parish family in this upcoming year. Amen. *In Christ, Fr. Rosenbaum.*

## ST. ALEXANDER FINANCIAL REPORT Twelve Months Ended June 30, 2022

### Statement of Revenues & Expenses

	Actual			Next Year Budget
	Church	Rel Ed	Total	Total
<b>Revenue:</b>				
Sunday Collections	\$ 452,071		\$ 452,071	\$ 459,000
Other Collections	81,028		81,028	56,000
Fundraisers	4,309		4,309	1,000
Tuition, Fees and Endowment	935	13,043	13,978	14,000
Other Unrestricted Revenue	38,634		38,634	29,500
Rental Income	45,170		45,170	32,000
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$ 622,148</b>	<b>\$ 13,043</b>	<b>\$ 635,192</b>	<b>\$ 591,500</b>
<b>Expenses:</b>				
Salaries & Wages	\$ 235,383	\$ 15,615	\$ 250,999	\$ 254,000
Fringe Benefits	61,502	5,451	66,953	69,700
Repairs & Maintenance	12,185	-	12,185	10,500
Services	41,354	6,448	47,803	43,500
Materials & Supplies	53,127	1,359	54,485	50,500
Insurance	27,697	6,924	34,621	37,500
Utilities	56,474	17,633	74,107	76,000
Curriculum Expenses		1,842	1,842	2,300
Diocesan Expenditures	34,335	-	34,335	34,380
Other Operating Expenses	2,542	-	2,542	3,120
Capital Expenditures	-	-	-	-
Loan - Interest	-	-	-	-
Subsidies to Other Parishes	10,000		10,000	10,000
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 534,599</b>	<b>\$ 55,273</b>	<b>\$ 589,872</b>	<b>\$ 591,500</b>
<b>Net Revenue - Expenses</b>				
Parish Investment To RE Education	\$ (42,230)		\$ -	\$ (50,000)
RE Education Transfer from Parish		\$ 42,230		\$ 50,000
<b>Surplus/(Deficit)</b>	<b>\$ 45,320</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 45,320</b>	<b>\$ -</b>
<b>Restricted Donations/Expenditures</b>				
<b>Major Maintenance - Site Improvements</b>			<b>Additional Information as of June 30, 2022</b>	
Donations	\$ 87,558		Inland Bank	\$ 101,262
Expenditures	123,072		Diocese Savings	100,983
<b>Adoration</b>			School Endowment	24,681
Donations	1,271		Accounts Payable	22,954
Expenditures	29			
<b>Flowers</b>			<b>Restricted Fund Balances</b>	
Donations	3,360		Major Maintenance	53,767
Expenditures	3,221		Adoration	17,772
<b>Restricted Surplus</b>	<b>\$ (34,133)</b>			
<b>Total Surplus Operating &amp; Restricted</b>	<b>\$ 11,186</b>			



**Parish Center:** 630.833.7730  
**Fax Number:** 630.833.3127  
**Office Hours:**  
 Monday-Thursday 9:00 a.m. — 12:00 Noon  
 1:00 p.m. — 4:30 p.m.  
 Friday 9:00 a.m. — 1:00 p.m.  
**Church Website:** www.stalexanderparish.org  
**Parish e-mail:** office@stalexanderparish.org  
**Bulletin e-mail:** bulletin@stalexanderparish.org  
**Mass Schedule:**  
 Monday - Friday: 8:45 a.m.  
 Saturday: 5:00 p.m.  
 Sunday: 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.  
 6:00 p.m. (*Spanish Mass*)

**Sacrament of Reconciliation**  
 Tuesday: 5:00 p.m. — 6:00 p.m. (Eng/Span)  
 Saturday 4:00 p.m. — 4:45p.m.

**Sacrament of Baptism**  
*Attendance at a pre-Baptismal class is required for both English and Spanish Baptisms. Pre-registration is necessary prior to class.*  
 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month @ 12:15 p.m.

**Spanish Baptisms:**  
 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month @ 12:30 p.m.

**Sacrament of Marriage**  
 Arrangements must be made **AT LEAST SIX (6)** months in advance before making other arrangements.

**Eucharistic Adoration Chapel**  
**Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, from 3:00pm-8:00pm**  
**Pastor:** Reverend Mark Rosenbaum  
**Mass Assistants:**  
 Rev. Brian Henden/Rev. Nhan Van Tran SVD/  
 Rev. David Medow/Rev. Johnus Cherunilath  
**Permanent Deacons:**  
 John Boyle, Emeritus/Christopher Cochran/  
 Julio Jimenez/James Krueger/Mark Ranieri, Jr./  
 Matthew Tretina  
**Music Coordinator:** Alexia Garcia  
**Office Administrator:** Sue D’Alessandro  
**Parish Registrar:** Rita Matthews  
**Faith Formation:** 630.833.7730  
**E-mail:** stasfaithform.dre@gmail.com  
**Director:** Kathy Halloran



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