



# The Dome

ASCENSION CHURCH OF OAK PARK

*A Stewardship Parish, Sharing Our God-Given Gifts in Service  
March 20, 2011, Second Sunday of Lent*

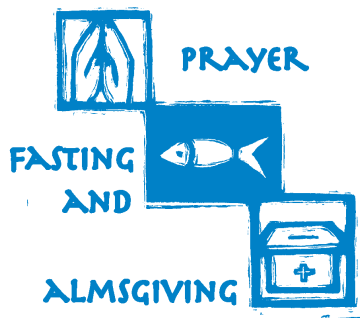
## Change

*Take time this week to reflect and pray over today's Reading's: Genesis 12:1-4a; Psalm 33; 2 Timothy 1:8b-10; Matthew 17:1-9*

Lent is all about change, and change is usually not easy. In order to change we have to leave something behind. Today we hear about a very old man who decides to answer God's call. Abram experiences a tremendous amount of change when he leaves everything behind, risking it all for God's promise. Jesus changes, is transfigured, right before the eyes of his disciples. The Lenten scriptures issue the call for us to change, to be transfigured, so that we, too, will soon share in the glory of God. What is it that the Lord is asking us to leave behind? Are we willing to take the risk for the promise made by God? These questions are at the heart of the Lenten journey of conversion.

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*To help you prepare for the Third Sunday in Lent: Exodus 17:3-7; Psalm 95; Romans 5:1-2, 5-8; John 4:5-42*



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## Lent This Week

### LENTEN PROJECT

Got A Dollar? - Guatemala!

### EVENING PRAYER

Tuesday, 7:00 PM, Church

### ARTIST GEORGE ROUALT 'S

### SACRAMENTAL VISION OF DIVINE LOVE

Thursday, March 24, 7:00 PM

Dominican University

### LENTEN CROSSES

Pamphlet of Household Activities for Every Family

### OPERATION RICE BOWL

Prayer, Fasting and Almsgiving for the world's poor

### FISH FRY

Friday, March 25, 5:00 -7:30 PM, Pine Room

### LENTEN DAILY PRAYER BOOKS

Available in back of church

### ROSARY

Monday through Friday, 7:45 AM

### DAILY MASS

Monday through Friday, 8:15 AM

### CONFESSION

Saturday, 4:00 – 4:30 PM

### ONLINE ARTICLE ABOUT LENT

- [www.ncregister.com/daily-news/40-ways-for-these-40-days](http://www.ncregister.com/daily-news/40-ways-for-these-40-days)
- <http://onlineministries.creighton.edu/CollaborativeMinistry/Lent/patterns.html>
- [www.americancatholic.org/newsletters.CU/ac0204.asp](http://www.americancatholic.org/newsletters.CU/ac0204.asp)



## ASCENSION CHURCH

Parish Center: 808 S. East Avenue

Oak Park, IL 60304

Tel.: 708-848-2703

Fax: 708-848-2773

### Office hours:

M-Th: 8 AM - 8 PM

Friday: 8 AM - 4 PM

S/S: 8:30 AM -1:30 PM

### Bulletin Articles

ascensiondome@msn.com

### E-Mail

ascensionchurch@comcast.net

Personnel can be reached by first initial last name

@ascensionchurch.com

### Web-sites

www.ascensionchurch.com

www.ascension-school.com

www.archdiocese-chgo.org

### Pastor

Rev. Larry McNally 848-2703

### Pastoral Associate

Victoria M. Tufano 434-1533

### Director of Institutional Advancement

Lynn Fredrick 434-1558

### Director of Music

David Anderson 434-1535

### Director of Religious Education

Christine Ondrla 848-3099

### Director of Youth Ministry

Daniel Lawler 434-1555

### School Principal

Mary Jo Burns 386-7282

### Parish Office Support Staff

Financial Secretary:

Mary Pat Landa (M-F) x221

Administrative Secretary:

Rosemarie Nowicki (M,T,W) x231

Sacramental Secretary:

Joanna Cundari (Th, F) x 230

### Pastor Emeritus

Rev. Robert A. Cross

### Weekend Assistants

Rev. Jerry Bleem, OFM

Rev. Ray Guiao, SJ

### Deacon Couples

Lendell & Tina Richardson

Roger & Betty Vandervest

Joe & Kathie Walsh

Infant & Toddler Care is available during the 9 & 11 a.m. Masses in the Cry Room of the Church.

