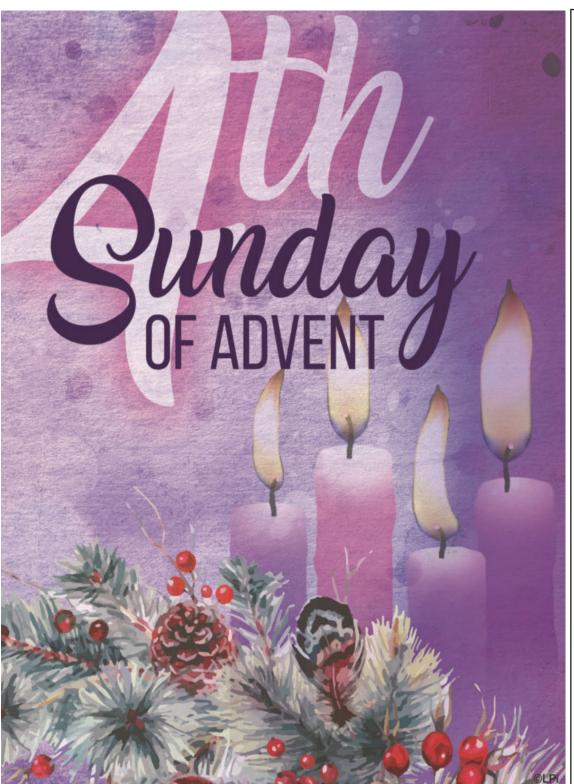
St. Alexander Catholic Church

LOVE ONE ANOTHER AS I LOVE YOU

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



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Mass Intentions

Monday Dec. 25—The Nativity of the Lord

8:30am Tom & Anne Jones/Chuck & Helen Maney/Helen & Don Liss/

Harleen & Emil Fischer

10:30am Marian Kurasz (29th Anniversary)/Ann & Mickey Sangiacomo

6:00pm People of St. Alexander parish

Tuesday Dec. 26— St. Stephen, The First Martyr

8:45am Marvin G. Jett

Wednesday Dec. 27— St. John, Apostle & Evangelist

8:45am Loretta Settergren/Elaine Steder

Thursday Dec. 28—The Holy Innocents, Martyrs

8:45am Karen Jorn

Friday Dec. 29—Fifth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord

8:45am Frank, Alice & David Paulin

Saturday Dec. 30—Sixth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord 5:00pm Tom & Anne Jones/Angela Seco/Andrew Rood/Ralph, Sr. &

Carmella DeRose/Angela Saporito & Josephine Santisi

Sunday Dec. 31—The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

8:30am Laddie & Jean Koutsky 10:30am Fr. George Moran

6:00pm People of St. Alexander Parish

The Parish Office and facilities will be closed December 25, 2023 through January 1, 2024. They will reopen on Tuesday, January 2, 2024. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Weekly Facility Schedule

Tues. 1/2/2024		
Rental—Tri-Town YMCA	Gym/Hall	All Day
Wed. 1/3/2024:		
Rental—Tri-Town YMCA	Gym/Hall	All Day
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
Thurs. 1/4/2024:		
Rental—Tri-Town YMCA	Gym/Hall	All Day
Mittens for Mary Knitting Group	Sister's Room	9:30am
Rental—Pius Basketball	Gym/Hall	4:00pm
Rental—Lions Volleyball	Gym/Hall	6:00pm
CCW Board Meeting	Sister's Room	6:30pm
Knights of Columbus	Fr. Tuan Room	7:00pm
<u>Fri. 1/5/2024:</u>		
Rental—Tri-Town YMCA	Gym/Hall	All Day
Sun. 1/7/2024:		
Faith Formation Classes	Multiple Rooms	8:30am
Adoration Holy Hour	Church	2:00pm
Hospitality	Gathering Space	after 6pm Mass
1		

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.



Hospitality Sunday

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

1 2nd Weekend: 5:00pm Mass

■ 3rd Weekend: 8:30 & 10:30am Mass



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

Parish News



Thank you to the following parishioners who donated towards our Christmas Flowers for the church. We greatly appreciate your generosity. (More will be posted in future bulletins.)

