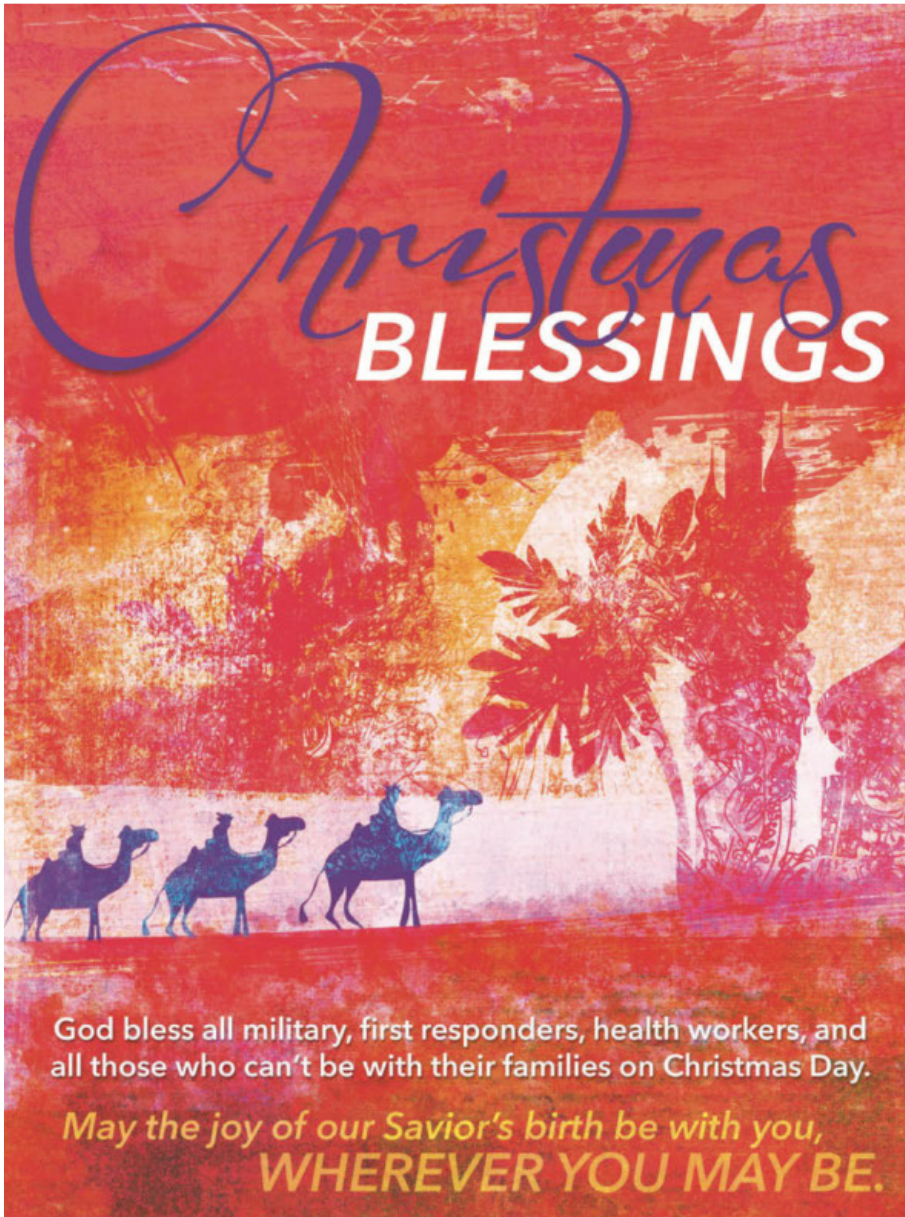


Old St. Mary's

Catholic Church

Parish Mission Statement

Old St. Mary's welcomes and accompanies everyone on their faith journey. Inspired by the Holy Spirit, our diverse community encourages people to grow their relationship with Jesus Christ and one another through Eucharist, worship, prayer, education, and service.