## *From the Pastor*

### DEAR FAMILY OF ASCENSION,

Lenten Greetings! Congratulations and God's most merciful blessings on our First Reconciliation Class. May you continue to experience the sacramental forgiveness of our Lord Jesus in your young lives. I thank their parents for leading them to this next sacrament by your own witness of faith. I thank Christine Ondrla, Mary Jo Burns, our teachers and catechists for preparing our parish children for this healing sacrament of our Church. God bless you all!

I thank our Religious Education Program for last week's Mardi Gras celebration; what a good time! And what a nice crowd! The Mardi Gras attendance is growing in number each year. Thank you to our organizers and thank you to our participants of all age groups for an enjoyable evening.

Thanks to Lynn Fredrick, Mark Winters and the chefs and the wait-staff for last Friday's delicious Fish Fry. Thanks for bring our parish together socially and for a good cause, Guatemala! The next Fish Fry is this Friday, March 25, starting at 5 p.m. Thanks, everyone!

I would like to thank our Ascension's Women Cooperative for a delicious, wonderful and most enjoyable St. Patrick's Party last Saturday night. It was a grand evening all night long. The pastor certainly enjoyed himself again this year and bringing a doggie bag home was a bonus. Back in 2003, the St. Patrick's party was the first Parish Party that I attended and I have enjoyed every single one of them since. I thank our organizers and our party-goers for their support of our Women's Cooperative.

I would like to thank Marriage Mentors David and Suzanna Holmes for their outstanding presentation on Marriage last Sunday morning. It was very well done and I thank you. I wish that more of our parishioners would attend our *Parents First* talks, which will resume in the Fall; they have all been so good.

I would like to thank our many parishioners for your support and participation in our annual Youth Ministry Bake Sale. I certainly appreciate it as your generosity goes to a VERY GOOD and COMPASSIONATE CAUSE! Our Teens told me that quite often last weekend, they were told, "no change back." Thanks, everyone!

I also thank our generous parishioners who participated in last year's Catholic Appeal 2010. Thanks to your generosity, we received a rebate of \$1,331.84. This rebate was put into our operating account.

*(Continued on page 3)*

*(Continued from page 2)*

*I see where Gonnella Bakery is celebrating their 125<sup>th</sup> year in business. The original owner supposedly left in his memoirs the fact that someone told him, "Go yeast, young man! Go yeast!"*

As we begin this second week of Lent, we can add to our Lenten Prayer life by attending this week's Evening Prayer beginning at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday and as we have our regular morning Mass at 8:15 a.m., please know that our neighbors over at St. Bernardine have an evening Mass at 7 p.m. during Lent. Please keep reading our DOME for the practical ways and ideas of practicing Almsgiving this Lent.

By now I certainly hope that ALL of you have received the pastoral letter, Ascension's version of *Catholics Come Home*. The feedback on the letter has been positive, and I am glad. I hope that you will reach out to someone who has stopped coming to Mass and invite him/her to come to Mass with you or come with you to one of our formational, educational, or social gathering. Or put the pastoral letter into their hands with the hope and prayer that they would contact one of us listed on the back. A parishioner asked me to send someone a letter who might benefit from it, and I did. Please feel free to ask me to do the same. May our God and the Holy Spirit bless and guide us in our pastoral efforts.

Our four Catholic Parishes of Oak Park are sponsoring a presentation on the Revised Roman Missal on Monday, March 28, beginning at 7 p.m. at St. Giles Parish (northwest corner of Columbian and Greenfield). The presentation will be given by Todd Williamson, a wonderful, knowledgeable person of faith, who is the Director of the Office of Divine Worship for the Archdiocese. He is just a good, likeable guy. Todd will give us the background of the third Edition of the Roman Missal, a sample of the new text, as well as having an open-mike to hear your hopes and concerns. If you were unable to be at Vicky and David's presentation, this would be a good session to attend or as an addition to what you already heard at their presentation.

I hope you heard about and saw our *Tree of Service* in the East Ave. vestibule of our church. It is up to

each one of us to feed the tree with our acts of service in keeping with our Parish Council's *Spotlight on Service*. As I have said since day one, YOU have an outstanding sense of service, a consistent witnessing of service within our parish boundaries and outside our community. There is no doubt in my mind that the symbolic feed put in the trunk of the *Tree of Service* will fill up nicely and quickly. May God continue to bless you in your good service within and outside our parish family.

