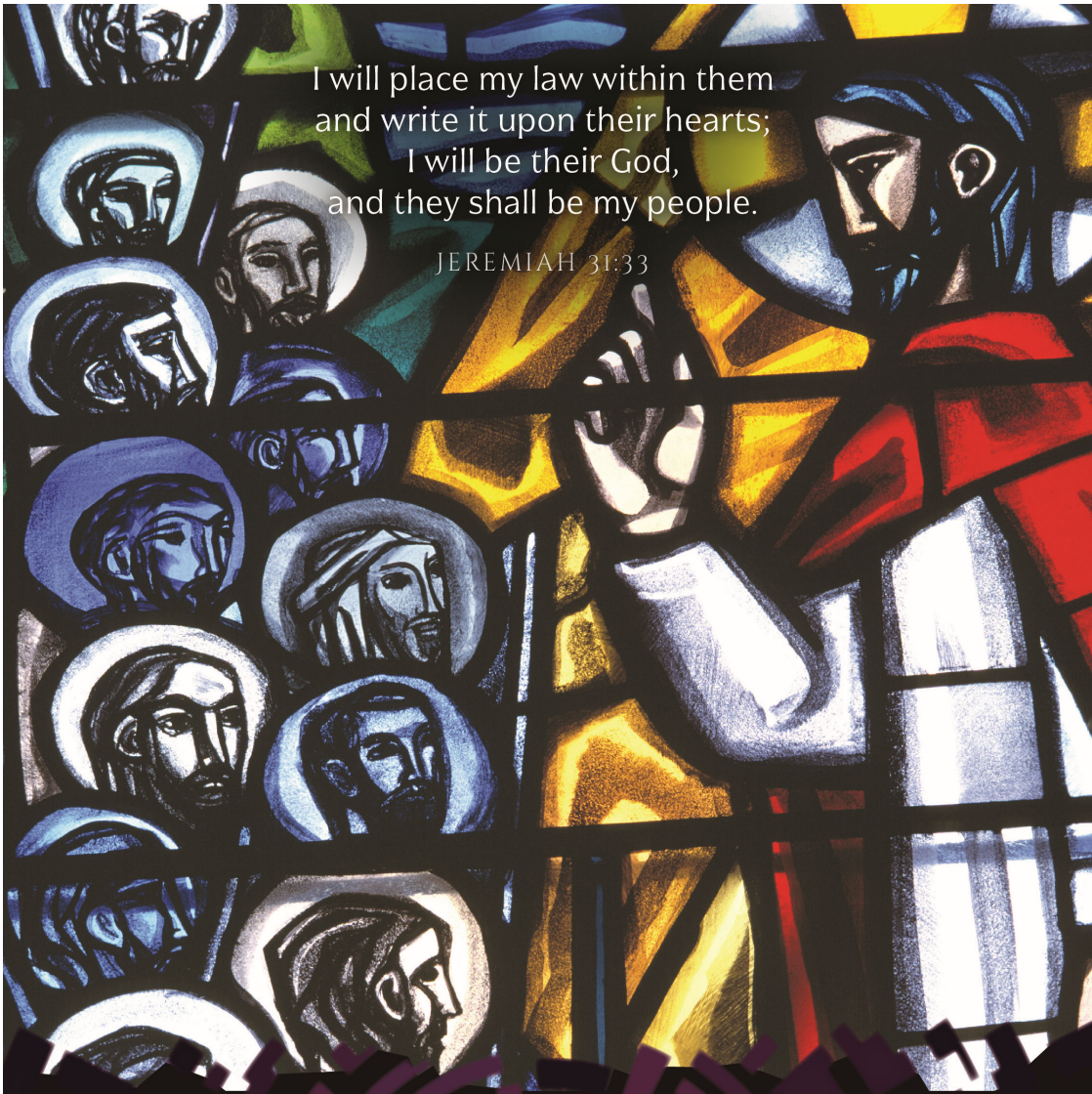


St. Alexander Catholic Church

LOVE ONE ANOTHER AS I LOVE YOU

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



I will place my law within them
and write it upon their hearts;
I will be their God,
and they shall be my people.

