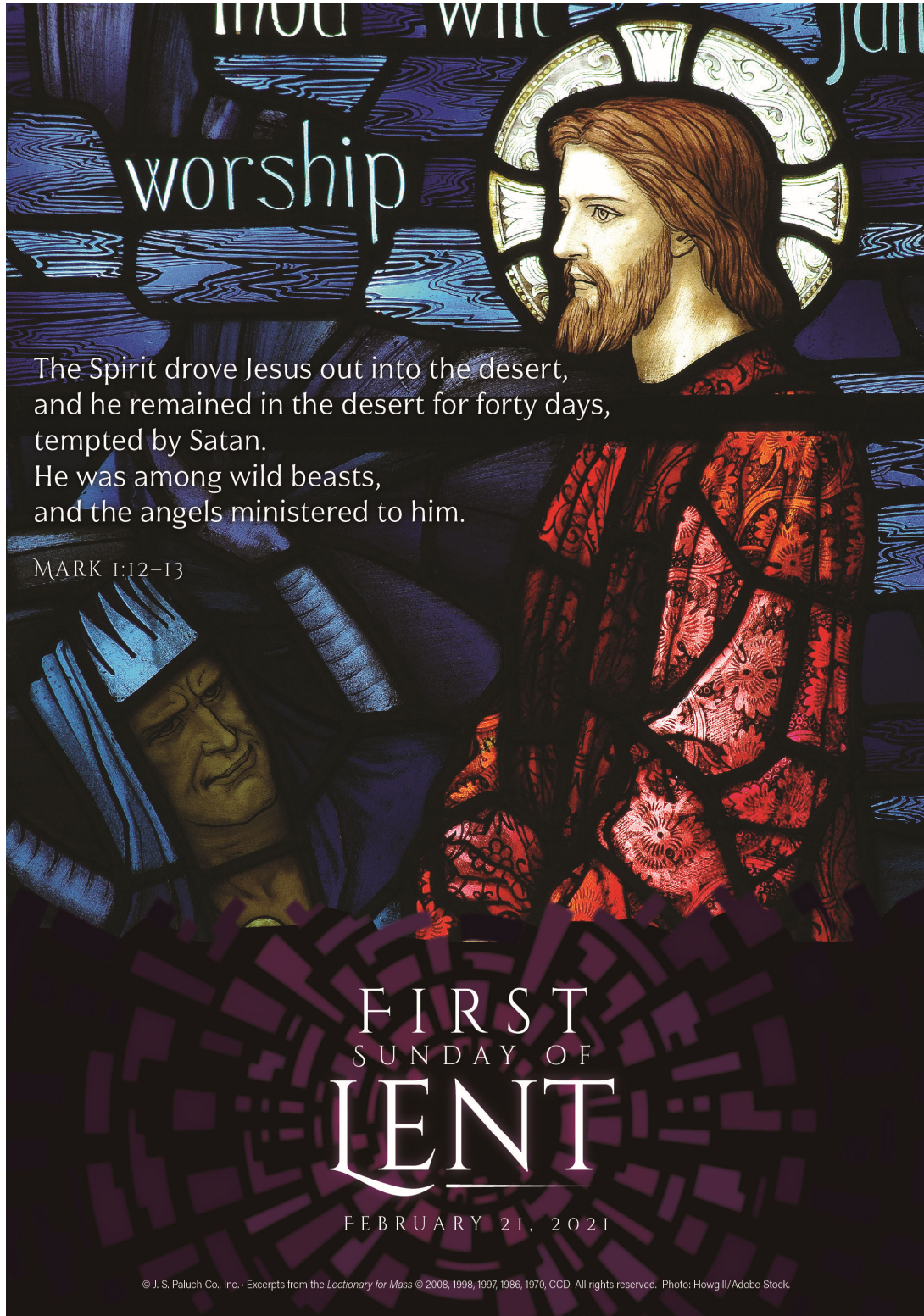


St. Alexander Catholic Church

LOVE ONE ANOTHER AS I LOVE YOU

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



The Spirit drove Jesus out into the desert,
and he remained in the desert for forty days,
tempted by Satan.
He was among wild beasts,
and the angels ministered to him.