Elsewhere in our DOME is last week's Offertory collection summary. I thank you for your generosity. I thank you for ALL that you do for our Family of Ascension.

I thank you for praying for our First Reconciliation Class. I ask you to please keep in prayer, Lauren Haeger-Montino and Ian and Megan Reilly as they prepare for their baptism at the Vigil on Holy Saturday. I thank you.

I pray for you every day.

*Recently in Paris, France, a stash of beautiful and expensive jewelry was found in their sewer system. Talk about "diamonds in the rough!"*

Have a good and Holy week of Lent 2011.

GOD'S BLESSINGS!



### **Ascension Mission Statement**

*Ascension Parish in Oak Park is a Catholic community called to proclaim, to reflect on, and to live the Gospel. Our desire to follow Jesus inspires us to continue the rich traditions of our faith by supporting education for children and adults, celebrating the liturgical life of the community, and serving those in need within our Parish and beyond. Following the example of Jesus, we value the diversity of gifts in all people and all are welcome.*

## ***Got a Dollar? —GUATEMALA!***

This morning I watched a child walking to school. She was carrying a very large backpack. It looked like quite a heavy burden. I thought about the even heavier burden of the children in Guatemala—they have no books to carry.

When speaking to the children of Ascension about our project, I asked them what they would do if someone gave them a dollar. There was a variety of ideas. But for children in this community, a dollar is not a large sum of money—it can't buy many things. In Guatemala people live on \$2 a day. One dollar is a great deal of money to them.

What about \$15? They could definitely think of more things to buy with that amount of money. In Guatemala, \$15 can buy a book, some book supplies, or a pair of shoes. That is how we developed the name for our Lenten Project this year: Got a dollar?—Guatemala! Instead of thinking about what we can buy for ourselves, we are challenged to change our thinking. We are invited to think about using our money to buy something for the children of Guatemala.

This week we invite you to consider contributing enough money to purchase a book for a child. By the end of Lent, a Lenten box filled with \$15 can purchase a picture book for a classroom. I encourage you to count the number of books in your home. Perhaps, if you have a household like mine, that will be a very large number. In families with children, just limit yourself to the children's books you own. Can you contribute 5¢ for each book in your home so a child in Guatemala can have just one? Lent is about changing the way we think and the way we act. Lent is about changing ourselves. And if we change ourselves, we can truly change the world.

*Christine Ondrta*

## ***First Eucharist Peace Service***

Families preparing their children for First Eucharist will attend a Reconciliation/Peace service on Monday, March 21, at 7:00 p.m. in the Church. Parishioners are also invited to attend this beautiful family experience.

## ***Lenten Crosses: Shaping the Cross***

This week we continue working with the "Lenten Crosses" booklet. If you do not have one, please check the entrances to the church or call the religious education office.

Last week this Lenten project invited us to gather the materials that symbolize the cross we carry this Lent. It was a challenge. If you have not made a final choice about the materials you will use, continue to search for a while longer but make a decision soon.

This week's focus will be on shaping the materials you've gathered into the form of a cross. I have gathered many small pieces for my cross. The pieces can be arranged in a variety of ways. I've ordered them one way in the shape of a cross but they do not seem to adequately represent the cross I am dealing with this Lent. I plan to rearrange the pieces until I am satisfied with how it looks.

When I think about this process it helps me reflect on how I see my cross. The way they are arranged now makes my cross/my burden seem simpler than it is. Maybe it is easier than I think. Or, after thinking about it, I might decide my cross is heavier than it appears in this arrangement. Restructuring the pieces might give a more accurate picture. Keep trying different configurations until you are satisfied with the way your cross looks.

Use the Lenten Crosses booklet for suggestions. There are many different types of crosses represented in it. Take some time to pray and reflect. Know that your brothers and sisters of Ascension join you in this activity. Let us pray for one another this week.

