

# Old St. Mary's Catholic Church

DECEMBER 8, 2024

EVERY VALLEY  
SHALL BE  
**FILLED.**

LUKE 3:5

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

## Our Lady of Guadalupe

Thursday, December 12



Join us for our parish-wide celebration of the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Patroness

of the Americas, on December 12. We will have events throughout the day, including a mañanitas celebration at 6:30 AM, and an evening mass at 7:00 PM.



## Simbang Gabi

Thursday, December 19



A beloved tradition in our parish, join us for our yearly celebration of Simbang Gabi on Thursday, December 19. Mass is at 7:00 PM with a parish fiesta afterwards. To learn about ways to help with Simbang Gabi, [visit here](#).

1500 S MICHIGAN AVE, CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60605 - CHICAGO'S FIRST CATHOLIC PARISH ESTABLISHED IN 1833.  
THE PAULIST FATHERS SERVING OUR PARISH SINCE OCTOBER 12, 1903.

## The Giving Tree at Old St. Mary's

Please consider taking an ornament from our Giving Tree and purchasing the gift indicated on it. Many of our partner organizations request gift cards as a way to empower individuals to make their own shopping choices. This year your gifts will benefit:

- ◆ Little Brothers—Friends of the Elderly
- ◆ St. James Catholic Church Social Care Ministry
- ◆ Our Lady of Sorrows Parish
- ◆ Envision Unlimited
- ◆ Kolbe House



You can read about the work performed by these organizations in our [November 17 bulletin](#).

**Please return gifts by Wednesday December 11.**

If you wish to make a donation instead use this link:

<https://ppay.co/46leDxPAAg0> or scan the QR code.



## FLOWERS FOR THE ALTAR



Remember your loved ones at Christmas with a gift of flowers for the altar. **With a donation of \$25, we will publish the name(s) of the person(s) to be remembered in our *January 12* bulletin.**

*If you receive parish envelopes, there is an envelope in your packet which you can use for this purpose. There will also be envelopes in the Commons available for everyone's use.*

You can also make a donation through Pushpay. <https://ppay.co/LaXLLI5I5N4> or you can use the QR code to the right.



Old St Mary's Catholic Church  
Flower Donation



We welcome the following newly registered parishioners to the Old St. Mary's Parish community:

Nicholas & Nina Capuano and  
sons Luca and Nino  
Kayla Cate  
Mary Dallal

## Adult Advent Mini Retreat Series

continues reflecting on the  
Themes of Advent



**Saturday, December 14 3:00–5:00 PM**  
*Joy* with Maryann Cushing

**Saturday, December 21 3:00–5:00 PM**  
*Love* with Tina Carter

RSVP to [LFF@oldstmarys.com](mailto:LFF@oldstmarys.com)

## Reconciliation Services



We continue with our reconciliation services in December. Each starts with a brief Liturgy of the Word, followed by the opportunity for individual confessions with one of several priests. Three of the four remaining services are especially intended for children in grades 2-8 to attend with their families; the final one is for the rest of our community.

Please join us!

*Family Reconciliation Services*  
Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday,  
December 9-11, 6 pm

\*\*\*\*\*

*Community Reconciliation Service*  
Monday, December 16, 6:30 pm

## Pastoral Message

### Pastoral Reflection for the Second Sunday of Advent

In this week's gospel, we are given the opportunity to reflect on the theme of the Second Week of Advent, which is PEACE. What is peace? When we think of peace, it is usually in contrast to chaos, war, noise, and other intrusive or overwhelming times. This is all true, but it can be tough to achieve. Advent is a time of preparation. This week's gospel is all about preparing the way of the Lord. I find Advent to be an interesting time. We are asked to look inward in order to act outward, but this isn't unique to what is asked of us all year. We just don't always do a great job of realizing it.

We are reminded in today's gospel about baptism, which John was performing in the Jordan River for tens of thousands of people, even for Jesus later on. What does baptism offer us? New life. We die to our old selves and are made a new creation. Now, many of us were babies when we were baptized, so the worst thing we were dying to in ourselves was the crying we did that keep our parents/caregivers up all hours of the night. Why, then, do we offer this sacrament so early? Original sin. It is the stain of Adam and Eve's first mistake that lives on in our human nature. God gives us the opportunity for that to be wiped away and to become new. This does not mean there is an expectation of perfection, but learning. As the babies we baptize grow up, they make all kinds of mistakes as they become social and are presented with the opportunities to make the right or wrong choices. This is also why we offer the sacrament of Reconciliation for children because we want to instill in them the love and mercy of God and know that the love of God outweighs the wrong decisions they make as long as they are sorry.