Mass Times

**December 22,
Fourth Sunday of Advent**

Sat. Dec. 21 - 5 PM

Sun. Dec. 22
8 AM, 11 AM, & 4 PM

DEC. 24, CHRISTMAS EVE
4 PM & 7:30 PM

DEC. 25, CHRISTMAS DAY
8:30 AM & 11 AM

**December 29
Feast of The Holy Family**

Sat. Dec. 28 - 5 PM

Sun. Dec. 29
8 AM, 11 AM, & 4 PM

**January 1, 2025
Solemnity of Mary,
Mother of God**

10 AM

Bulletin for December 22, 2024 and December 29, 2024

Established as Chicago's first Catholic parish in 1833.
Old St. Mary's Catholic School established in 2004.
Served by the Paulist Fathers since 1903.
1500 South Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60605-2183

Pastoral Message

Christ Is Born For Shepherds, Magi, and Everyone In Between

Welcome! Whether this is your first time or your four-thousandth time worshipping at Old St. Mary's, we're glad that you're with us. Although our parish was established before Chicago was incorporated, we are still an active, welcoming parish in the fastest-growing neighborhood of the city. No matter your religious affiliation, you are most welcome here!

In this year when war threatens all people who live in the land of Jesus' birth, no matter their religion or ethnicity, we are all too aware how much must be done to bring about peace on earth. We fervently pray that all the people who live there can flourish as God intends. We also pray for people facing violence in Syria, Ukraine, South Sudan, Haiti, and so many other places that don't often make the headlines. We pray for the more than 100 million people — 1.2% of the world's population! — who are immigrants, nearly a third of whom are refugees. We pray for a world tottering on the edge of the crises of injustice, poverty, inadequate healthcare, climate change, and many other policies that devalue human life.

What can our prayers accomplish? We cannot achieve peace, save the planet, solve the refugee crisis, or justly solve economic imbalance without God. If we can quiet ourselves long enough, God will provide the wisdom we need... and perhaps work some miracles, too. When we gaze upon the Nativity scene, we see God, in Christ, flanked by Mary and Joseph, two people who trusted enough to allow God to work through them. God also needs us to make change happen. We at Old St. Mary's do not claim to have all the solutions to the problems facing our world. But when so many people see only hopelessness, we still see hope. In so many of the world's problems today, we are repeatedly asked to pick between two over-simplified stories, when the truth lies somewhere in the middle. Neither Israelis nor Palestinians, neither Republicans nor Democrats, neither liberals nor traditionalists, have the full grasp of the truth, beauty, and dignity that God envisions.

The Nativity scene shows us that disparate people can share a common narrative. Shepherds were among the lowest of the low in Judean society. The magi were wealthy foreigners who were not Jewish and probably did not speak Aramaic. Mary and Joseph would soon become refugees. Yet all these people came together as part of a common narrative we tell of the adoration of Christ, the very heart of creation.

Message continued on page 3.

MASS TIMES

Christmas Eve

Tuesday, December 24


4 PM and 7:30 PM

Christmas Day Masses

Wednesday, December 25

8:30 AM and 11 AM

New Year's Day, January 1, 10 AM



The Paulist Fathers and
Staff of Old St. Mary's
wish everyone a
blessed and joyous
Christmas and a
Happy and Healthy New Year.

Pastoral Message - continued from page 2

Today at Old St. Mary's, strengthened by our remarkable diversity, we search together for answers provided by God's presence among us. Since 1833, we have been a community of innovative evangelization. We were Chicago's first cathedral. Fr. Augustus Tolton, the first openly African-American priest, did much of his early ministry through Old St. Mary's. Since 1903, the Paulist Fathers have been the administrators of this parish while also using Chicago's railroads to evangelize the Upper Midwest. Our choir and its director inspired the Oscar Best Picture of 1944, *Going My Way*. While other Chicago churches closed their doors to outsiders, we welcomed wave upon wave of immigrants into our community. Even today, as the United States Church seems to be thinning and greying, our parish is filled with a remarkable number of talented families and young adults, harnessing the energy of our largest ministry, the award-winning Old St. Mary's Catholic School.

On behalf of the entire staff and worshipping community of Old St. Mary's Catholic Church and School, we warmly welcome you and wish you a blessed and holy Christmas season. God understands our challenges. Christmas demonstrates that even when things seem far from perfect, God can still find a way. As we transition to a new year, we recall these words of Pope Francis: "Joy adapts and changes, but it always endures, even as a flicker of light born of our personal certainty that, when everything is said and done, we are infinitely loved" (*Evangelii Gaudium*, #6). We are infinitely loved by the God who comes to dwell among us.