***Have you gathered up a  
group to attend our Variety  
Show to be held on Saturday,  
April 9th at 8 p.m. in the  
Pine Room?  
\$15 tickets will go fast!***



*Everyone to whom much is given, of him much will be required. (Luke 12:48)*

Being of service to others has always been important in my life and is central to my concept of being a Christian. More than three years ago, before I retired as a school social worker, I felt the call to become a volunteer for Oak Park's *Ten Thousand Villages* store at 121 N. Marion. This non-profit, fair-trade store sells the handicrafts of skilled artisans in 38 developing countries in Latin America, Africa, Asia and the Middle East, and the artisans receive a fair wage to support their families. The store provides a market for the artisans' goods and shares their stories. Many of the artisans are people who would have no other means of support, such as widows and handicapped people. I knew that it was important for me in retirement to use my time and energy in a meaningful way.

Through my visits to my daughter, who has lived in Guatemala for the past seven years, I have become committed to wanting to help people in developing countries. Many Guatemalans (as well as people in other underdeveloped countries) have a strong desire to succeed and support their families, but lack the opportunities for education or the social supports or the government structural supports provided to Americans. In Guatemala, environmental catastrophes due to earthquakes, volcanoes and tropical storms, as well as political instability and lack of infrastructure, further complicate their lives.

It is rewarding to be able to make a contribution in this small way to help the poor by working in the store as a volunteer. I have learned more about fair trade and the lives of our artisans and their work, and have been able to share this knowledge with our customers.

The *Ten Thousand Villages* store is run by volunteers. If you have at least eight hours a month to volunteer for this worthy cause, call the store at 708-848-4572.

*Dottie Hetzel is a Lector, Eucharistic Minister, Variety Show Player and member of the parish for 35 years.*

*Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. (Philippians 3-4)*

***No Religious Education  
Classes on March 27, 29, & 30  
because of Spring Break.  
Classes will resume on  
Sunday, April 3, Tuesday, April 5  
and Wednesday, April 6.  
Enjoy your vacation!***

### ***Thank You***

Thank you to everyone who contributed cards, pens, stationary, gallon sealed plastic bags and stamps to the Mother's Day project for Incarcerated Women in Dwight, Illinois. It will certainly make corresponding with their loved ones on Mother's Day so much easier. God bless all of you!

### ***To Continue Our Spotlight on Service***

The Archdiocese of Chicago has asked the Ascension community for help in supporting the *40 Days for Life Prayer* Campaign going on across the country. We are in need of volunteers to take part in a prayer vigil in front of the Planned Parenthood at 1200 N. LaSalle in downtown Chicago on Tuesday, March 22nd. This is a great way to accumulate some service hours, and to pray for something so important - life. If you are interested or want to know more, please contact Cara Carmody at [caracarmody@yahoo.com](mailto:caracarmody@yahoo.com).

***Engaging in Ethical and  
Respectful Dialogue in  
Service to the Church  
An Application of the Principles of  
Cardinal Bernardin***

Wednesday, April 6th, 7:30 PM, Pine Room

Sr. Katarina Schuth, OSF, is a noted scholar and frequent presenter to lay and clerical audiences world-wide and a trustee of the Bernardin Center at Catholic Theological Union. She will address ways for Church members and leaders to renew the spirit of cooperation and to restore damaged relationships within the Church and in our places of work. This presentation will focus on practices that enable participants to engage in fruitful dialogue as they discuss issues of concern in dimensions of their spiritual, personal, and professional lives. Using the principles first articulated by Cardinal Joseph Bernardin in his efforts to bring harmony to the Church, Sr. Schuth will provide practical examples of how to use words in a healing and uniting way. Don't miss this creative and timely application of the legacy of Cardinal Joseph Bernardin. The presentation is sponsored by The Ascension Adult Formation Committee.

***A Young Adult Lenten  
Morning of Reflection***

The theme, *Searching, Seeking & Seeing: A Lenten Morning of Reflection*, for young adults, 20s and 30s, married and single, at St. Eulalia Church, 1851 S. Ninth Ave. Maywood, on Saturday, April 2, from 9 a.m. -noon. For more information or to RSVP please contact Elise Ainsworth at 708-488-5112 or by email [eliseab@yamchicago.org](mailto:eliseab@yamchicago.org)

***Operation Rice Bowl  
Second Week of Lent:  
With the Help of God***

On our own we cannot live the life God intends for us. Like Abraham, our lives can produce great fruit only if we follow God in faith. This week, pray for the grace to follow God with stronger faith. Pray also for the gift to see the poor in our midst so that we may assist them, for the fruit of faith is love. Catholic Relief Services' Operation Rice Bowl supports programs that help the vulnerable in communities in Indonesia and around the world. Please take a box from church and fill it during this Lenten season.