Focusing on peace during Advent is about focusing on the things we need to do to bring about hope, joy, and love (the other three themes of Advent). As we prepare for Christ to enter our lives again, we need to reflect on the ways we bring about peace in our lives and the ways we don't. Are we causing negative disturbances in the lives of others in the form of racism, sexism, homophobia, and other forms of discrimination? Are we disrupting the world around us by over polluting the air, ground, and destroying animal life? Does our anger guide our decisions? Unjust anger breeds unjust actions. Are we complacent to any or all of these?

Peace takes effort and so does following Jesus. Let's think ahead a couple of weeks and look at the full Nativity (when Jesus is present in the manger). What a powerful scene. The humility, the vulnerability, but also what love, what joy, what hope in the child, and what PEACE. "...all is calm."

During this second week of Advent, on December 12, we will celebrate the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe. This is the story of the apparitions of the Virgin Mary to San Juan Diego, an indigenous man in Mexico on Tepeyac Hill. Mary instructs Juan to go to the bishop and have a church be built on the hill. When Juan does so, the bishop denies him because the bishop looks down on Juan, but Juan does not give up. He does doubt his ability because of his status, but always tells Mary when she instructs him to return to the bishop that he will do as she says. Eventually, Juan asks Mary to send him with a sign because the bishop does not believe him without one. Mary, seeing Juan's faith and resilience, asks him to pick the roses from the hill (which was miraculous because it was winter) and carry them in his tilma (cloak) to the bishop and make his request again. When Juan does this, he presents the roses to the bishop and when he drops them, an image of the Virgin Mary appears on the tilma and the bishop realizes his mistake. He ordered the construction of a church immediately. Today, the tilma of San Juan Diego is preserved at the Basilica of Guadalupe in Mexico City, completely intact. The story of the apparition of Our Lady of Guadalupe has a number of overtones, one of the primary ones being that Juan was unbelievable because he was "just an indigenous man." We know that throughout Christian history, our Blessed Mother has a habit of appearing to those who were "unbelievable" and reconciled groups of people, in this case being the indigenous and Spanish in a common devotion. Mary's call is for us to unite in her son and believe in the shared humanity in each other, an effort to help us find peace.

¡Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe, ruega por nosotros!

*Oblate James Holzhauser-Chuckas, OLB*



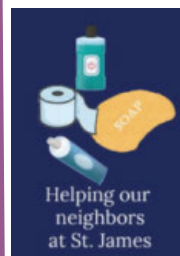
## Seeking volunteers for the new Buildings and Grounds Committee

As mentioned previously, we are looking for individuals to form a new Buildings and Grounds Subcommittee of the Finance Council. Parishioners/School families have come forward with expertise in mechanical, plumbing, and engineering. We are still in need of parishioners and school families who can provide guidance and direction in the areas of **IT/Communications, electrical and general contracting**. As the buildings on our campus age, our staff needs additional guidance on the best ways to maintain our facilities.

We will begin meeting quarterly in January 2025. Meetings will be held on weekday mornings, with the first meeting scheduled for the week of January 6.

Anyone with interest should reach out to Dawn Burns at [dawn@oldstmarys.com](mailto:dawn@oldstmarys.com) or 312-922-3444 x23 by Friday, Dec 13.

Old St. Mary's School  
**BOOK FAIR**  
 December 11th-13th  
 Petermann Parish Center  
 8:30AM - 5:00PM  
[www.osmschool.com](http://www.osmschool.com)



We continue to collect hygiene products for the clients of St. James Food Pantry. In addition to the usual toothbrush, deodorant, etc., they have requested the following: **feminine products, diapers size 4 and 5, bar soap, and adult socks.**

These items may be dropped off at anytime in the baskets in the commons or at the front office.