MARK 1:12-13

FIRST
SUNDAY OF
LENT

FEBRUARY 21, 2021

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MASS INTENTIONS

Monday 9:00am	Feb. 22—<i>The Chair of St. Peter the Apostle</i> Bob Hartney
Tuesday 8:45a.m.	Feb. 23—<i>Lenten Weekday</i> Int. Mary O'Connor
Wednesday 8:45a.m.	Feb. 24—<i>Lenten Weekday</i> Kathleen McNamara
Thursday 8:45a.m.	Feb. 25—<i>Lenten Weekday</i> Tom and Anne Jones
Friday 8:45am	Feb. 26—<i>Lenten Weekday</i> Carmen Forests
Saturday 5:00 p.m.	Feb. 27—<i>Lenten Weekday</i> Ralph & Carmella DeRose/Betty Cheever
Sunday 8:30 a.m.	Feb. 28—<i>Second Sunday of Lent</i> Richard Kemp/Jim Cozzi/Marian & Peter Kurasz, Sr./ Int. Ma Elena Montibon
10:30 a.m.	Mae Karges (<i>14th Anniversary</i>)
6:00 p.m.	Spanish Mass—People of St. Alexander Parish

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — I will set my bow in the clouds to serve as a sign of the covenant between me and the earth (Genesis 9:8-15).

Psalm — Your ways, O Lord, are love and truth to those who keep your covenant (Psalm 25).
Second Reading — The water of the flood prefigured baptism, which saves you now (1 Peter 3:18-22).

Gospel — Jesus was tempted by Satan, and the angels ministered to him (Mark 1:12-15)
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.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: 1 Pt 5:1-4; Ps 23:1-3a, 4-6;
Mt 16:13-19

Tuesday: Is 55:10-11; Ps 34:4-7, 16-19;
Mt 6:7-15

Wednesday: Jon 3:1-10; Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19;
Lk 11:29-32

Thursday: Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25; Ps 138:1-3,
7c-8; Mt 7:7-12

Friday: Ez 18:21-28; Ps 130:1-8; Mt 5:20-26
Saturday: Dt 26:16-19; Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8;
Mt 5:43-48

Sunday: Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18; Ps 116:10,
15-19; Rom 8:31b-34; Mk 9:2-10

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Mon. 2/22/2021:

Rental-St. Pius Volleyball	Hall/Gym	4:00pm
RCIA	Fr. Tuan Room	5:00pm

Tues. 2/23/2021:

Fishers of Men & Women Prayer Group	Hall/Gym	5:00pm
Fishers of Men	Fr. Tuan Room	6:00pm
Spanish Ministry-Marian Hour	Barrett Room	6:30pm

Wed. 2/24/2021:

Rental-St. Pius Volleyball	Hall/Gym	4:00pm
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Thurs. 2/25/2021:

Rental-St. Pius Volleyball	Hall/Gym	4:00pm
Spanish Stations of the Cross	Church	7:00pm

Friday. 2/26/2021:

Stations of the Cross	Church	7:00pm
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Please remember to sign up for both Daily and Weekend Masses by 5:00pm on

Thursday on our website:
www.stalexanderparish.org.

If you don't have access to the internet, please call the Parish Office to assist @ 630-833-7730.

Thank you!



Reconciliation

St. Alexander:

Tuesdays from 5:00—6:00pm

St. John the Apostle:

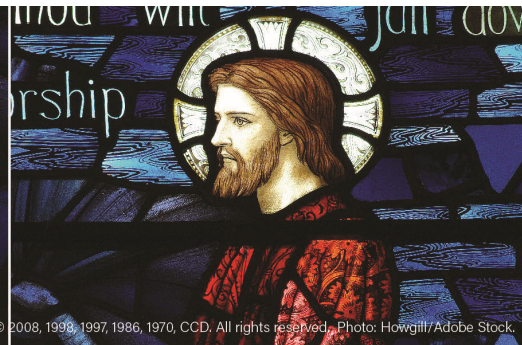
Mondays from 5:00—6:00pm

Gospel Reflection

The Spirit drove Jesus out into the desert, and he remained in the desert for forty days, tempted by Satan. He was among wild beasts, and the angels ministered to him.

MARK 1:12-13

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BAPTISM

Today's readings suggest two different meanings and experiences of baptism. The second reading (from 1 Peter) makes an analogy between Noah's ark and Christian baptism: just as Noah and his family were saved from death by going through the waters of the flood in the ark, Christians are saved from sin and death by going through the waters of baptism. The first reading, from Genesis, portrays the world after the flood: washed clean of its prior wickedness, embraced by God's promises that the world will never again be destroyed by water. The psalmist expresses a desire to follow the ways of God, as if re-establishing the harmony between God and humanity destroyed by sin. This peaceful scene is very different from the drama and urgency in Mark's description of Jesus after his baptism. Jesus battles demons, receives sustenance from angels, and begins preaching: "Repent. The kingdom of God is at hand."