***Chi Town Jazz Festival for  
Hunger Relief at Fitzgerald's  
Our Own Fr. John Moulder!  
Saturday, March 26, 8 PM  
\$15 Minimum Donation***

Please mark your calendar and come to the Chi Town Jazz Festival. The festival's director, Fr. John Moulder, has brought together an illustrious group of jazz artists and bands who are donating their performances for the cause of hunger relief in Chicago. This year's festival promises to be a lot of fun and showcase Chicago's amazing jazz talent! The money from the admission charge and donations goes directly to Greater Chicago Food Depository, PADS and the Catholic Charities soup kitchens who work hand in hand towards hunger relief. We appreciate your support! Visit [chitownfestival.org](http://chitownfestival.org) for more information about other locations and on how you can take part in the festival and donate to the cause of hunger relief. Join us for an evening of exquisite jazz that will nourish your soul.

The book, *Pope Joan*, will be discussed on Monday, March 21, at 7:30 p.m. in the Parish Dining Room. Even if you've read this book earlier, we hope you will join Linda Hoag for this gathering.

## ***Envisioning the Holy Convergence of Beauty and Social Justice***

***“GEORGES ROUAULT’S SACRAMENTAL VISION  
OF DIVINE LOVE AND HUMAN SUFFERING”***

***BY ARTIST GAEL MOONEY. SPONSORED BY THE  
ADULT FORMATION COMMITTEE***

***THURSDAY, MARCH 24, 7-9 P.M.***

***DOMINICAN UNIVERSITY, 7900 W DIVISION,  
RIVER FOREST, LEWIS HALL, LEWIS LOUNGE***

This Lenten evening will consist of a film, an illustrated lecture, and a viewing of some of the etchings from Rouault’s masterpiece, *Miserere*, in the holdings of Dominican University. New York based artist Gael Mooney, who writes and teaches on the intersection between art and spirituality, will share her reflections on the underlying spiritual vision of Rouault’s work. Mooney will explore the convergence of beauty and social justice in the series of etchings for *Miserere*, as well as in Rouault’s circus performers who, as stand-ins for Christ, are archetypes of divine love and truth. The evening will also provide the rare opportunity to see Joel Danet and Loic Rabine’s documentary about Rouault, “Painting to Infinity.” This film is not available for commercial distribution. The evening will conclude with a brief prayer service incorporating a memorial to Oscar Romero on this 31st anniversary of his assassination.

Tickets: \$10 at the door. Half price admission for students and faculty. Free parking. (Kindly consult [www.dom.edu](http://www.dom.edu), click on About Us and scroll down to Campus Map for location of Lewis Hall and Campus Parking - west parking lot or parking garage are close by.)

Rides: If you would like a ride (carpool) from Ascension to DU, please contact Vicky Tufano ([vtufano@ascensionchurch.com](mailto:vtufano@ascensionchurch.com)), and she will be glad to arrange this.



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***Next Sunday  
8:30 a.m.—1 p.m.  
saracgallagher@  
gmail.com***

## ***Ascension Class Reunions***

Ascension graduates from the classes of 1956, 1961 and 1966 are holding class reunions this year.

The Class of 1956 is scheduled for September 17, 2011. For information please contact Kathleen Sweeney at 708-383-4586.

The class of 1961 reunion is being held on Saturday, June 25th. Please contact John Tourtelot at [drummerjohn500@yahoo.com](mailto:drummerjohn500@yahoo.com).

The Class of 1966 is holding their reunion on Saturday, October 8th. For more information please contact Mary Pollard Hustad at 708-383-0816; John McHugh at [jmchugh@cinci.rr.com](mailto:jmchugh@cinci.rr.com); April Ross Moon at [april.moon@bairdwarner.com](mailto:april.moon@bairdwarner.com), 708-935-6183; or Sue O’Brien at [sobrien@kentlaw.edu](mailto:sobrien@kentlaw.edu).

If you are a graduate from Ascension School and would like help planning your class reunion please contact Lynn Fredrick at the Ascension Advancement Office, 708-434-1558.

