

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

DECEMBER 12, 2021



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THIRD

Sunday

OF

Advent

Whoever has two cloaks should share
with the person who has none.
And whoever has food should do likewise.

Luke 3:11

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MASS INTENTIONS

Monday 8:45a.m. 6:00p.m.	Dec. 13—St. Lucy, Virgin and Martyr Evelyn Pasek Our Lady of Guadalupe Mass (Spanish)
Tuesday 8:45a.m.	Dec. 14—St. John of the Cross, Priest and Doctor of the Church Algesa D'Orazio
Wednesday 8:45a.m.	Dec. 15—Advent Weekday Roberto Perez
Thursday 8:45am	Dec. 16—Advent Weekday Clara Fiedler
Friday 8:45a.m.	Dec. 17—Advent Weekday Liz George
Saturday 5:00p.m.	Dec. 18—Advent Weekday Brothers & Sisters of the DeRose Family/Marian & Peter Kurasz, Sr./Nima Haag
Sunday 8:30 a.m. 10:30a.m. 6:00 p.m.	Dec. 19—Fourth Sunday of Advent Lenora Boyer/Robert & Julia Airhart/John & Mary Holchko Int. of Susanne Strickland Spanish Mass—The People of St. Alexander Parish

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — Shout for joy! Sing joyfully! Be glad and exult! The LORD, your God, is in your midst, a mighty savior (Zephaniah 3:14-18a).

Psalm — Cry out with joy and gladness: for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel (Isaiah 12).

Second Reading — Rejoice! The Lord is near. Make your requests known to God (Philippians 4:4-7).

Gospel — John tells his hearers to share their possessions with the needy; be honest; do not threaten or accuse others falsely (Luke 3:10-18). The English translation of the Psalm Responses from the Lectionary for Mass © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Third Sunday of Advent

Monday: St. Lucy

Tuesday: St. John of the Cross

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a; Ps 25:4-5ab, 6, 7bc-9; Mt 21:23-27

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 85:9-14; Lk 7:18b-23

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

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

Saturday: Jer 23:5-8; Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19; Mt 1:18-25

Sunday: Mi 5:1-4a; Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19; Heb 10:5-10; Lk 1:39-45

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Mon. 12/13:

Rental-ICCP basketball practice	Hall/Gym	3:15pm
Scout Troop #199	Hall/Gym	6:45pm
RCIA	Church/GS	7:00pm

Tues. 12/14:

YMCA	Hall/Gym	4:00pm
Rental-Lions Volleyball	Hall/Gym	5:30pm
Spanish Ministry-Marian Hour	Barrett Room	6:30pm
Fishers of Men Prayer Group	Fr. Tuan Room	6:30pm
Music-Chancel Choir practice	Maguire Room	7:00pm

Wed. 12/15:

Rental-ICCP basketball practice	Hall/Gym	3:15pm
Rental-Lions Volleyball	Hall/Gym	5:30pm
Music—Witness Choir practice	Library	6:00pm
Music—Spanish Choir practice	Church	7:00pm

Thurs. 12/16:

Mittens for Mary Knitting Group	Sister's Room	9:30am
Cub Scout Pack #122	Hall/Gym	5:30pm
CCW-Ornament Therapy	Fr. Tuan Room	6:30pm

Sun. 12/19:

Faith Formation	Fr. Tuan Room	4:00pm
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Reconciliation

St. Alexander:

Tuesdays from 5:00—6:00pm
or by appointment

St. John the Apostle:

Mondays from 5:00—6:00pm
or by appointment



Gospel Reflection



REJOICE

Today is known as *Gaudete*—Rejoice—Sunday, the day’s Latin nickname is taken from today’s ancient official Entrance Antiphon, “Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice. Indeed, the Lord is near.” The optional rose vestments—reminiscent of winter’s early morning skies as the solstice draws near, the festal organ music, the floral arrangements, all these ancient traditions together with the antiphon are meant to anticipate, in sight and sound, the soon-to-break-upon-us Christmas joy. How well today’s scriptures illustrate the struggle between Advent’s contrasting moods: “joyful expectation” in light of Christ’s nativity, and “serious repentance” inspired by John the Baptist’s preaching, reminding us that Christ’s next coming—at death or at the end of time—will be for judgment as well as redemption.