GOOD MORNING! WELCOME TO LENT!

You probably did not get that greeting from your priest today, and you probably did not expect it. Isn't Lent a time of reflection and repentance? Somber purple, no "Alleluias"? Prayer, fasting, and almsgiving; attending to one's relationship with God?

True enough; however, there are Lenten practices that have a festive air woven into these penitential elements. One example is in the Church's retrieval of ancient Lenten practices that made up the final preparation of persons elected to receive the Easter sacraments of baptism, confirmation, and eucharist. Jesus' urgent preaching in today's passage from Mark comes soon after his own baptism and reminds us that these sacraments still signal a dramatic change in a person's life: they have responded to Jesus' preaching of the kingdom and are now publicly professing themselves to be disciples of the Lord and fully initiated members of his visible church. The prayer, fasting, and almsgiving during Lent were part of that preparation. Repentance was then, and remains today, important also for those already fully initiated; the work of repentance, of prayerfully examining our lives and making changes in anticipation of God's reign, is an ongoing aspect of our life in Christ.

A SECOND CHANCE TO MAKE A FIRST IMPRESSION

Other changes with baptism are more subtle and personal. When Noah and his family emerged from the ark, they saw that the floodwaters had receded after cleansing the world of human sinfulness. Everything was clean and fresh—a new creation, with a rainbow to guarantee God's promise to never again destroy the world with water. So, too, will the newly baptized emerge from the font and be anointed with chrism. Like the earth after the great flood, they are a new creation. Washed clean of sin and anointed with chrism, they are renewed in the embrace of the God of covenant love.

This is why Lent is always a festive anticipation of Easter and always about baptism, just as it is always about the repentance that draws us more deeply into God's kingdom.

TODAY'S READINGS

Genesis 9:8-15
 Psalm 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9
 1 Peter 3:18-22
 Mark 1:12-15

FIRST LENT
 SUNDAY OF
 FEBRUARY 21, 2021



Faith Formation Office

Please contact Ann Krueger at: akrueger@stalexanderparish.org

First Sunday in Lent

Children enjoy all today's **40 days**: especially the 40 days of rain on the ark. Savor the 40's: Jesus' 40 days in the wilderness, and the 40 days of Lent. Remember the 40s each day of Lent. Think of everyone still on the ark and Jesus still in the wilderness on each of the days between now and Easter.

Today we have good news. God saves us from the flood, claims us in baptism, and is with us in the wilderness. That is a good place to start Lent. We are not earning God's love with our disciplines with fear of failure. We are responding to God's love by being the very best we can.



Suggestion for Lent: Use a cross. You can carry **a cross trinket in a pocket, a cross bookmark to use in your Bible or current book, or a paper cross to display on a mirror or the refrigerator door during Lent.** Every time you see or touch this cross during Lent, remember the whole crucifixion and resurrection story and God's great, forgiving love – maybe something like this...

God has kept the rainbow promise. People, however, have done all sorts of evil things and ruined the world in many ways. Still, God has not destroyed the earth again. Instead, God became Jesus and came to live among us to show us how we are meant to be. Some people got so very angry with Jesus that they killed Him on a cross. Even as He was dying on their cross, Jesus forgave them for what they were doing to Him. The day Jesus was killed was a horrible day. Jesus' friends thought nothing in the world ever be right again. Then, on the third day Jesus was alive. They saw Him and talked to them. He told them that He would always be with them and would love them and forgive them. Every time you see or touch this cross during Lent, remember the story and God's great, forgiving love. www.Worshippingwithchildren

Symbols of LENT

Violet/purple color: This is a somber color for the Lenten season which signifies humility, willingness to repent, mourning for the sins and suffering with Jesus.



Ashes: They remind us of the creation story that we are made from dust (Gen 2:7). They symbolize our human mortality and need for forgiveness, humility, purification and sorrow for our sins. Similarly, the ashes remind us that we are vulnerable persons before God and as it is written in Gen (3:19) that, "we are dust and unto dust we shall return."



Fish: It is a symbol of lent which calls us to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. It further reminds us of abstinence from meat on all the Fridays of Lenten season.