## ***Help St. Martin de Porres Food Pantry Today!***

Alan Shawn Feinstein is a millionaire who “believes we were put on this earth to help those in need.” For the past 13 years he has been giving away \$1 million each year to anti-hunger agencies throughout the country. He will do it again this year, and we want St. Martin’s pantry to benefit from this. During the months of March and April whatever is donated to St. Martin’s Pantry over and above what would have been donated will be matched by Mr. Feinstein. So if you make a check to the Pantry each month, give a little more in March and April and say it is because of the Feinstein Challenge. If you give food, would you give a little more during those 2 months? The men at St. Martin know about this challenge and will look for increases in weight. Mr. Feinstein will match \$1 per item or pound donated above the usual. St. Martin may benefit by a minimum of \$250.00 or a maximum of \$35,000.00. If you want to understand this more fully go to [www.feinsteinfoundation.org](http://www.feinsteinfoundation.org)

## ***Feast of Faith***

### ***THE FIRST READING***

Each Sunday, we listen to three scripture readings. The first reading usually comes from the Old Testament. “The New Testament lies hidden in the Old; the Old Testament comes fully to light in the New,” we read in the *Introduction to the Lectionary*. “Christ himself is the center and fullness of the whole of Scripture” (5). On Sundays, these readings usually have a close connection to the Gospel. In this season of Lent, for example, the Exodus account of the thirst of the Israelites in the desert is paired with the Samaritan woman’s encounter with Jesus at the well. Ezekiel’s vision of the Lord raising people from their graves is paired with the narrative of Christ raising Lazarus from the dead.

The readings are taken from many sources—historical books like Judges, Kings, and the Acts of the Apostles, prophets like Isaiah and Ezekiel, wisdom literature like Proverbs or Ecclesiastes. But no matter its genre, the first reading always ends with the same acclamation: “The word of the Lord.” The scriptures are written by human authors who wrote in widely different cultural and historical contexts, but these human authors are also divine instruments through whom God speaks to us. And so we say, “Thanks be to God.”

—Corinna Laughlin, © Copyright, J. S. Paluch Co.

## ***Bereavement Support Meets This Monday***

If you have suffered the loss of a loved one and can’t seem to get your life back together, please consider joining our group that meets every third Monday of the month. Our own Charlotte Sugg, RN LCSW (retired), facilitates the gathering at Rush Oak Park Hospital in Room B. No registration is required and there is free parking across the street on Maple. Please join us as we work through our loss and pain.

## ***Readings for the Week***

Monday	Dn 9:4b-10; Lk 6:36-38
Tuesday	Is 1:10, 16-20; Mt 23:1-12
Wednesday	Jer 18:18-20; Mt 20:17-28
Thursday	Jer 17:5-10; Lk 16:19-31
Friday	Is 7:10-14; 8:10; Heb 10:4-10; Lk 1:26-38
Saturday	Mi 7:14-15, 18-20; Lk 15:1-3, 11-32

## ***Feast Days***

Wednesday: St. Toribio de Mogrovejo

## ***We Need Your Help***

Legislation to RESTORE funding to the Textbook Loan Program has been introduced in the Illinois House and Senate: House Bill 1199 & Senate Bill 1964. The Textbook Loan Program has been in operation since 1975. Its purpose is to provide secular textbooks, learning materials and instructional computer software to public and nonpublic school students grades K-12. Although the bulk of the program’s funding goes to public schools, Catholic schools have long depended on this program and have used the benefit to continually update math, science, and reading textbooks, as well as to purchase new instructional software for technology labs. According to the Illinois State Board of Education’s (ISBE) published analysis, the Textbook Loan program impacts 2.1 million students and 164,000 educators. Fully funded, the program provides approximately \$40 per student to use for the purchase of approved materials, and serves every grade on a two-year cycle: Kindergarten thru 6 one year; grades 7 thru 12 the next. Can you call or email your State Rep and State Senator TODAY and ask for their support of House Bill 1199 & Senate Bill 1964? *Considering the widespread service of this program, we hope and urge you to include funding for this program in the next fiscal year budget. Thank you for your support!*

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Lisa Reed at reedoakpark@gmail.com.

***Have you picked up your Lenten Prayer Book or Rice Bowl container or information on Guatemala or your Cross Kit from the Church?***

## Mass Attendance

Mass Attendance .....1,498

## Financial Update

Total Weekly Offering ..... \$17,224.50

Weekly Need..... \$19,275.00



YTD Budget ..... \$713,175.00

YTD Offering ..... \$669,690.09

Deficit ..... (\$\$43,484.91)

Ascension Parish is entirely funded by private donations. Thank you for your kind and generous support of all the ministries of our community.