Thank you for your generous support of the St. James Food Pantry! Learn more about St. James Food Pantry [here](#)

### Using an IRA required minimum distribution (RMD) to make a charitable gift

At age 73, IRA owners are required to take an annual distribution from their retirement account. The required minimum distribution (RMD) is taxed at ordinary income rates, however it is possible to make a qualified charitable donations (QCDs) directly from an Individual Retirement Account (IRA) to a qualified charity. QCDs can be counted toward satisfying required minimum distributions (RMDs) for the year. The IRA assets go directly to the charity, so donors don't report QCDs as taxable income and don't owe any taxes on the QCD, **even if** they do not itemize deductions. A QCD allows for a transfer up to \$105,000 per individual or \$210,000 per couple to satisfy your RMD. Some donors may also find that QCDs provide greater tax savings than cash donations for which charitable tax deductions are claimed. Your accountant can provide thorough advice on how to make this transaction and achieve the most tax savings benefits. It is good to start the process now so that it is completed before the end of the 2024 tax year. You can also find information about this on the Archdiocese of Chicago website <https://myimpact.archchicago.org/qcd/>

## Mass Intentions

Sunday, December 8 - 8:00 AM  
Nena Fogata

11 AM + Virginia Joson Myrick and  
Richard Myrick

4 PM People of the Parish

Monday, December 9 - 8:30 AM  
+ Enrique & Gorgonia Mulingtapang

Tuesday, December 10 - 8:30 AM  
+ Tranquilino, Jr. & Seigfred Daclan

Wednesday, December 11 - 8:30 AM  
+ Lourdes & Miguel Medija, Sr.

Thursday, December 12 - 8:30 AM  
+ Victoria Stolarski

7:00 PM + Jesus & Loreto Joson

Friday, December 13 - 8:30 AM  
Marisa Alcorn

Saturday, December 14 - 5:00 PM  
+ Carlito & Max Daclan

## Who the Heck is Father Isaac Hecker???

by Margie Halliwell



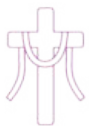
Isaac Hecker suffered from smallpox as a child and his mother feared for his life. It is said that he reassured her by saying, "No, mother I shall not die now. God has work for me to do in the world and I shall live to do it."

God certainly did have work for him to do! Hecker went on to establish the Paulist Fathers in 1858 on 59th Street in New York City where the Mother Church resides today. From there he traveled

extensively over the next years preaching missions as far west as Chicago. Always looking for the most effective approach for reaching his fellow Americans, Isaac turned to publishing his ideas. In 1866 he established what is now the Paulist Press.

Isaac Hecker had 30 more very productive years after he had established the Paulist order. He passed away at the Paulists' Mother house in Manhattan in 1888. Perhaps what he said to his mother as a young child was a blessed premonition.

## INTERESTED IN BECOMING CATHOLIC?



The Order of Christian Initiation of Adults is a process of spiritual and educational formation designed for those who are considering following Christ in the Catholic Church. There is also a version for children over the age of seven who need to "catch up" on their sacraments.

Our gatherings for the 2024-25 OCIA process have started, but we can accommodate those who join us later. To inquire for yourself or someone you might know, contact Oblate James Holzhauser-Chuckas, ObSB at [james@oldstmarys.com](mailto:james@oldstmarys.com)

## "Happy 205th Birthday, Fr. Hecker!"

Next Sunday, December 15, 2024, the Paulist Associates invite you to celebrate the birthday of Servant of God Isaac Hecker, the founder of the Missionary Society of St. Paul the Apostle, known as the Paulist Fathers, who have staffed Old St. Mary's Catholic Church since October 12, 1903. Celebration takes place after the 11 AM Mass.

### Do you want to learn more about the readings at Mass?

- For more on the readings at Sunday Masses during Advent, go to [staustin.org/sundays-of-advent](https://staustin.org/sundays-of-advent)
- For more on the readings at daily Masses during Advent, check out [staustin.org/advent-by-day](https://staustin.org/advent-by-day)

**Readings for Masses** on every day of the year can be found at <https://bible.usccb.org/readings/calendar>. You can also find them on the OSM Parish app in two locations, Home Tab, Mass, Daily Mass Readings or More Tab, Daily Mass Readings.