PARISH NEWS



Join Bill Conroy and many other men and women in saying the Rosary for peace and health in our nation, every **Tuesday** evening, @ 5:00pm in the Hall/Gym.

Please wear a mask, socially distance and sign in.



**Stations of the Cross
will be every Friday during
Lent @ 7:00pm.**

Please use the West Doors,
wear a mask and sign in.

We also have Spanish Stations
of the Cross on Thursdays during
Lent @ 7:00pm



Ministry News: KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

The Knights of Columbus is an international Catholic men's association. Bounded by principles of charity, unity, fraternity and patriotism, The Knights of Columbus provides a common ground for Catholic men to fulfill their desire to serve their communities and church, to grow in their faith, and to spend quality time with their families. Joining the Knights provides men and their families with volunteer opportunities that nurture family and community bonds while gaining a true sense of accomplishment.

In Villa Park we work with a variety of local organizations, including St. Vincent de Paul, the Salvation Army, Catholic Charities, Waterleaf, local food pantries, seminarians, persons with Intellectual Disabilities, local first responders, veterans' associations, and so many more. Our "All You Can Eat" breakfasts are legendary, and our St. Patrick's and St. Joseph's Party is a fun evening enjoyed by the entire community. We also host family events such as golf outings, swimming parties, and our Christmas Party for members and their families to enjoy together.

Membership in the Knights of Columbus is open to all Catholic men, 18 years of age or older, who are committed to making their community a better place while supporting the work of their church. We meet regularly to plan events and discuss various service opportunities. If you would like to discuss membership, please contact Jim Schmit, our membership chairman, at 630-567-7757, or speak to any of the Knights in the parish. If you would like to explore the Knights of Columbus in more detail, go to our website at <https://www.kofc.org>.



**NEW DAYS & HOURS
ADORATION
In the Church
Feb. 1 thru Mar. 31**

**Mon. & Wed.
5:00—7:00pm**

Tues., 3:00—4:30pm

**Thurs., & Friday
3:00—5:00pm**

Enter through the West doors,
please wear a mask and sign in.

Thank you!



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PARISH/DEANERY/DICOSEAN NEWS

Eastern DuPage Deanery Parish Lenten Mission
With Fr. David Mowry

Sponsored by Immaculate Conception Church

Livestreamed at www.icelmhurst.org

March 7, 8, & 9 @ 7:00pm

The Hound of Heaven

The search for meaning and happiness is as old as the human race itself. The great surprise during that search is discovering that while we were seeking, we were already being sought! Join Fr. David Mowry for three nights of discovering the joy of being sought, found, and brought home.

Sunday: The Great Chase

Monday: The Knock at the Door

Tuesday: The Way Home



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Saint Alexander Villa Park Illinois



The Three Pillars of Lent.

The “three pillars” of Lent are **prayer, fasting and almsgiving (give)**. By fasting and controlling the passions of the body, we free our souls for prayer. And by refraining from eating, we free up food or money for almsgiving to those less fortunate than ourselves. The three spiritual disciplines go hand in hand, and the Church calls us to practice all three together, especially during the season of Lent. These three pillars come from the bible passage Matthew 6:1-6, 16-18.



\$5 BREAKFAST
Save The Date

SUNDAY, FEB. 21, 2021

7:30AM—11:00AM

Pick up at St. Alexander Hall



Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus
Council #8365, Villa Park, IL

CCW Prayer Blanket News

Due to COVID, the Prayer Blanket Ministry has not been meeting to make blankets.

However, they have been meeting on Mondays, VIA ZOOM, @ 7:00pm to pray the Rosary for those who need prayers.

If you would like to join them or request prayers, please contact the ministry @

stasprayerblanket@gmail.com

Thank you and God Bless.

PRAYER INTENTIONS



Prayer for Vocations

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

22. Seminarian Joseph LeMay
23. Fr. John L. Dennerlein, FR. William M. DeSalvo
24. Sr. Patricia Hottinger, Sr. Margaret Nimbley, Sr. Catherine Tighe SH (HHS)
25. Francesca-Cynthia Riddick, Margaret M. Trepal, Margaret Gisburne CONSVIRN
26. Sr. Lucina Aguilera, Sr. Maria del Rocio G. Castillo, Sr. Maria Teresa Gaytan, Sr. Maria Teresa Gonzalez HJ
27. Dcns. Joseph Cotugno, William Crane, Michael Crowell, Daniel Culloton, Gregory Cummins, Terry Cummiskey
28. Fr. William G. Dewan, Fr. Thomas Dieter, Sr. Esperanza Herrera, Sr. Araceli Perez, Sr. Judith Perez, Sr. Maria Romero Zavala HJ

Rosebud Program

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



CONGRATULATIONS!

