

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



Dec. 10, 2023

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Mass Intentions

Monday 8:45am	Dec. 11—St. Damasus I, Pope Int. of Colette Parzvgnat Family
Tuesday 8:45am	Dec. 12— Our Lady of Guadalupe Int. Jeanne McNamara
Wednesday 8:45am	Dec. 13— St. Lucy, Virgin and Martyr Evelyn A. Pasek
Thursday 8:45am	Dec. 14—St. John of the Cross, Priest & Doctor of the Church Karen Mocarski
Friday 8:45am	Dec. 15—Advent Weekday Roberto Perez
Saturday 5:00pm	Dec. 16—Advent Weekday Hubert & Therese Klaus/Marvin G. Jett/Angela Saporito & Josephine Santisi/Int. Paloma
Sunday 8:30am 10:30am 6:00pm	Dec. 17—Third Sunday of Advent Stacie Look/Lenore Boyer Int. Susanne Strickland People of St. Alexander Parish

The Hospitality Committee is taking the month of December off. Therefore, no hospitality will be served after Masses during the month of December.

The committee wishes everyone a blessed Advent/Christmas season and look forward to seeing you in the New Year.



You are all invited for hospitality and fellowship!!! Parish Council will host hospitality 3 times a month at one of the Masses. Hospitality is a time for all parishioners to get together in a casual setting with friends and just to “visit”. All are invited to bring a favorite comfort food to share with friends after Mass.

Here is the schedule:

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

Weekly Facility Schedule

Mon. 12/11:			
Rental—Pius Basketball	Gym/Hall		4:00pm
Altar Server Training	Church		5:00pm
O.C.I.A.	Church/GS		6:00pm
Scout Troop 199	Gym/Hall		7:00pm
Tues. 12/12:			
Rental—Pius Basketball	Gym/Hall		4:00pm
Spanish Ministry—Our Lady of Guadalupe	Fr. Tuan Rm/Hall		5:45pm
Faith Formation Fundamentals	Library		6:00pm
Fishers of Men	Sister’s Room		6:30pm
Wed. 12/13:			
Legion of Mary	Fr. Tuan Room		9:00am
Rental—Pius Basketball	Gym/Hall		4:00pm
Rental—Lions Volleyball	Gym/Hall		6:00pm
Music—Youth Choir	Church		6:00pm
Music—Joystir Choir Practice	Maguire Room		6:45pm
Music—Witness Choir Practice	Church		7:00pm
Music—Spanish Choir Practice	Library		7:00pm
St. Vincent de Paul	Sister’s Room		7:00pm
Thurs. 12/14:			
Thursday Coffee	Gathering Space	after 8:45am Mass	
Eastern DuPage Deanery CCW Mtg	Fr. Tuan Room		9:00am
Rental—Pius Basketball	Gym/Hall		4:00pm
Rental—Lions Volleyball	Gym/Hall		6:00pm
Sun. 12/17:			
Faith Formation Classes	Multiple Rooms		8:30am
Spanish Ministry—La Pasada	Hall/Gym/Fr. Tuan Rm		5:45pm



Reconciliation

St. Alexander:

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

No confessions on Tues., 12/12/2023.

St. John the Apostle:

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

Parish News

COMMUNICATIONS: **BULLETIN, FLOCKNOTE** **MARQUEE SIGN and** **SOCIAL MEDIA**



Please submit your request in **written** form (either in an email or with an attached document) to the following email: **bulletin@stalexanderparish.org** Indicate if you want the info in the bulletin, Flocknote, marquee sign, social media or all four (please note: the marquee is limited so it would be a shortened version). Requests must be made by **NOON Nine Days** before the weekend you would like it to start. Please indicate start and end dates. Also, give a contact name and number. *Thank you. Due to the holidays, there are early bulletin deadlines*



St. Alexander **Advent Sacrament** **of Reconciliation**

Tuesdays: 5:00—6:00pm

Saturdays: 4:00—4:45pm

Additional/Extended Confession time:

Friday, 12/15: 5:30—6:30pm

Tuesday, 12/19: 5:00—7:00pm

Friday, 12/22: 5:30—6:30pm

Retirement Fund for Religious

**Please give to
those who have
given a lifetime.**



December 2023

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Our diocese will soon take up the national collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious. Your support for this collection December 9/10 provides financial assistance for retirement needs for 297 U.S. religious communities.