Rev. Richard R. Andre, C. S. P.



We welcome the following new parishioners to the Old St. Mary's Parish Community.

Augusto Ornelas
Sarah Kaminsky and daughter Cooper
Kelly Weikel

INTERESTED IN BECOMING CATHOLIC?

The Order of Christian Initiation (OCI) is a process for people to discern becoming Catholic outside of the "average timeline" of initiation. We have three tracks at Old St. Mary's for children, for teens, and for adults. You can learn more about becoming Catholic by contacting Oblate James Holzhauer-Chuckas, ObSB at james@oldstmarys.com

Sunday Faith Formation for Elementary School Families

Our Sunday Faith Formation program is for kindergarten-5th grade students and meets on most Sundays from 9:30-10:30 am. Through our dedicated catechetical leaders, our students learn a variety of curriculum-based lessons. In this program, our students in second grade are prepared for the sacrament of Reconciliation; they will be prepared for Eucharist in second grade in 2025 and then in third grade in the 2025-26 academic year. You can learn more about faith formation for children and families by contacting our team at LFF@oldstmarys.com.

JOIN US!

Looking for a parish that will accept you exactly as you are on your faith journey? You have found it here at Old St. Mary's! Become a registered parishioner; it's easy to sign up. Just use this link <https://oldstmarys.com/registration-form/>

YOU'RE INVITED!**Knights Around The World****Sunday, January 26, 2025****Time: 12:00—2:00 PM**

We are excited to bring back OSM's

KNIGHTS AROUND THE WORLD!

Come witness the showcase of colorful diversities from our student body! Travel with us around the world to learn about culture, taste exotic foods, and enjoy cultural performances.

If your student is interested in participating in any way, scan the QR code below to complete the Google form. Opportunities include booths and posters, cultural performances, and bringing in foods. For any questions about the event

Jazel: familysugay@gmail.com
Binisa: binisa.shah@gmail.com

**RETIRING**

While this time of year is filled with joy and happiness, our Parish office is sad to announce that Ms. Renette Coachman is retiring from her duties at OSM as of December 31. We are grateful that she worked 6 months past her intended retirement date to help us through the transition to a new priest team in July!

Many of you know the name: Renette has been doing the bulletin for the past 13 years along with numerous other duties that keep our offices running smoothly (sacramental recording, social media, and the website to name a few). She is a team player, a rule follower, a fantastic photographer and a wonderful friend. We wish Renette all the best as she embarks on this new journey. We will miss her around the office, but we hope to continue to see her in the pews.

Thank you for everything, Renette!!!

Is the Holy Spirit Calling You to be a Paulist Associate?
by Levita Anderson

Paulist Associates are non-ordained people who uphold and support the mission and ideals of the Paulist Fathers, the priests who have served Old St. Mary's for the past 122 years. The gifts we have help us to grow spiritually in connection to our founder, Servant of God Isaac Hecker's vision for the American Catholic Church and the Paulist community.

If you are ready to use your gift in spreading the mission and ideals of the Paulist community, we welcome you as a Paulist Associate! You can come to our meetings, which are every second Tuesday of the month at 6pm, and participate in the discussions we have from *The Associates World* monthly programs, and articles from other Associates. You can also join us in prayer and contemplation as we discuss the writings of Fr. Hecker and how they pertain today.

If you feel a special connection to the mission and ideals of the Paulists, we hope you will prayerfully consider becoming a Paulist Associate. To learn more, please email paulistassociates@oldstmarys.com



Here at Old St. Mary's we support our neighboring parish St. James on Wabash and the clients of their Food Pantry. That support consists of a monthly collection on the 1st Sunday of each month and the continuous collection of hygiene products such as toothbrush, deodorant, etc., feminine products, and diapers which can be dropped off at any time. Learn more about St. James Food Pantry [here](#)