JOY AND EXULTATION

Joy and exultation ring through the first reading, as Zephaniah’s ancient messianic prophecy pictures God “rejoicing over (us) with gladness, renewing (us) in his love, singing joyfully because of (us) as one sings at festivals.” This joyful God is not distant: the prophet declares twice that God “is in your midst.” Zephaniah so trusts this joyful God’s love for us that he declares our deliverance “a done deal”: both from inward fear and guilt—“the Lord has removed the judgment against you”—and from external threats: “he has turned away your enemies.” The Responsorial Psalm, from Advent’s principal prophet, Isaiah, echoes an exultant joy that should prompt us to be “confident and unafraid,” “for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel.” Paul likewise exhorts the Philippians—and us—to joy, to a kindness that should be evident to all, to prayer free from anxiety, serene and thankful.

WHAT SHOULD WE DO?

But then John the Baptist cries out on Jordan’s bank: Repent! Prepare for a Messiah whose baptism “with the Holy Spirit and fire,” unlike John’s water baptism, will utterly transform its recipients. His winnowing fan will clear away the dead wood, bundling wheat and burning chaff in unquenchable fire. If this is going to be “good news” for us, then well might we, like the crowds, tax collectors, and soldiers who first heard John, ask “What should we do?” When John responds to the people then, and to us today, the answer, while supremely challenging, is almost surprisingly simple. Nobody is ordered to abandon the place in which their personal life’s journey or the realities of a history beyond their control have put them. God saves us not despite or apart from our real-life circumstances but in them and through them. Our call now is to practical, generous charity: we are to share clothing and food; practice justice and professional and personal integrity; and be honest toward others and with ourselves. Such is the teaching of the Messiah that John heralded.

TODAY’S READINGS

Zephaniah 3:14–18a
 Isaiah 12:2–3, 4, 5–6
 Philippians 4:4–7
 Luke 3:10–18

Whoever has two cloaks should share
 with the person who has none.
 And whoever has food should do likewise.

Luke 3:11

PARISH NEWS

Fantastic Job!! 420 Coats delivered to the Mission to Our Lady of the Angels!!

We cannot be prouder of our St. Alexander parish, our friends and community! You collected 150 new and used coats throughout our two-month drive. Pilot Pete’s Coffee in Elmhurst train station (go in, get a coffee, and say thanks) partnered with us and collected 150 coats and provided a trailer to haul all the coats to the city.

With a huge donation from Knights of Columbus Council #8365, along with a generous donation from The Divine Word Missionaries (Fr. Tran’s order), we also purchased 120 new coats which were shipped directly to the Mission. **All told, they received 420 new and used coats!**

The Mission to Our Lady of the Angels is in West Humboldt Park, Chicago; a neighborhood which has been identified as the poorest in the city. Our Lady of the Angels Mission is staffed by a group of Catholic nuns and brothers from the **Franciscans of the Eucharist** order. Please visit their website to learn more about their amazing ministry at www.missionola.com.



Above: Peter Thomas of Pilot Pete’s Coffee and Sr. Stephanie of Our Lady of Angels



Above: Parishioners sort and bag coats collected at our coat drive.

Nativity



CCW CHRISTMAS RAFFLE 2 Tickets for \$5.00

This beautiful handmade Nativity is cross stitched on hand-dyed linen with 70 different colored and metallic floss.

Tickets can be purchased after all masses on the weekends of December 4/5 and 11/12. This drawing is open to everyone. The winner will be drawn on December 16th at the Ornament Therapy Event. Winner need not be present.
Actual Frame Size: 13” X 16” Design Size: 9” X 12”
Approximately 20,000 stitches.

Faith Formation News and Parish/Diocesan News

Director Faith Formation: Kathy Halloran—khalloran@x-town.com



Sweets on Sunday December 11/12 After Masses

We will be having **Sweets on Sunday** the weekend of December 11/12 after Masses. Plan to grab a cup of coffee and a sweet snack, purchased from Kuppie's in Villa Park, on your way out of Mass.

EARLY BULLETIN DEADLINES

Bulletin Date:

December 26

January 2, 2022

Article Due:

December 14

December 21

Please submit your articles to:
bulletin@stalexanderparish.org.

Attach a Word File to your email and include a contact name and phone number on each article indicating the date(s) you would like the article to run.

Thank you!



St. Alexander Advent Sacrament of Reconciliation

Tuesdays: 5:00—6:00pm

Extended Confession time:

Tuesday, Dec. 14 & 21 from 5:00—7:00pm

In addition to the above,

Confessions can be heard on:

Friday, December 10 & 17, 5:30—6:30pm



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.