**MASS TIMES**

**SATURDAY:**  
5:00 pm

**SUNDAY:**  
8:00 am, 11:00 am & 4:00 pm  
*8 am & 11 am are  
livestreamed.*

**DAILY MASS:**  
8:30 am  
Monday through Friday  
*Daily Masses are livestreamed.*

**PARISH/SCHOOL  
PHONE/WEBSITE INFO**

**PARISH PHONE:**  
312.922.3444

**PARISH WEBSITE:**  
[www.oldstmarys.com](http://www.oldstmarys.com)

**SCHOOL PHONE:**  
312.386.1560

**SCHOOL WEBSITE:**  
[www.osmschool.com](http://www.osmschool.com)

**SACRAMENTS****BAPTISMS:**

PLEASE GO TO OUR  
WEBSITE TO REGISTER  
YOUR CHILD(REN) FOR  
BAPTISM.  
YOU WILL BE CONTACTED.

**CONFESSIONS:**

4 PM SATURDAY  
AND BY APPOINTMENT

**Exposition of the  
Blessed Sacrament**

Fridays from  
9 AM to Noon.

**PARISH STAFF**

**Father Rich Andre, CSP**  
Pastor, ext. 29  
[frrich@oldstmarys.com](mailto:frrich@oldstmarys.com)

**Father Dan Macalinao, CSP**  
Associate Pastor, ext. 20  
[frdan@oldstmarys.com](mailto:frdan@oldstmarys.com)

**Ace Gangoso**  
Director of Liturgy and Music  
**Starts January 2025!**

**Oblate James Holzhauer-Chuckas, ObSB**  
Dir. Lifelong Faith Formation  
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**Vanesa Jackson,** Receptionist  
**Mamie Smith,** Receptionist  
**Mattie Young,** Receptionist

**Lorena Villegas,** Maintenance  
\*\*\*\*\*

**Father Robert M. Cary, CSP**  
Senior Paulist In-Residence

**HOSPITALITY**

We're always looking for parishioners to help with our Hospitality Ministry after the 8 AM and 11 AM Sunday Masses. Your warm welcome makes a big difference!

Ready to serve? Sign up here: <http://bit.ly/osm-hospitality>

**A New and Contactless Way of Giving!**

Our new TipTap Contactless Giving Kiosk in the commons allows you to easily give with a chip-enabled credit card, Apple Pay, or Google Wallet. Simply tap your credit card or phone to the dollar donation of your choice (\$5, \$10, \$20) and wait for a beep. It's that simple! Tax receipts available upon request.

**And yes: you can tap an amount more than once. You can also tap a combination of amounts to reach the total that you wish to give.**

Thank you for your continued support of OSM's mission!

**Open gym for ADULTS  
ONLY on Sundays at  
6:30 PM.**

If you are new and wish to join the group, download the OSM Parish App. Search OSM Parish in the Apple or Google Play store. Under the MORE tab, go to Adult Open Gym and complete the form to signup and follow the instructions to join the group.

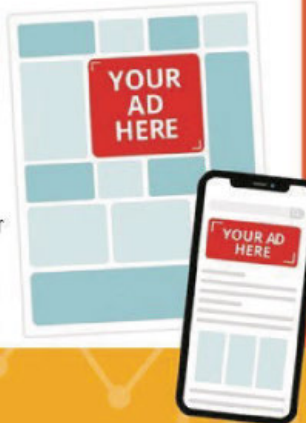


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800-950-9952x2131

### Our giving platform is Pushpay.

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You can also access it from our website, our parish app or from this QR code.



You can also DONATE TO OLD ST. MARY'S with Zelle through your bank. Use email address [give@oldstmarys.com](mailto:give@oldstmarys.com)

BULLETIN SUBMISSIONS: Please Email items to [bulletin@oldstmarys.com](mailto:bulletin@oldstmarys.com).

Thank You!

PLEASE VISIT <https://heal.archchicago.org>

To learn about what the Archdiocese does to protect children, heal victims and make sure all priests and church leaders are held accountable.

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- English as primary language
- Live within 200 miles of Chicago

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PHONE NUMBER  
(312) 355-1790

WEBSITE  
[Metsforms.ahs.uic.edu](http://Metsforms.ahs.uic.edu)

RESEARCH COORDINATOR  
Alison Wathen

Principal Investigator: Dr. Rob Mott,  
Kinesiology and Nutrition  
UIC STUDY2022-1354

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