Catholic sisters, brothers and religious order priests—collectively known as women and men religious—have selflessly served for decades without significant financial compensation. However, due to escalating health-care costs, numerous U.S. religious communities face a substantial gap between their elderly members' needs and the financial resources available for their care. Many religious orders currently experience insufficient retirement savings.

The 2022 appeal demonstrated Catholics' tremendous generosity by raising \$27.6 million. Diocese of Joliet parishioners contributed \$286,788.25 to the collection.

The senior religious in our diocese never retire from their vows, and they play a crucial role in conveying the faith from one generation to the next. In their younger years, they laid the foundation for Catholic schools, hospitals, and works of mercy. Today, many serve in volunteer ministry as ongoing witnesses to the Gospel. Others are frail and need assistance, yet all remain wholly committed to their vocations by embracing the opportunity to spend more time praying for our Church and world.

Please support the retirement needs of our senior religious. And please join me in praying for God's continued blessing on our nation's elderly sisters, brothers, and religious order priests.

As I remain –
Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Ronald A. Hicks
Bishop of Joliet



Parish News

Worship & Meditation

Readings for the week of December 10, 2023

Sunday:

Is 40:1-5, 9-11/Ps 85:9-10, 11-12, 13-14
(8)/2 Pt 3:8-14/Mk 1:1-8

Monday:

Is 35:1-10/Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14/
Lk 5:17-26

Tuesday:

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

Wednesday:

Is 40:25-31/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8 and 10/
Mt 11:28-30

Thursday:

Is 41:13-20/Ps 145:1 and 9, 10-11, 12-13ab/
Mt 11:11-15

Friday:

Is 48:17-19/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6/Mt 11:16-19

Saturday:

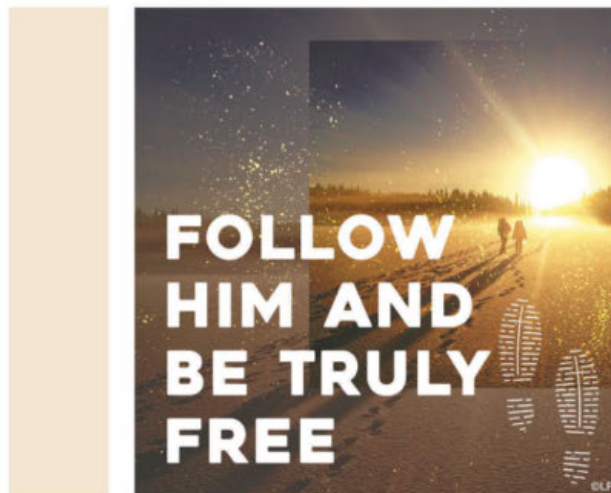
Sir 48:1-4, 9-11/Ps 80:2ac and 3b, 15-16,
18-19/Mt 17:9a, 10-13

Next Sunday:

Is 61:1-2a, 10-11/Lk 1:46-48, 49-50, 53-54
(Is 61:10b)/1 Thes 5:16-24/Jn 1:6-8, 19-28



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The English translation of Psalm Responses from Lectionary for
Mass © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in
the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.



Gospel Meditation

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

We like to think we are totally free, but the bitter truth is we simply are not. Or better put, our freedom is limited on every side — by governments, corporate giants, physical and mental frailties, genetic shortcomings, and even the boundaries of time and space, and above all, the burden of our sins and pending deaths. In our day, we are perhaps particularly aware that we are not free to disconnect from the technocratic rulers of the air. If you doubt me, try not paying your internet bill and see what happens. We are not totally free.

It's nothing new, of course. In Jesus' day, everyone felt the crushing weight of the Roman Empire. You can say you're free all you want. But try not paying your taxes to Rome and see what happens.

Once we feel this burden in our own lives — however it comes — we are ready to hear the stunning announcement that commences Mark's gospel, **"The beginning of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God."** It's not a simple perfunctory introduction, but a dramatic announcement of new freedom. The word "gospel" was a political, even military, term. It meant: a great victory has been won and a new king is in charge. This Jesus — not the Roman emperor — is God's son, and he has defeated all that crushes human freedom. It's time to follow him and be truly free. This week let's refuse to submit our freedom to false rulers — especially that of sin. And let's rejoice that Christ is coming to make us perfectly free from all our oppressors.