(indic in ac poste	a jata. e zanetino.
<u>Parishioner</u>	In Honor/Memory
Mr. & Mrs. Schmit	
Mr. & Mrs. Ivanauski	John & Mary Lach Frank & Irene Ivanauski
Robin Fisher	
Mr. & Mrs. Silva	Jacqueline Silva
Mr. & Mrs. Cuzzone	
Mr. & Mrs. Jajko	
Mr. & Mrs. Kuhrau	Pavese & Kuhrau Families
Mr. & Mrs. Bluemel	
Mr. & Mrs. Ivanauski Robin Fisher Mr. & Mrs. Silva Mr. & Mrs. Cuzzone Mr. & Mrs. Jajko Mr. & Mrs. Kuhrau	Frank & Irene Ivanauski Jacqueline Silva

Pamela Baldwin	
Mr. & Mrs. Baker	Paul Tadelski Natalie Baker
Mr. & Mrs. Kozbial	

Mr. C. Dr. Machan	Fancis & Helen Meehan
Mr. & Dr. Meehan	Thomas & Anne Jones

	THOMAS & ATTIC JOI
Vickie Maxson	
Mr. & Mrs. Loresch	
Elaine Heppe	
	Verenica Juliana Fr

Mr. & Mrs. Wesley	Veronica, Juliana, Frances,
	Rill

Mr. & Mrs. Strange Sue Hester/Thomas Hester/

Cindy Zickel

Pat Hayes & Joan Gnadt

Leroy Love

Jean Fleisleber

Thomas Sobaski

Kenneth Mocarski



Christmas greetings in the Lord to all,

I hope this message finds you and your families safe and healthy. I want to send my Christmas blessings upon all of you. Thanks be to God that I was not harmed in the rectory fire at St. John the Apostle. I will be residing at

the St. Alexander rectory for the duration. 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 into 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 and of our life slow us down to be a people of offering. This 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

Saludos navideños en el Señor para todos,

Espero que este mensaje los encuentre a ustedes y a sus familias sanos y salvos. Quiero enviarles mis bendiciones navideñas a todos ustedes. Gracias a Dios que no sufrí daños en el incendio de la rectoría de San Juan Apóstol. Residiré en la rectoría de St. Alexander mientras dure. Que hagamos conocer nuestra presencia y fe unos a otros 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, cualesquiera que sean. Nuestra fe en nuestro Señor Jesucristo es algo que podemos elegir llevar con nosotros durante toda nuestra vida. En la bondad de Dios, podemos ofrecer oraciones por nuestros seres queridos que no están físicamente presentes entre nosotros. Así como Cristo, al entrar en la humanidad, fue ofrenda para las personas de todos los tiempos y lugares, no sólo para los que estaban presentes ante Él. No nos desanimemos, más bien, seamos siempre un pueblo de esperanza, que no dejemos que los desafíos de nuestro mundo, de nuestra vida, nos frenen para ser un pueblo de ofrenda. Porque ese es el corazón que el Cristo-niño nos muestra tener.

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

Con las bendiciones de nuestro recién nacido Salvador,

P. Rosenbaum.

Parish News



It is in Baptism that one is welcomed into a community of faith.

As a parish community,

"WE WELCOME YOU."

■ Vincent Joseph son of Brian & Angelina
■ Steder, nee Spiotta

Zackary Eugene, son of George & Jessica Valker, nee Schroedter

Ethan William, son of George & Jessica Valker, nee Schroedter

Adoration in the Church

There will be no Adoration in the Church on the following Mondays:

December 25, 2023 January 1, 2024

Monday Adoration will resume on Monday, January 8, 2024 at 3:00pm.

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

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

Parish News

Update on 2023 Coat Drive for Mission of Our Lady of the Angels

Our coat drive ended the last weekend November. Your response to Sr Stephanie's request for coat donations to The Mission of Our Lady of the Angels in Humboldt Park Chicago, was again amazing!

December 2 was the handout and the line for coats extended over a city block. Thanks to the generosity of the people of St Alexander many people in that neighborhood now have warm winter coats.