Jenna & Zach on the birth of their son Brooks David

- | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Erica and Nick due 3/21. | Joe & Joselyn due 4/21. |
| Angelo & Meaghan due 3/21. | Matt and Danielle due 6/21. |
| Anthony & Beth due in 9/21. | |

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.

 PLEASE PRAY *for* 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.

Ed Driskell, Frank Rajase, Tom Criscione, Andy, Terry Baugh, Lorane Myers, Maggie Gannon, Maria Cruz, Jim Erlenbaugh, Kimmy Dikker, Corinne Principe, Keith Lapointe, Matt & Julie Guth, Lisa Krandal, Jacob St. Louis, Peter Parish, Sue Connelly, Matt Doyle, Bob Chandler, P.J. O’Connor, Karen Soukup, Eda Jett, Laura Guirini, Patricia Hendrickson, John Jarecki, Sue Duchek, Maureen Donovan and Jenny McQuillan, David TracyMader & Picha Families, Frank Gill, Mark Boutin, Clare Stralko, Bob Baker, Clara Fiedler, Bud Derland, Kristie Gregory, Joey Rose, Kathleen Kehoe, Kathryn Rothfahn, Noreen Aukst and all those sick from COVID-19

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



Pope Francis proclaims “Year of St Joseph” from Dec. 8, 2020 to Dec. 8, 2021

Prayer to Saint Joseph, Patron of the Universal Church

O GLORIOUS St. Joseph, you were chosen by God to be the reputed father of Jesus, the most pure Spouse of Mary, ever Virgin, and Head of the Holy Family. You have been chosen by Christ’s Vicar as the heavenly Patron and Protector of the Church founded by Christ. Therefore, with the greatest confidence I implore your powerful assistance for the whole Church Militant. Protect, in a special manner, with true fatherly love, the Sovereign Pontiff and all the bishops and priests in communion with the See of Peter. Be the protector of all who labor for souls amid the trials and tribulations of this life; and grant that all the nations of the earth may submit with docility to that Church out of which there is no salvation. Dearest St. Joseph, accept the offering I now make of myself to you. I dedicated myself to your service, that you may ever be my Father, my Protector and my Guide in the way of salvation. Obtain for me great purity of heart and a fervent love for the interior life. Grant that, after your example, all my action may be directed to the greater glory of God, in union with the divine Heart of Jesus, the Immaculate Heart of Mary, and your own paternal heart. Finally, pray for me that I may share in the peace and joy of your holy death. Amen.



Our Faithfully Departed

Luigi Sehiassi, Deborah VerdigoPeg Loftus, Nick DeMarco, Milagros Cerna, Gilberto Hernandez Salas, Kathleen Maloney, Ione Fremgen, George Chaussee, Louise Dickens, Jim Cozzi, Deacon Dick Baigeman and Those who died from COVID-19.

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Shining the Light of Christ through the 2021 Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal

Please prayerfully reflect on how you can best support our annual appeal and help our parish reach its **\$42,000** goal.

Because not all of us have returned to worshipping in person, our pastor is mailing a packet to parishioners this week. Included will be the envelope many of us use to make a gift at Mass, as well as more information on how the CMAA *shines the light of Christ* not only in our parish, but across the diocese.

Seventy percent of any amount we raise over our goal will be returned to our parish, for our needs. To make a gift, complete and return your pledge envelope in the mail, visit jolietdioceseappeal.org or text DONATE to (815) 205-1949.

“For it is in GIVING that we RECEIVE.”
- St. Francis of Assisi

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

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. — 7:30 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.
 Sunday: 5:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. (*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
 (Closed due to COVID until further notice)
Adoration in the church on Mon. & Wed. from 5—7pm., Tues, Thurs. & Fri 3:00-5:00pm.
Use West entrance. Wear a mask.
Pastor: Reverend Mark Rosenbaum
Mass Assistants:
 Rev. David Dillon/Rev. Nhan Van Tran SVD/
 Rev. Tan Nguyen SVD/Fr. Danny Soriano/Fr. 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: 630.834.3787
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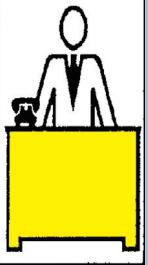
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WHY IS IT?

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