— *Father John Muir*

Parish News

THANK YOU to all who donated to St Vincent de Paul of St Alexander with time prayer and money. With your help we provided 60 thanksgiving meals to those families in need of help.

Deacon Jimenez , Jan Robbins and all of our volunteers



Blood Drive Dates for 2024

Plan your blood donations for 2024 now! The Knights of Columbus and St. Joseph the Worker have five blood donation dates scheduled for 2024. All are 8 weeks or more apart so if you donate whole blood, you will be eligible for all five drives. Signups for the first three are now open. Scan the QR code or use the web link to schedule your time now.

6 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 15 parishes of Eastern DuPage County will be available to celebrate the Sacrament of Forgiveness of Sin.

**Saturday, December 16,
from 9am until 3pm**

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

All Catholics are invited to receive God's grace.

Please come to Mary Queen of Heaven
430 N. West Avenue, Elmhurst, IL
630-279-5700

	Tuesday, February 06, 2024 at St Alexander https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/drive-results?zipSponsor=StAlexanderVP
	Tuesday, April 09, 2024 at St Alexander https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/drive-results?zipSponsor=StAlexanderVP
	Tuesday June 11, 2024 at St John the Apostle https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/drive-results?zipSponsor=VillaParkStJohn
	Tuesday August 13, 2024 St Alexander
	Tuesday October 15, 2024 St Alexander

Faith Formation & Parish News

Director Faith Formation: Kathy Halloran—stasfaithform.dre@gmail.com

EARLY BULLETIN DEADLINES:

Due to the upcoming holidays, bulletin items must be submitted early. Please submit to bulletin@stalexanderparish.org. Thank you.

Submit by Noon:

Dec. 11

Dec. 18

Dec. 20

Publication Date:

Dec. 24

Dec. 31

Jan. 7, 2024



Make this Christmas special for Pregnant Moms in Need at Waterleaf Pregnancy Center. Buy a gift card or donate and receive a baby stocking Christmas decoration and prayer card.

See the "Tree for Life Table" in the Gathering Space at masses December 2/3, December 9/10 and December 16/17. Thank you

Walking with Moms in Need
Dianne D'Amico 630-333-8947

Parish Council Corner

I'd like to thank you for your kindness as I recovered from my knee accident this fall. As I look back on these last several weeks I am so grateful for each and everyone of you. This parish is one of deep, loving kindness. You all care so very much for one another, and I felt the depth of that love personally. Thank you.

I spent my teaching career working with middle school students, and through them I realized that the holidays aren't as "jolly and happy" as we'd like to think. It was a huge struggle for many of those kids just to get through a time that was supposed to be a joyful one. That realization was a profound learning experience for me and has affected how I approach the Christmas season.

As we embrace this season of Advent, I implore you to take a few minutes to look around the pews when you attend mass. Who is missing? What faces are usually near you, but haven't been around these last few weeks? Who is suffering? Who needs you? Just a phone call, a note, a smiling face, or a surprise visit could make the difference for someone who is suffering. Please remember those around you whose lives are not going well. Reach out; you will be deeply rewarded.

May God bless you during this wonderful season of the birth of our Lord.

Linda Krause, Parish Council President

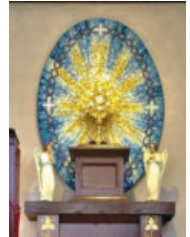
Prayer Intentions



10. Fr. Steven Borello
11. Sr. Margaret Rose Sczesniak OSF, Sr. Mary Frances Seeley OSF, Sr. Louise Marie Skoch OSF
12. Fr. Zygmunt Ostrowski S.Ch.
13. Fr. Tomasz Sielicki S.Ch.
14. Fr. Miroslaw Stepien S.Ch.
15. Sr. Patricia Skowronski OSF, Sr. Rose Marie Surwilo OSF, Sr. Faith Szambelanczyk OSF
16. Fr. Thomas Logue
17. Pope Francis

Eucharistic Adoration

The Adoration Chapel is open:
Tuesday: 3:00pm—10:00pm,
Wednesday: 3:00pm—9:00pm,
Thursday: 3:00pm—10:00pm.