CAPITAL DEBT ..... \$186,942.04



**Catholic Campaign For Immigration Reform**  
"I was a stranger and you welcomed me.."

(Matthew 25:35)

Venerable John Paul II in 2001, emphasized that "[the universal common good] includes the whole family of peoples, beyond every nationalistic egoism. The right to emigrate must be considered in this context. The Church recognizes this right in every human person, in its dual aspect of the possibility to leave one's country and the possibility to enter another country to look for better conditions of life"

*HIS HOLINESS BENEDICT XVI,*  
*World Day of Migrants and Refugees, 2011*

Office for Immigrant Affairs and Immigration Education  
At the Archdiocese of Chicago, 3525 S. Lake Park Ave, Chicago, IL 60653  
Elena Segura (312)-534-5333, [esegura@archchicago.org](mailto:esegura@archchicago.org)

## Ekklesia to Meet

A program titled *The Garden Way to God: A Spirituality of Gardening* will be presented by Ekklesia, a Christian adult education organization, at 9:15 a.m. on Wednesday, March 30th.

Father Robert Pawell, OFM, preacher, Director of Programs, St. Peter's Church, will speak at St. Giles' McDonough Hall, 1101 N. Columbian, Oak Park.

The lecture fee is \$6 and the site is wheelchair accessible. All are welcome.

## Meetings and Events

<b>Today</b>	<b>March 20</b>		
Religious Ed Class	CP/LL		9:00 am
RCIA	209 & 215		9:30 am
Rel Ed Lenten Speaker	Pine Room		10:00 am
Extend the Word	Dining Room		10:15 am
Blue & Gold Reception	Pine Room		12:00 pm
AYM O Gym	Gym		6:00 pm
<b>Monday</b>	<b>March 21</b>		
CRHP II	215		7:00 pm
1st Euch Peace Serv	Church		7:00 pm
<i>Pope Joan</i> Discussion	Chapel		7:30 pm
St. Vincent DePaul	Dining room		7:30 pm
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>March 22</b>		
Girl Scouts #41072	Pine room		3:00 pm
Religious Ed Class	PR/DR/CP/ LL		6:55 pm
Evening Prayer	Church		7:00 pm
Schola	Church		7:30 pm
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>March 23</b>		
Choristers	Church		3:15 pm
Religious Ed Class	DR/CP/LL		3:30 pm
VS Rehearsal	Pine Room		7:00 pm
Choir	Church		7:30 pm
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>March 24</b>		
Girl Scout #40615	Pine Room		3:00 pm
Oak Park Candidates	Pine Room		7:30 pm
<b>Friday</b>	<b>March 25</b>		
Girl Scouts #40928	Pine Room		3:00 pm
Lenten Fish Fry	Pine Room		5:00 pm
Dancing w/The Stars	Pine Room		8:30 pm
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>March 26</b>		
Work Ministry	Dining Room		7:30 am
VS Rehearsal	Pine Room		12:00 pm
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>March 27</b>		
Blood Drive	Pine Room		8:30 am
RCIA	209 & 215		9:30 am
Extending the Word	Dining Room		10:15 am

## Golden Jubilee Gala

Connect with classmates, friends and family and share in our celebration of 50 years of excellence in education on Saturday, April 9, at Drury Lane, from 6 p.m. to midnight.

Please call 708-562-7488 or email, Stephanie Morton, [smorton@stjoeshs.org](mailto:smorton@stjoeshs.org) or Joseph Tortorich, [jtortorich@stjoeshs.org](mailto:jtortorich@stjoeshs.org) for more information.

## Pray for the Sick

Marty Biau, Sarah Bowman, Michael Brady, Kay Bracco, Lorraine Brzozowski, Josephina Carmona, Joe Cassidy, Mary Colombo, Charles Crowe, Rey Dominguez, Jennifer Fischer, Malissa Groth, Simon Gutierrez, Meri Hale, William Hall, Bruce Hanessian, Patricia Hanley, Ester Hitchner, Pat Koberstine, Thomas P. Kragie, Anne Marie Kuhny, Fay Kutz, Kathleen O'Bryan Kurrle, Annina Lementavich, Gerry & Mary Logan, Jan Lorenzen, Rosita Malmis, Mary Massura, Mary Ruth McGrath, Dellwyn Meewes, Ken Morten, Frank Murphy, Emilia Ortiz, Estelle Pargulski, Regan Pierce, Philip Rice, Joseph Rigali, Jeanne Riordon, Anne Sandow, Caleb Savino, Tom Slott, Steven Sobie, Annette Spillane, Mary Stapleton, Elizabeth Stohl, Mary Strenski, John Sugrue, Jean Sullivan, Mikayla Sweeney, Sr. Joan Thomas, Mary Thomas, Jesse & Sonia Vasquez, Nancy Welch and David Wojcik.