JEREMIAH 31:33

FIFTH
SUNDAY OF
LENT

MARCH 21, 2021

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MASS INTENTIONS

Monday 8:45a.m.	Mar. 22—Lenten Weekday Bernice & Anthony Maffia
Tuesday 8:45a.m.	Mar. 23—St. Turibius of Mogrovejo, Bishop Sr. Adrienne Weseman
Wednesday 8:45a.m.	Mar. 24—Lenten Weekday Margaret Corbo
Thursday 8:45a.m.	Mar. 25—Annunciation of the Lord Rachel Gill
Friday 8:45am	Mar. 26—Lenten Weekday Mary & George Albert
Saturday 2:00pm 5:00 p.m.	Mar. 27—Lenten Weekday Morris/Young Wedding Marvin G. Jett/Tom & Anne Jones/Donald Felz/ Robert & Julia Airhart.
Sunday 8:30 a.m. 10:30 a.m. 6:00 p.m.	Mar. 28—Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord Marian & Peter Kurasz, Sr./Bernice Matis/Int. Maureen Rollie Roland & Patricia Tretina Spanish Mass—People of St. Alexander Parish

Please note: The 2022 Mass Book will be open the week of April 12th for your Mass Intentions.

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — I will make a new covenant; I will write my law upon their hearts (Jeremiah 31:31-34) or Ezekiel 37:12-14.

Psalm — Create a clean heart in me, O God (Psalm 51) or Psalm 130.

Second Reading — Christ learned obedience and became the source of eternal salvation (Hebrews 5:7-9) or Romans 8:8-11.

Gospel — If a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it produces much fruit (John 12:20-33) or John 11:1-45 [3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45].

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: Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 [41c-62]; Ps 23:1-6; Jn 8:1-11

Tuesday: Nm 21:4-9; Ps 102:2-3, 16-21; Jn 8:21-30

Wednesday: Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95; Dn 3:52-56; Jn 8:31-42

Thursday: Is 7:10-14; 8:10; Ps 40:7-11; Heb 10:4-10; Lk 1:26-38

Friday: Jer 20:10-13; Ps 18:2-7; Jn 10:31-42

Saturday: Ez 37:21-28; Jer 31:10, 11-13; Jn 11:45-56

Sunday: Mk 11:1-10 or Jn 12:12-16 (procession); Is 50:4-7; Ps 22:8-9, 17-20, 23-24; Phil 2:6-11; Mk 14:1 — 15:47 [15:1-39]

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Mon. 3/22/2021:		
Rental—St. Pius Volleyball	Hall/Gym	4:00pm
RCIA	Fr. Tuan Room	5:00pm
Scout Troop #199	Hall/Gym	6:45pm
Tues. 3/23/2021:		
Fishers of Men & Women Prayer Group	Hall/Gym	5:00pm
Fishers of Men Group	Fr. Tuan Room	6:00pm
Spanish Ministry-Marian Hour	Barrett Room	6:30pm
Spanish Ministry-Family & Marriage Enrich.	Gathering Space	6:30pm
Wed. 3/24/2021:		
Rental—St. Pius Volleyball	Hall/Gym	4:00pm
Thurs. 3/25/2021:		
Spanish Stations of the Cross	Church	7:30pm
Friday. 3/26/2021:		
Wedding Rehearsal	Church	6:00pm
Stations of the Cross	Church	7:00pm



Reconciliation

St. Alexander:

Tuesdays from 5:00—6:00pm

St. John the Apostle:

Mondays from 5:00—6:00pm

Please wear a Mask.



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!

Gospel Reflection

I will place my law within them
and write it upon their hearts;
I will be their God,
and they shall be my people.

JEREMIAH 31:33

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THROUGH SUFFERING

The prophet Jeremiah, in today's first reading, is looking beyond the often-messy history of Israel and Judah to a time when the people will no longer be disobedient to God, because God's law will be "written on their hearts"—that is, their natural inclinations and desires will be oriented toward God's will. The psalmist gives voice to the sorrow that Israel and Judah experienced in their separation from God "Have mercy on me, O God . . . A clean heart create for me." According to Saint Paul, the earthly Jesus, "son though he was," like his ethnic ancestors, he "learned obedience from what he suffered." The Gospel reading is part of Jesus' discourses not long before the Last Supper. Instead of a social encounter with Philip's friends who had come to see him, Jesus is grappling with his approaching death and its ultimate meaning for the world.

JEREMIAH: LOOKING BEYOND EXILE AND SUFFERING

The readings today remind us how close we are to Easter—only two weeks from now. They also remind us that the path to resurrection and Easter always includes suffering and death. The prophet Jeremiah spent his whole life proclaiming the word of God to kings who would not listen. As an old man, he saw Jerusalem defeated and the inhabitants taken into exile. Jeremiah himself suffered in being left behind, but in today's reading, he is looking beyond those sufferings to a time when the previously disobedient people would be transformed and live in harmony with God's law.

LOOKING FOR JESUS, FINDING THE CROSS

In the Gospel reading, friends of Philip come to him and ask about meeting Jesus. When Philip and Andrew take the request to Jesus, he begins a cryptic discourse on discipleship, transformation, and divine judgment. We never hear whether Philip's friends got to personally meet Jesus. Perhaps they simply blended in with the crowd.