There is a family signed up for December 2021, so CCW is looking for a family to sign up for January 2022.

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

6 Hours of Confession

**Saturday, December 18,
from 9 am until 3 pm**

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 Mary Queen of Heaven
426 West Avenue, Elmhurst
630.279.5700**

PARISH/DIOCESAN NEWS

A Request for Help and a Thank you!

Are you interested in decorating the church for Christmas, Easter and the different seasons throughout the year? We need your help!! See our contact information below.

Our decorating committee, The Art and Environment Committee, is stepping back after 20 plus years of service. They have made our church look amazing every Christmas and Easter! A special thank you to **Nancy Himmes** who directed and coordinated the committee that spent many hours decorating the church. Also thank you these volunteers who gave of their time and talent: **John Korbus, Laura and Scott Kuhrau, Bill Hodges, Rebecca Placzek, George Himmes, Kim Stoltz and Tom Molinaro, Annette Korbus.** We are sorry to see you go.

To join our decorating team, please contact **Dina Ranieri** at **Dina@vistpm.com** or **630-816-0312**.

Pastoral Visits with the Homebound

Pastoral visits to the homebound is an important ministry in the Church. This is especially true since the pandemic has limited visits to hospitals and extended care facilities. One of our parishioners, Mark Ranieri, has been preparing for ordination as a permanent deacon for the Diocese of Joliet. Having completed the Principles of Pastoral Care course, he will begin supervised Field Ministry in January of 2022 by focusing his ministry on visiting the homebound.

If you know of a parishioner or neighbor who would benefit from a home visit, please call Mark at 630.514.7958.



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CCW of St. Alexander Invites all women of our Parish to join us for:

Ornament Therapy

Thursday, December 16, 2021

Time: 7:00 pm

Cost: \$6.00 per person

Registration and prepayment are required.



Bring your holiday cheer and your reading glasses as we will be making not 1, not 2, but 3 different ornaments!



Count me in for the Ornament Therapy Event! \$6 per person.

Name: _____

Cash and checks will be accepted. If paying by check, make it payable to CCW St. Alexander. We will be collecting after masses on the weekends of December 4/5 and 11/12 in the Gathering Space or drop off during the week in the Blue Drop box marked CCW located on counter in Gathering Space.

PRAYER INTENTIONS



Dec. 2021 Prayer for Vocations

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

- 13. Fr. Thomaz Sielicki S. Ch.
- 14. Fr. Miroslaw Stepien S.Ch.
- 15. Sr. Patricia Skowronski OSF, Sr. Rose Marie Surwilo OSF, Sr. Faith Szambelanczyk OSF
- 16. **Seminarian Deacon Thomas Logue**
- 17. **Pope Francis**
- 18. Dcns. Joseph Urso, Glenn Vanek, Joseph Verdico, Herbert Waldron, Robert Wallace
- 19. Dcns. Robert Waring, Douglas Wells, Charles Wods
- 20. Sr. Janet Tucci OSF, Sr. Therese M. Tusek OSF

Rosebud Program

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



CONGRATULATIONS!

Lily & Tim on the birth of their daughter, Noelle Lillian.
 Kelly and Jeremy on the birth of their son Lucas Scott.
 Tricia and Cameron on the birth of their daughter, Evelyn Grace.

Lindsay & Dan due in 12/21. Matthew & Ellis due 5/22.

Special Intentions for:

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

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.

Jane Banks, Emily Bertucci, Nu Bui, Emil Ciardullo, Bob Connell, Garcey DiBella, Walter Dittmer, Barb Doyle, Matt Doyle, Prinda Fabis, Joe Frank, Joy and Gene Gassensmith, Frank Gill, Marge Green, Joan Gnad-Hayes, Nick Jones, Joe Kilgallon, Diane Knudtson, Chrissy Kulinski, Peter Maney, Ray Orsolini, Meadow Paulsen, Hailey Wilson Peyer, Jerry Riley, Jon Riley, Roy Robinson, James Rohrich, Andres Villeras Santana, Arthur Simms, Gary Spearman, Gerry Spearman, Karen Soukup, Allan Sterwalt, Clare Stralko, Linda Toaddy, Judy Travnicek, and all those sick from COVID

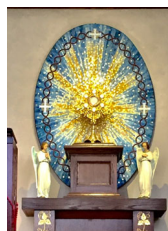
We continue to pray for all the names listed on our online prayer page for the sick. Please visit our website : www.stalexanderparish.org



It is in Baptism that one is welcomed into a community of faith. As a parish community, "WE WELCOME YOU."

