

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 25, 2022 • Christmas

*Suddenly there was a multitude
of the heavenly host with the angel,
praising God and saying:*

*“Glory to
God
in the highest.”*

Luke 2:13-14

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Mass Intentions

Monday 8:45a.m.	Dec. 26—St. Stephen, the First Martyr Marvin G. Jett
Tuesday 8:45a.m.	Dec. 27—St. John, Apostle and Evangelist Karen Jorn/Elaine Steder
Wednesday 8:45a.m.	Dec. 28—The Holy Innocents, Martyrs Virginia Jimenez
Thursday 8:45a.m.	Dec. 29—Fifth Day with the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord Alice/David/Frank Paulin
Friday 8:45a.m.	Dec. 30—The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph Laddie & Jeanne Koutsky
Saturday 5:00p.m.	Dec. 31—Seventh Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord Int. Andrew Rood/Angela Saporito/Josephine Santisi
Sunday 8:30 a.m. 10:30a.m. 6:00 p.m.	Jan. 1, 2023—Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God, The Octave Day of the Nativity of the Lord Thomas & Anne Jones Helen Liss Spanish Mass—People of St. Alexander Parish

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — All the ends of the earth will behold the salvation of our God (Isaiah 52:7-10).

Psalm — The whole world has seen God's salvation (Psalm 98).

Second Reading — God has spoken to us through the Son, the very imprint of God's being (Hebrews 1:1-6).

Gospel — The Word became flesh; from his fullness we have all received grace (John 1:1-18 [1-5, 9-14]).

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Ps 31:3cd-4, 6, 8ab, 16bc, 17; Mt 10:17-22

Tuesday: 1 Jn 1:1-4; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12; Jn 20:1a, 2-8

Wednesday: 1 Jn 1:5 — 2:2; Ps 124:2-5, 7b-8; Mt 2:13-18

Thursday: 1 Jn 2:3-11; Ps 96:1-3, 5b-6; Lk 2:36-40

Friday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or Col 3:12-21 [12-17]; Ps 128:1-5; Mt 2:13-15, 19-23

Saturday: 1 Jn 2:18-21; Ps 96:1-2, 11-13; Jn 1:1-18

Sunday: Nm 6:22-27; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21

Facilities Schedule

**THE PARISH OFFICE, HALL AND MEETING ROOMS
WILL BE CLOSED THRU JANUARY 2, 2023.
THEY WILL REOPEN ON TUESDAY, JANUARY 3, 2023.**



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

*And suddenly there was a multitude
of the heavenly host with the angel,
praising God and saying:*

**“GLORY TO GOD
IN THE HIGHEST.”**

Luke 2:13-14

LIGHT AND LIFE

The four Gospel portraits of Jesus take very different approaches to his origins. Mark has no record of Jesus' ancestry, except for his connection to John the Baptist. Matthew traces his genealogy back to Abraham; Luke even farther back, to Adam. The Gospel of John outdoes them all, tracing Jesus' origins back to the time before time, before the world was created! Jesus is the eternal Word of God. The Greek term for "Word" is logos, and it is a word with deep implications. The logos exists before creation, because all of creation came to be through the logos and, in turn, the logos will become the light of all it has created. This is what makes Christmas a season light and life. May our lives radiate this light, reflecting the life-giving Word-made-Flesh. Let our discipleship truly and fully make incarnate once again the Word-in-flesh whom we celebrate and adore: Jesus Christ, our Lord!

THE SEASON OF LIGHT

It is customary to celebrate Christmas with lights of all sorts. This even happens in the southern hemisphere, where people aren't experiencing the shorter, darker days of northern climates. From little twinkles on Christmas trees to the glow of candles in church, Christmas is a celebration of the light born today in God's Word-made-flesh. As with other types of lights, the Christ-light takes on different forms. Sometimes its light is direct, while at other times it is a reflection. The lights of Christmas, like Jesus the Light of the world, offer comfort, ease fears, show us the way, and help us to see that God is present here. While we believe that Jesus is the light that no darkness can overcome, it can seem at times it seems as though the gloom around us is overcoming the light. We all are familiar with darkness's different forms that seem to bombard us daily, hourly—minute by minute, if we allow them to. And yet . . .