Jesus says, "[W]hen I am lifted up from the earth, I will draw everyone to myself." The narrator says that Jesus' words indicate how he will die; the readers already know Jesus will be crucified. Jesus also speaks of divine judgment driving out the world's rulers and of the need to be transformed, like a seed growing into a productive plant. He warns about loving our life and losing it. Unlike Jeremiah's detailed vision, Jesus only hints at what kind of transformed life his death will bring.

What if we, like Philip's friends, want to get close to Jesus? Does that mean that the discourse on death and judgment is addressed to us? If Jesus will draw everyone to himself as he is "lifted up," does being closer to him mean joining him on his cross? (Do we want to be that close to Jesus?) Do we want to be transformed? If we say "yes," the liturgy these next two weeks can show us the only way the Church knows to get closer to Jesus: to be willing to be "lifted up" with him in his suffering—and in our own.

TODAY'S READINGS

Jeremiah 31:31–34
Psalm 51:3–4, 12–13, 14–15
Hebrews 5:7–9
John 12:20–33

FIFTH
SUNDAY OF
LENT
MARCH 21, 2021



Faith Formation Office

Please contact Ann Krueger at: akrueger@stalexanderparish.org

5th Sunday of Lent John 12:20-33.

In today's Gospel, Jesus reveals to us that God has a purpose for creating each one of us.

When He tells the Parable of the Grain of Wheat, Christ shares that we must be willing to give up our life on earth in order to be with God in Heaven forever. By His own example, Jesus shows us that we must do the will of the Father to show Him love and obedience. As a reward, the Lord will gather all of the faithful to Himself in Heaven.



March 25th – The Annunciation of our Lord

*The angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary; you have found favor with God. You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call Him, Jesus”
(Luke 1:30-31)*

The meaning of the Annunciation is easy to remember because it's an announcement. The angel Gabriel is sent to the Virgin Mary to announce the conception of the Son of God through the Holy Spirit. To reflect on this great moment in history, here are 3 practical lessons we can learn from Mary:

1. Be prepared to be used by God. As an unmarried young woman from Nazareth, Mary has a very low social status, but God doesn't care about that. Mary continues a long list of people in the Bible who felt inadequate (Moses, Rahab, David, Jonah, Naomi to name just a few) that God uses to fulfill His promises.

2. Put your faith in God. In great contrast to Zechariah, the father of John the Baptist who doubts Gabriel's announcement that he'll have a son, Mary is described by her cousin Elizabeth as “she who has believed” (Luke 1:45).

3. Live your life as a servant of the Lord. Mary ultimately responds to Gabriel with the powerful words, “I am the Lord's servant. May your word to me be fulfilled” (Luke 1:38). Through Mary's willingness to be used by God, we have an incredible example of the Apostle Paul's later request for followers of Christ to be a “living sacrifice” (Romans 12:1)



PARISH NEWS



GOOD FRIDAY WALK

“Walk in the Footsteps of Jesus”

A self-guided Stations of the Cross with a theme of Peace and Social Justice.

This is a wonderful event for families.

Start at the St. Alexander Hall for curbside pick up of your printed guide and pre-packaged take-home containers of soup. **Pick up any time between 9:30am—11:30am on Friday, April 2, 2021.**

Questions, please contact the Parish Office @ 630-833-7730.

Thank you!!



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 @ 7:30pm

Blessing of the Easter Baskets

Bring your baskets of food that will be eaten for your Easter meal to be blessed.

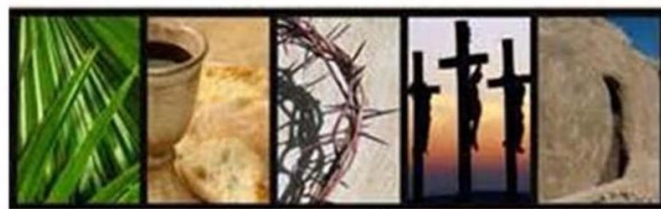


Holy Saturday, April 3

11:00 a.m.

St. Alexander Hall

Please wear a mask and practice social distance. Thank you.



2021 HOLY WEEK LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

Register for Masses on our website: stalexanderparish.org

Palm Sunday @ St. Alexander Church:

Saturday, March 27 @ 5:00pm

Sunday, March 28 @ 8:30am, 10:30am

and in Spanish @ 6:00pm

Holy Thursday, April 1 @ St. John the Apostle:

Bilingual Mass of the Lord's Supper @ 7:00pm

Register on the St. John Website: stjohnvillpark.org

St. John will have Drive-Up Adoration until 11pm.

St. Alexander will not be open for Eucharistic Adoration.