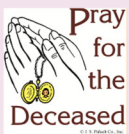
- Chase Keith**, son Justin and Joanna Wiora, nee Martin
- Holden Ronald**, son of Michael and Kelly Troxell, nee Coleman
- Perla Sophia Torres Garcia**, daughter of Jose and Fabiola Garcia, nee Garcia
- Cam Bradley**, son of Bradley and Christine Custer, nee Stelter

Adoration Chapel



The Adoration Chapel, located in the Kennedy Center building, is open on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 3:00—8:00pm. Just ring the bell and an Adorer will let you in.

If you would like to sign up for a 1 hour a week time slot, go to our website: www.stalexanderparish.org.



Our Faithfully Departed

Clara Fiedler, Nick Kozak, Marie Seiwert, Nima Haag and for those who died from COVID-19.

STEWARDSHIP

Sunday Collection: 12/5/2021.....	\$11,486
Online Giving (WeShare) 11/30—12/6/2019	\$4,632
Weekly Goal.....	\$8,530
YTD Actual Sunday Coll	\$186,335
YTD Goal Sunday Coll—52 weeks.....	\$435,000
Major Maintenance 12/5/2021.....	\$45
Major Maint. Online Giving 11/30—12/6/2021	\$105

November 2021 Weekly Envelope Giving:
\$24,424

November 2021 Online Contributions

Sunday Collections	\$12,118
Major Maintenance	\$190
Miscellaneous	\$1,495

*(Adoration, All Saints Day,
Campaign for Human Development,
Faith Formation Tuition Assistance,
St. Vincent de Paul)*

Thank you for your continued financial support of St. Alexander!

PARISH REGISTRATION

Why register with St. Alexander Parish?

Faith is a Journey, not a Destination. Registering with the parish is a commitment to your Faith Journey and St. Alexander’s would like to walk with you.

Benefits to registering as a Parishioner:

1. Registration helps you stay connected with the parish, builds community and helps the parish stay connected with you.
2. Other parishes (*including St. Alexander*) often request verification of a person’s status as a practicing Catholic, attendance at Mass, sacraments, etc., when that person has been asked to be a **Godparent or Confirmation Sponsor**. Without registration, no such verification can be made.
3. Census numbers may determine how many priests are assigned to a parish and how many Masses and enrichment programs are planned and scheduled.

Welcome to St. Alexander!

We are blessed to have you with us today—and every weekend! Our liturgies are enhanced by your presence and participation. We hope that you find the experience here at St. Alexander’s to include a warm and inspiring celebration of the Eucharist and the faith that we profess.

If you are not registered at St. Alexander’s or are registered and need to make changes, please complete the form below and place it in the offertory basket or mail it to the Parish Office at 300 S. Cornell Avenue, Villa Park, IL 60181.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/Zip: _____

Phone: _____

[] New Parishioner [] New Address

[] New Phone Number



PLEDGE REPORT: Nov. 28, 2021

Please continue to make your 2021 CMAA pledge payments . **Once** we have reached our goal in paid pledges, 70% of the additional funds received will be returned to the parish for our use.

Parish Goal:	\$42,100
Amount Pledged:	\$47,210
Amount Paid:	\$46,823
Remaining Balance:	\$387
Donor Count	226
Rebate	\$3,306

Thank you for your continued support.

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.
 (English and Spanish)

Sacrament of Baptism
Attendance at a pre-Baptismal class is required for both English and Spanish Baptisms. Pre-registration is necessary prior to class.
 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month @ 1:00 p.m.
Spanish Baptisms:
 3rd Sunday of the month @ 1:00 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. Tan Nguyen SVD/
 Rev. Danny Soriano/Rev. Johnus
Permanent Deacons:
 John Boyle, Emeritus/Christopher Cochran/Julio Jimenez
 James Krueger/Matthew Tretina
Music Coordinator: Alexia Garcia
Office Administrator: Sue D’Alessandro
Parish Registrar: Rita Matthews
Faith Formation: 630.833-7730
E-mail: khalloran@x-town.com
Director: Kathy Halloran



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