- Our parish was able to provide 26 cases of new winter coats with for total of 312 coats.
- We collected 170 + used coats.
- I would also like to acknowledge these contributors who helped to make the drive so successful:
 - ⇒ Fr. Tran and the Society of the Divine Word, donated \$5000
 - ⇒ Our Knights of Columbus council #8365, donated \$1000 and helped order coats in bulk at a great price. They also donated \$1000 to the Mission's food pantry.
 - ⇒ Mittens for Mary knitting group, made and donated beautiful handmade hats and scarves.
 - ⇒ A special thanks to those parishioners who donated a total of \$2000 allowing us to buy new coats.

And thanks to those volunteers who sorted, bagged, and delivered all the donated coats!

St. Alexander, you are special parish.
-Deacon Matt

Christmas Mass Schedules

St. Alexander

To fulfill the Sunday Obligation, there will be Mass on Saturday, December 23 at 5:00pm and Sunday, December 24 at 8:30am & 10:30am.

There will be no 6:00pm Spanish Mass on 12/24.

Sunday, December 24th—Christmas Eve Masses
4:00pm, 6:30pm, and 12:00 Midnight
(Christmas caroling will begin at 11:15pm)

Monday, December 25th—Christmas Day Masses
8:30am, 10:30am and 6:00pm in Spanish
January 1, 2023—Mary the Mother of God
(Not a Holy Day of Obligation for 2023)

St. John the Apostle Christmas Mass Schedule

Monday, January 1, 2024: 9:00am

Sunday, December 24th—Christmas Eve Masses 5:00pm and 10:00pm Monday, December 25th—Christmas Day Masses 9:00am, 11:00am and 12:30pm



Faith Formation & Parish News

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

Faith Formation held a La Posada on Sunday, December 10, 2023. Thank you to all the volunteers and the Spanish Choir who led everyone in song.

Introduction and Opening Prayer:
Gathering: "A Journey with Mary and Joseph"

At the time of Caesar Augustus, when Quirinius was governor of Syria, a census was ordered. Everyone was required to travel to their own home town to be registered. So Joseph traveled from where he lived in Nazareth tohis ancestral home in Bethlehem. His betrothed, Mary, accompanied him on the journey despite the fact that she was pregnant,. Scripture tells us that



when they arrived in Bethlehem, they had difficulty finding lodging in the crowded town and finally had to settle for an animals' stable. It was there that the road-weary parents welcome the birth of



their first-born child, and made a bed for him in the hay of the animals' feeding trough because there were no better accommodations.

The story of Mary and Joseph seeking refuge is a story repeated by refugees, immigrants and exiles in many times and places throughout the world. It is the story of the Sojourner, the Pilgrim, searching for a new land and a new life. It is our story as well. We have all been sojourners of some type at some time in our lives. We have al sought refuge and safety, sustenance and security. Tonight, let us rejoin the journey of the refugee. God into La Posada, the Inn: God's house of

refuge and hospitality. The group of Travelers now walk the path to the first Posada. As they walk, the group can sing verses of a Christmas Carol.

Prayer:

Father in haven, our hearts desire the warmth of Your love and our minds are searching for the light of Your Word. Increase our longing for Christ our Savior and teach us to understand that in submitting to those over us with joyful obedience, we permit Your loving designs for each of us to be accomplished. Amen.



Mexican tradition: Pidiendo Posada

When reenacting Mary and Joseph's quest for shelter in Bethlehem, participants in the traditional Posada processions stop to sing a litany at several designated homes. The verses alternate one by one between those seeking lodging outside and those responding from behind the door.

Prayer Intentions



- 25. Sr. M. Yvonne Weidner OSF, Sr. Vivian Whitehead OSF
- 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.
- Sr. Dolores Zemont OSF, Sr. M. Margaret Ann Zimmerman OSF
- 30. Sr. Lucille Adelmann OSF
- 31. Sr. Dorothy Clare Zuleski OSF, Sr. Helen Zulka OSF

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

Charles Baker, Pete Connelly, Bill Conroy,
Marissa Fairbanks, Sandra Krutz,
Reinelia Leiva, Mary Mullen, Carol Nance,
Fr. John Ouper, Brianna Payne, Paloma,
John Rich, Jr., Jon Riley, James Rohrich,
Jerry Spearman, Fr. Daniel Stempora,
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



Our Faithful Departed

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

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 Anne & Rick due 7/2024

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.