THIS LITTLE LIGHT OF MINE

The relentless daily reports of darkness can easily lead us not to see the many glimmers of light around us. We who follow the Christ-light must always be on alert for signs of that light around us. Likewise, we who have that Christ-light in us must let it shine forth. No matter how little we think our light may be, we must recall that it is the light of Christ we bear within us. Like John the Baptist in today's Gospel passage, we are meant to testify to the power of light, to help others see glimpses of God-with-us. Our actions must bear good news, they must announce glad tidings. Even small deeds of light can shine brightly, giving birth to Jesus once again each day. On Christmas day and every day we are called to be people of hope, messengers of peace who offer comfort and make God's glory known. Let the light of Christ in your life be one of the season's brightest!

Today's Readings:

Is 52:7–10;

Ps 98:1, 2–3, 3–4, 5–6;

Heb 1:1–6; Jn 1:1–18

December 25, 2022 • Christmas

Parish/Diocesan News



A Christmas Message from Fr. Rosenbaum

Saludos navideños en el Señor para todos, Espero que este mensaje lo encuentre seguro y saludable. Quiero enviarles mis bendiciones navideñas a todos ustedes. Gracias a Dios nuevamente que hemos regresado a la capacidad total en nuestras iglesias. Que demos a conocer nuestra presencia y fe sobre el niño recién nacido en un pesebre, Nuestro Salvador Jesucristo.

Agradezco a todos aquellos que han perseverado en su fe a través de los desafíos del año pasado, sean cuales sean. Nuestra fe en nuestro Señor Jesucristo es algo que podemos elegir llevar con nosotros a lo largo de nuestra vida. En la bondad de Dios, podemos ofrecer oraciones por los seres queridos que no están físicamente presentes para nosotros. Así como Cristo, al entrar en la humanidad, fue una ofrenda para las personas de todos los tiempos y lugares, no solo para aquellos que estaban presentes para Él. No nos desanimemos, sino que seamos siempre un pueblo de esperanza, que no dejemos que los desafíos de nuestro mundo, de nuestra vida, nos retrasen para ser un pueblo de ofrenda. Porque ese es el corazón que el Cristo-niño nos muestra tener.

Una vez más, una Bendita y Feliz Navidad para todos ustedes. Sigo manteniendo a mis parroquias, mi familia de San Alejandro y San Juan Apóstol en mis pensamientos y oraciones.

Con las bendiciones de nuestro recién nacido Salvador, Padre Rosenbaum

Christmas greetings in the Lord to all,

I hope this message finds you safe and healthy. I want to send my Christmas blessings upon all of you. Thanks be to God again that we have returned to full capacity in our churches. May we make our presence and faith known to one another over the newborn child in a manger, Our Savior Jesus Christ.

I thank all of those who have persevered in their faith through the challenges of this past year, whatever they may be. Our faith in our Lord Jesus Christ is something that we can choose to carry with us throughout our life. In the goodness of God, we can offer prayers for loved ones who are not physically present to us. Just as Christ, entering humanity, was an offering for people of all times and places, not just those who were present to Him. Let us not be discouraged, but rather, let us always be a people of hope, that we will not let the challenges of our world, of our life, slow us down to be a people of offering. Because that is the heart that the Christ-child shows us to have.

Again, a Blessed and Merry Christmas to you all. I continue to keep my parishes, my family of St. Alexander and St. John the Apostle in my thoughts and prayers.

With the blessings of our newborn Savior, Fr. Rosenbaum.

We  love
having you as part of our flock



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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](mailto:kathy.halloran@stasfaithform.dre@gmail.com)

Breakfast with Jesus/Virgen de Guadalupe (December 11, 2022)

On Sunday, December 11th, families, students and catechists came together to celebrate “Breakfast with Jesus/Virgen de Guadalupe” in the Parish Hall. The festive morning included a delicious buffet of breakfast treats (thank you to all who brought food), craft activities and a Nativity play. Thank you to the older students (6th – 8th grades) who volunteered for setup on Saturday and who volunteered on Sunday at the craft stations, helped with the play and provided narration of the story. Thank you to the parents and grandparents for participating and working to help each child’s faith grow in the home and to the catechists and volunteers for the time, love and dedication they have to the students.



Parish/Diocesan News



Mary, Mother of God

Holy Day of Obligation

Saturday, Dec. 31, 2022

@ 5:00pm

Sunday, January 1, 2023

8:30am, 10:30am and

6:00pm in Spanish

St. John the Apostle

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

Sunday, January 1, 2023 @ 9:00am,

11:00am and 12:30pm in Spanish



Bereavement Ministry – “Seasons of Hope”

Our Lord assured us that those who mourn are blessed, and that they shall be comforted. *Seasons of Hope* offers the bereaved an opportunity to come together to share in God’s love. This is a Christ-centered bereavement program created by nationally recognized hospice care and bereavement specialist, M. Donna MacLeod.