May our prayers bring them healing and peace.



Please pray for the repose of the soul of  
**Josephine Wanderling,**  
 mother of Mickie Lewis  
 and for her family and friends.

**Christ Jesus . . . destroyed death  
 and brought life and immortality  
 to light through the gospel.**

- 2 Timothy 1:10b

## Masses for the Week

### SUNDAY – March 20

*Second Sunday of Lent*

- 5:00 (Sat) Jack Joyce / Carol Finnegan
- 7:30 Deceased Parishioners
- 9:00 Tom Sugrue / Leo Pargulski
- 11:00 John Clarizio / Jerome, Michael & Anna Marie Gilardi / Anne Marie Bellavia
- 5:00 Kevin Anthony Sanders

### MONDAY - March 21

*Lenten Weekday*

- 7:45 Rosary (Monday—Friday)
- 8:15 Carmie Ray Collins

### TUESDAY - March 22

*Lenten Weekday*

- 8:15 Daniel O'Brien
- 9:15 School Mass-Mr. Palmer

### WEDNESDAY - March 23

*St. Toribio de Mogrovejo, bishop*

- 8:15 Thomas & Mary Murphy

### THURSDAY - March 24

*Lenten Weekday*

- 8:15 Alice D. Wyco

### FRIDAY - March 25

*The Annunciation of the Lord*

- 8:15 Mary Jane McNally / Fortunee Noone

### SATURDAY - March 26

*Vigil: Third Sunday of Lent*

- 5:00 Mary Riordon / Carol Finnegan

### SUNDAY - March 27

*Third Sunday in Lent*

- 7:30 Patrick Gibbons / Carol Huberty
- 9:00 Jaylani Guadalupe / Mary Grace Cibula
- 11:00 Loris Touhey / Peter Puccetti
- 5:00 Arlene Olson

#### This Week March 19/20

#### Next Week March 26/27

5:00 pm	Fr. Jerry Bleem	Fr. Larry McNally
7:30 am	Fr. Richard Wood	Fr. Larry McNally
9:00 am	Fr. Larry McNally	Fr. Larry McNally
11:00 am	Fr. Jerry Bleem	Fr. Jerry Bleem
5:00 pm	Fr. Larry McNally	Fr. Jerry Bleem

## PARISH INFORMATION

**Sacrament of Reconciliation:** Saturday 4:00 - 4:30 PM.

**Infant Baptism:** Our parish celebration of infant Baptism takes place at 1 p.m., on the 2nd, 3rd and 4th Sundays of the month. A preparatory session for parents is held on the second Saturday of the month in the Parish Center at 9:30 a.m. First-time parents are required to attend. To register for a preparatory session, or to schedule a baptism, please call the parish office.

**Adult Initiation:** Adults interested in information about the Catholic faith or wanting to become Catholic, should contact Vicky Tufano, ext 233.

**Weddings:** Please make an appointment with Fr. Larry to pick up a wedding information packet at the Parish Office at least a year prior to selecting a date or reception hall.

**Sick Calls:** If there is anyone at home who cannot attend Mass or receive the sacraments because of illness or old age, please contact the Parish Office or one of the Ministers of Care Coordinators: Susie Cahill, 383-7238, Linda Dunne, 848-5574, or Cece Masella, 383-3785.

**Registration:** All newcomers are welcome to the Ascension family and are asked to pick up a census/registration envelope at the entrance of the Church or by downloading a form from the parish website. Parishioners who marry, have a baby, or move to a new address should also notify the Parish Office.

**Audio Devices** are available for the hearing impaired. Please see an usher or greeter before Mass.

**Lost & Found Box** is under the table in the church vestibule.

Parish Office: 708-848-2703

**Bulletin deadline: Monday 5 p.m. Please deliver articles to Parish Office or email to [ascensiondome@msn.com](mailto:ascensiondome@msn.com)**