Good Friday, April 2 @ St. Alexander:

Self-Guided Good Friday Walk:

9:30-11:30am @ St. Alexander Hall

Bilingual Living Commemoration of the

Lord's Passion 7:00pm @ St. Alexander

Holy Saturday, April 3 @ St. Alexander:

Blessing of the Food Baskets: 11:00am

in the Hall/Gym @ St. Alexander

Bilingual Easter Vigil Service & Mass

will begin 8:00pm @ St. Alexander

Easter Sunday, April 4 @ St. Alexander Church:

Mass will be celebrated @ 8:30am,

10:30am, 12:00pm and in Spanish @ 6:00pm



ADORATION In the Church

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!

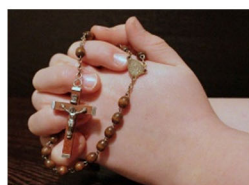
PARISH/DEANERY/DICOSEAN NEWS



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

James Thomas, son of William and Christine Ryan, nee Delvalle

Vivian Jane, daughter of Daniel and Maureen Doty, nee Ryan



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.

6 HOURS OF CONFESSION

When was the last time you received Reconciliation? Was it recently? In the past year? Awhile ago?

The priests of Eastern DuPage County will be available to celebrate the Sacrament of Forgiveness of Sin!

**Friday, March 27
 9:00am—3:00pm**

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

All are invited to receive God's Grace.

**Please come to one of our two locations:
 Visitation Church**

779 S. York Road, Elmhurst, 630-834-6700

St. Peter the Apostle Church

524 N. Rush Street, Itasca: 630-773-1272

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.



**Frances and John
 Schweih's
 Catholic Education
 Scholarship**

2021-2022 School Year

This scholarship will be awarded to a member of a St. Alexander Parish family annually in the amount of \$1,000. Families interested need to fill out an application, as well as apply for aid at the Diocese of Joliet through FACTS Management (<https://factsmgt.com/>). Applications for the Fran and John Schweih's Catholic Education Scholarship are available through the Parish Office or on our website www.stalexanderparish.org. **DEADLINE: Please return completed applications to the Parish Office or emailed to office@stalexanderparish.org no later than April 6, 2021.**

CASSEROLE SCHEDULE 2021

<u>Date</u>	<u>Frozen Casserole Picked Up</u>	<u>Casserole Tin Dropped Off</u>
3/9/21	Chicken and Stuffing	Florentine Ravioli
4/13/21	Florentine Ravioli	Shepherd's Pie
5/11/21	Shepherd's Pie	Texas Hash
6/8/21	Texas Hash	Beans and Burgers
7/13/21	Beans and Burgers	Chicken and Broccoli
8/10/21	Chicken and Broccoli	Florentine Ravioli

PRAYER INTENTIONS



Prayer for Vocations

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

- 22. Fr. Joel Fortier
- 23. Sr. Wieslawa Jamrozik, Sr. Jadwiga Kokolus, Sr. Malgorzata Leszczynska MChR
- 24. Dcns. James Eaker, Gerard Erickson, John Feely, Joseph Ferrari, Frederick Filippo
- 25. Abbott Austin Murphy
- 26. Sr. Kristiana Pucik, Sr. Beata Sawicka, Sr. Katarzyna Zaremba MChR
- 27. Dcns. Robert Fitt, James Foody, Richard Ford, Patrick Forsythe, Dino Franch, John Freund
- 28. Fr. Hugh Fullmer, Fr. Martin Gabel

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. | Matt and Danielle due 6/21. |
| Angelo & Meaghan due 3/21. | Anthony & Beth due in 9/21. |
| Joe & Joselyn due 4/21. | Susan 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, Patricia Hendrickson, John Jarecki, Sue Duchek, Maureen Donovan and Jenny McQuillan, David Tracy, Frank Gill, Mark Boutin, Clare Stralko, Bob Baker, Kathryn Rothfahn, Noreen Aukst, Judith Hummert, Bernard (Gene) Niewoehner, John Zydek 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 Those who died from COVID-19.

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

Thank you to everyone who has already pledged a gift to the 2021 Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal (CMAA). Every gift, large or small, brings us closer to our parish's 2021 CMAA goal of \$42,000.

If you have yet to make your gift, please prayerfully reflect on how you can best support the CMAA. If we raise more than our goal, 70 percent of the amount over goal will be returned to us for our use. This is an amazing opportunity for our parish.

Our pastor recently mailed a pledge envelope to everyone in our parish. Please either return it, or the pledge card you received from the diocese, in the mail. You may also make a secure gift online at 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. 3-4:30pm, 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/
 Fr. David Medow/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
E-mail: akrueger@stalexanderparish.org
Director: Ann Krueger



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WHY IS IT?

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Tony Dorko

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