Each season follows the same simple format and flow to help us explore mourning through scripture, prayer, reflection activities and faith sharing in the Catholic tradition.

Each season, consisting of six consecutive weeks is self-contained and non-sequential so that participants may begin with any of the four seasons. Any parishioner who is mourning the loss of a loved one is encouraged to attend. **“Seasons of Hope – Season Four” will begin January 9th from 6:45pm to 8:15pm in the Fr. Kennedy Center.** Other dates are January 16th, 23rd, 30th, February 6th and 13th.

Please contact our Parish Office to register for “Seasons of Hope – Season Four” at [630-833-7730](tel:630-833-7730).

The CHOSEN

SEASON II

Sundays beginning January 15th

Gathering Space

3:00-5:00pm

ALL OUR WELCOME!!

Come join us watch and discuss the award Winning show THE CHOSEN season II.

Questions: Ann Krueger
marriageministry130@gmail.com

Thank
you ❤️

Thank you to all who have made the **Giving Tree** a success this year. Your donations made it possible for the less fortunate of our community to have a joyful Christmas. This year we served 46 families, with over 170 children, who received your generous gifts. Thank you to those who took time out of their busy schedule to deliver the gift bags. Also, thank you to our special agnel who donates the gift bags every year. A special thank you to the Knights of Columbus for their generous donation which provided 30 children with gift cards for shoes. A heartfelt thank you to the parish office for all their help in passing along phone messages. Through this generosity there will be “No tears at Christmas”. Betty Martin and Barbara Colby.

Prayer Intentions



Dec. 2022 Prayer for Vocations

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

- 26. Dcns. Guadalupe Villarreal, Francis Vonesh
- 27. Sr. M. Joan Clare Wisner OSF, Sr. Irene Yosick OSF
- 28. Fr. Gerald Cole, Fr. Karl Langsdorf S.P.S.
- 29. Sr. Dolores Zemont OSF, Sr. M. Margaret Ann Zimmerman OSF
- 30. Sr. Lucille Adelman OSF
- 31. Sr. Dorothy Clare Zuleski OSF, Sr. Helen Zulka OSF



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

Rose Christine, daughter of Bradley and Christine Custer, nee Stelter

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.



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 Angelopoulos, Phil Coleman, Joann Doyle, Dennis Finnegan, Gary Froenwold, Joe Frank, Gene & Joy Gassensmith, Sue Jansen, Lynn Jones, Peter Maney, Kay Marnell, Sue Mecklenburg, Hannah Medow, Amber Ortiz, Anparo Rodriguez, Trisha Salvino, Barb Soundheim, Ruben Stortzum, 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

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 Kristen & Taylor due 3/2023
 Shanetra due 12/2022 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.



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.



Our Faithfully Departed Patrick (P.J.) O'Connor, Karen Mocarski, and Janet Erlenbaugh

Stewardship

Sunday Collection: 12/11/2022.....	\$10,991
Online Giving (WeShare) 12/8—12/13/2022	\$2,782
Weekly Goal.....	\$9,000
YTD Actual Sunday Coll	\$224,934
YTD Goal Sunday Coll—52 weeks.....	\$459,000
Major Maintenance 12/11/2022.....	\$909
Major Maint. Online Giving 12/8—12/13/2022	\$20

*Thank you for your support
of St. Alexander Parish!*

Parishioner 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.



PLEDGE REPORT: Dec. 11, 2022

Thank you to all those who have made pledges. Please continue to make your **2022 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:	\$46,300
Amount Pledged:	\$48,874
Amount Paid:	\$46,156
Remaining Balance:	\$2,718
Donor Count	223

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



Record of 2022 Contributions

Your 2022 tax statement will be sent to you the last week of January 2023. Any 2022 contributions must be received no later than Friday, January 6, 2023 with the check dated December 31, 2022. Please mark your contribution envelope clearly “2022” so these donations can then be included correctly in our records.

If you need the statement earlier than this or have any questions, please call Rita Matthews in the Parish Office @ 630-833-7730 Thank you for your help!

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.
 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month @ 12:15 p.m.
Spanish Baptisms:
 3rd Sunday of the month @ 12:30 p.m.


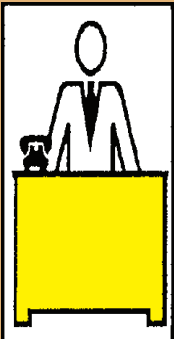
Sacrament of Marriage
 Arrangements must be made **AT LEAST SIX (6)** months in advance before making other arrangements.

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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