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.

Stewardship

Sunday Collection: 12/10/2023	\$5,445
Online Giving (WeShare) 12/5—12/11/2023	\$4,220
Weekly Goal	\$8,654
YTD Actual Sunday Coll \$2	218,890
YTD Goal Sunday Coll—52 weeks\$4	450,000
Major Maintenance 12/10/2023	. \$342
Major Maint. Online Giving 12/5—12/11/2023	\$80

November 2023 Weekly Envelope Giving: \$24,590

November 2023 Online Contributions

Sunday Collections	\$12,395
Major Maintenance	\$180
Miscellaneous	\$885

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



Record of 2023 Contributions

Your 2023 tax statement will be sent to you the last

week of January 2024. Any 2023 contributions must be received no later than Friday, January 5, 2024 with the check dated December 31, 2023. Please mark your contribution envelope clearly "2023" 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!

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.
- 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.

I	***************************************
	Name:
	Address:
	City/Zip:
	Phone:
	New Parishioner[] New Address
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Parish/Deanery/Diocesan News

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

Eastern DuPage Deanery Join Us As We Welcome Fr. Michael Pawlowicz

"Understanding the Structure of the Vatican"

January 22, 2024 7:00pm Immaculate Conception Church 132 Arthur Street Elmhurst, IL 60126

Priests, Deacons, staff, council members, and all parish leadership are encouraged to attend. All are welcome to join us for an engaging presentation!

Please go to easterndupagedeanery.org after December 1st to register.

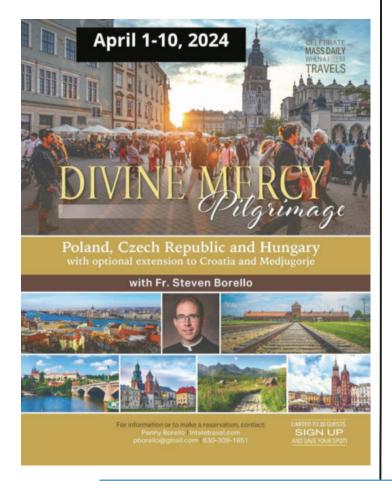
A priest of the Diocese of Joliet, Fr. Michael is currently working in for the Apostolic Nunciature of Indonesia.

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Parish/Deanery/Diocesan News





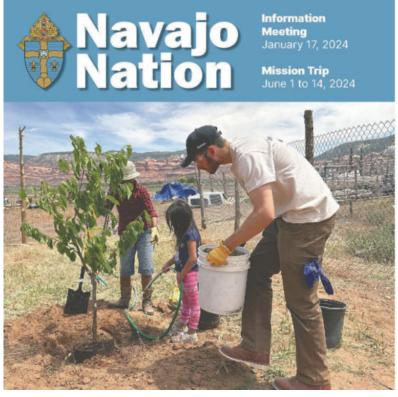
Two of our choirs, *Joystir and Chancel*, are looking for an accompanist.

- 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.



The Diocese of Joliet will return to Navajo Nation for a two-week mission focused on construction and outreach from June 1 to 14, 2024.

The Diocese of Joliet has been putting faith into action—through intentional service and solidarity with the poor—in Chinle, Arizona, for 20 years.

The Office of Mission is seeking parishioners (18+) willing to help local area families with light construction work. No experience is necessary, but a heart willing to serve is required! Missionaries stay on the campus of Our Lady of Fatima, and the trip will include a pilgrimage to New Mexico's Loretto Chapel and it's "miraculous staircase."

An informational meeting on the mission trip will be held at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, January 17, 2024, at the Blanchette Catholic Center in Crest Hill (16555 Weber Road).

Questions?

Alex Buldak Mission Lead abuldak@dioceseofjoliet.org (815) 221-6256 **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.orgParish e-mail:office@stalexanderparish.orgBulletin 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 @ 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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