The Chapel is located in the Kennedy Center building North of the Church on Cornell Avenue.

Adoration is also available in the Church on Mondays from 3-4pm.

Rosebud Program

"Please pray for the following who have requested prayers of CCW's Rosebud Program."



CONGRATULATIONS!

Lori & Fred on the birth of their son **Lucas Frederick.**
Anthony & Beth on the birth of their daughter **Lucille Lake.**
Katie & Joh non the birth of their son **Jack.**

Lindsay & Dan due in 1/2024
 Diana & Jake due in 1/2024

Patrick & Anna due 4/2024

Special Intentions for:

Tracey & Bob	Maria & Bobby	Carl & Terrie
Tony & Andrea	Amy & Sam	Amanda & Scott
Rose & Eleodoro	Mary Frances	Bob & Cyndy
Mary & Jared	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.



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. If someone can be taken off this sick list, please let the Parish Office know. Thank you.

Charles Baker, Pete Connelly, Bill Conroy, Sandra Krutz, Reinelia Leiva, Mary Mullen, Fr. John Ouper, Brianna Payne, Paloma, John Rich, Jr., James Rohrich, Jerry Spearman, Susanne Strickland, Deacon Herb Waldron, those affected by the conflicts in Ukraine & Israel

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



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 Faithful Departed

Ray Bacci, Sally Sommers, Carlos Austria, Gene Niewoehner, Mary Flynn

Stewardship

Sunday Collection: 12/3/2023.....	\$7,003
Online Giving (WeShare) 11/29—12/4/2023	\$2,645
Weekly Goal.....	\$8,654
YTD Actual Sunday Coll	\$209,225
YTD Goal Sunday Coll—52 weeks.....	\$450,000
Major Maintenance 12/3/2023.....	\$113
Major Maint. Online Giving 11/29—12/4/2023	\$45

Thank you for your continued support of St. Alexander parish.

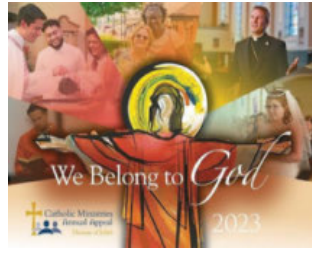
Parishioner Registration

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.



The 2023 CATHOLIC MINISTRIES ANNUAL APPEAL

PLEDGE REPORT: Dec. 3, 2023

Thank you to all those who have made pledges. Please continue to make your **2023 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:	\$46,700
Amount Pledged:	\$47,802
Amount Paid:	\$47,016
Remaining Balance:	\$786
Donor Count	224
2023 Rebate	\$221

Thank you for your continued support.

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

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Parish/Deanery/Diocesan News

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Saint Alexander Villa Park Illinois



YouTube Channel:
St. Alexander and St. John the Apostle, Villa Park



Text STALEXANDER to 84576 to sign up for Email and text Updates & announcements



We hold our military personnel and their families in our prayers. To add a name to the Military Prayer List, please email: bulletin@stalexanderparish.org or call the Parish Office @ 630-833-7730. Names will be published once a month.

- Tony Amore (son of Joe and Betty)
- Jenna Bishop (daughter of Ed & Annette Bishop)
- Dan Burgess (grandson of Marilyn Hannon)
- Terry Connelly (son of Sue Connelly)
- John Cooper (nephew of Joyce Splan and Patrick Belling)
- Tom Crilly (son of Joseph & Kim Crilly)
- Saverio D'Alessandro (son of Sue & Tom D'Alessandro)
- Dustin Hayes (grandson of Kevin & Mary O'Connor)
- Daniel Hogan (son of Ed & Annette Bishop)
- Eric Iftner (brother of Megan Iftner)
- Cameron Littleson (son of Ann & Scott Littleson and son-in-law of Greg and Terry Maher)
- Joseph McNulty (nephew of Kathy McNulty)
- John Mikita (nephew of Frank Gill)
- Adam Montana (Son of Christine & Dennis Montana and big brother of Jeremy Montana)
- Michael O'Hara (son-in-law of Sue Connelly)
- Alexander Reiland (Great-Nephew of Ann Campbell)
- Weston Renken (nephew of Jim & Denise Renken)
- Luke Russell (son of Annmarie Baughman)
- Luc Stanicek (nephew of Mary Flynn)

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www.onechoiceonelife.org | 630.701.6270

Parish/Deanery/Diocesan News

April 1-10, 2024

CELEBRATE MASS DAILY WHEN A PRIEST TRAVELS

DIVINE MERCY
Pilgrimage

Poland, Czech Republic and Hungary
with optional extension to Croatia and Medjugorje

with Fr. Steven Borello

For information or to make a reservation, contact:
Penny Borello | pborello@gmail.com | inteletravel.com | 630-309-1851

LIMITED TO 30 GUESTS
SIGN UP
AND SAVE YOUR SPOT!



Two of our choirs, *Joystir and Chancel*, are looking for an accompanist.

- **Joystir Choir** meets for practice on Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. and sings for the Mass on Saturdays at 5:00 p.m. and Sundays at 8:30 a.m. The Masses are every first and third weekend of the month. Joystir Choir group is also seeking a guitarist and singers to join
- **Chancel Choir** meets for practice on Tuesday at 7:00p.m and sings every Sunday at 10:30 a.m. Mass.

The piano accompanist is paid a stipend for both rehearsal and Masses played.

Interested? Please contact Music Director Gina Gabriel at ggabriel@stalexanderparish.org.

Also, anyone who likes to sing, is welcome to join either one of these choirs.

DIOCESAN JOB OPPORTUNITIES

St. Pius X Parish in Lombard is seeking a Part-Time Maintenance / Custodial Person

St. Pius X Parish in Lombard is searching for a part-time maintenance / custodial person. This is a non-benefited position of approximately 30 hours per week (must be flexible for the hours). Able to lift at least 40 lbs. This position requires a team-player attitude, attention to detail, and confidentiality.

Call the Parish Office at 630-627-4526 for further information.

Religious Education Administrative Assistant - St. Michael Parish, Wheaton, IL

St. Michael Parish is seeking a part-time Religious Education Administrative Assistant. The RE Administrative Assistant will be detailed oriented, self-motivated, organized, and will commit to the utmost confidentiality. Responsibilities include but are not limited to greeting people, answering phones, and performing general office work. Qualifications include proficiency with Microsoft Office, Google platform including: Docs, Sheets, Forms and Calendar. Have an aptitude for learning new software and systems (ie. PDS, VBS Pro, FACTS, Flocknote). This position requires a practicing Catholic who supports the mission, philosophy, objectives and policies of the Catholic Church and the Diocese of Joliet. To view a complete job description, visit: [The Roman Catholic Diocese of Joliet in Illinois](https://www.romancatholicdioceseofjoliet.org/). To apply for this outstanding opportunity, please send a cover letter and resume to Colleen Brodhead, Director of Faith Formation at cbrodhead@stmichaelcommunity.org or call (630) 462-5043 for additional details.

Parish Center: 630.833.7730
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. — 4:45 p.m.

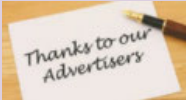
Sacrament of Baptism
Attendance at a pre-Baptismal class is required for both English and Spanish Baptisms. Pre-registration is necessary prior to class.

2nd and 4th Sunday of the month @ 12:15 p.m.

Spanish Baptisms:
 3rd Sunday of the month @ 3:00 p.m.

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

Eucharistic Adoration Chapel
Tuesday and Thursday from 3:00pm—10:00pm
Wednesday from 3:00pm—9:00pm
Pastor: Reverend Mark Rosenbaum
Mass Assistants:
 Rev. Nhan Van Tran SVD/Rev. David Medow/
 Rev. Johnus Cherunilath
Permanent Deacons:
 Christopher Cochran/Julio Jimenez/James Krueger/
 Mark Ranieri, Jr./Matthew Tretina
Office Administrator: Sue D’Alessandro
Music Coordinator: Gina Gabriel
Parish Registrar: Rita Matthews
Faith Formation: 630.833.7730
E-mail: stasfaithform.dre@gmail.com
Director: Kathy Halloran



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630-530-0200

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