Mass Intentions - Week of Dec 22

Sunday, December 22
8:00 AM +Thomas Cadimas

11 AM + Colin McKenna

4 PM - People of the Parish

Monday, December 23 - 8:30 AM
 + Eugenio Joson & Pastor Joson

Tuesday, December 24
 8:30 AM Gianna Nelson

4 PM + Emilia & Socorro Joson

7:30 PM + Jaime Imbag

Wednesday, December 25
 8:30 AM + Jaime Imbag

11:00 AM + Corritore & Volini Families

Thursday, December 26 -8:30 AM
 + Timothy Ganze

Friday, December 27- 8:30 AM
 + Carmelita Lucente

Saturday, December 28 - 5:00 PM
 + Angelico Tiongco

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

For more on the readings for Solemnities and Sunday Masses during the Christmas season, go to staustin.org/sundays-of-christmas
 For more on the readings at daily Masses during the Christmas season, go to staustin.org/christmas-season

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 Parish website, and the OSM Parish app in two locations, Home Tab, Mass, Daily Mass Readings or More Tab, Daily Mass Readings.

Mass Intentions - Week of Dec 29

Sunday, December 29
8:00 AM + David E. Alcorn

11 AM + Loreto & Jess Joson

4 PM - People of the Parish

Monday, December 30 - 8:30 AM
 + Louise & Virginia Beatty

Tuesday, December 31 - 8:30 AM
 + Gianna Nelson

Wednesday, January 1 - 10 AM
 + Victoria Stolarski

Thursday, January 2 -8:30 AM
 All Souls in Need

Friday, January 3 - 8:30 AM
 Medy Manuel

Saturday, January 4 - 5:00 PM
 + Patrick Duffy



Confirmation Preparation and Youth Ministry for Middle School

Our Confirmation program is a three-year sacramental program for youth in 6th-8th grade. 6th and 7th grade students prepare for the sacrament, receive the sacrament in 7th grade, and engage in a pastoral year in 8th grade to begin to live the graces received from the sacrament. You can learn more about our Confirmation program and middle school youth ministry by contacting our team at confirmation@oldstmarys.com.

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**SCHOOL PHONE:**

312.386.1560

SCHOOL WEBSITE: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**Father Dan Macalinao, CSP**

Associate Pastor, ext. 20

frdan@oldstmarys.com**Ace Gangoso**

Director of Liturgy and Music

Starts January 2025!**Oblate James Holzhauer-Chuckas, ObSB**

Dir. Lifelong Faith Formation

ext. 26

james@oldstmarys.com**April Greer,**

School Principal

312-386-1560

agreer@osmschool.com**Dawn Burns**

Business Manager, ext. 23

dawn@oldstmarys.com**Lauren Huelster**

Executive Assistant to Fr. Rich

lauren@oldstmarys.com**Barbara Escobar**

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Facility & Parish Events

Coordinator

patti@oldstmarys.com**Renette Coachman**

Bulletin Editor

bulletin@oldstmarys.com**Vanessa Jackson, Receptionist****Mamie Smith, Receptionist****Mattie Young, Receptionist****Lorena Villegas, Maintenance**

Father Robert M. Cary, CSP

Senior Paulist In-Residence

Children's Liturgy of the Word (CLW)

Children's Liturgy of the Word is offered to children in early childhood and elementary grades during most of our 8:00 am and 11:00 am Sunday Masses. During this gathering, the Word of God is broken open for children to pray and discern how God is speaking to them. You can learn more about CLW and getting involved as a CLW catechist by contacting Sonjia Waxmonsky at CLW@oldstmarys.com.

Adult Faith Formation Opportunities

Adult Faith Formation offers classes, programs, and other opportunities for adults to grow in their faith through faith formation, prayer and worship, Christian service, and discipleship. Our regular weekly group meets on Wednesday mornings at 9:30 am after 8:30 am daily Mass. You can learn more about faith formation for adults by contacting Oblate James Holzhauer-Chuckas, ObSB at james@oldstmarys.com.

SHARING YOUR TREASURE

At Old St. Mary's, every contribution—big or small nurtures our faith community. Your generosity, through financial donations, volunteering, or joining our outreach, supports our spiritual growth and helps those in need.

You can give [online](#) as a one-time or recurring gift or [visit our website](#) for other options. You can zelle through your own bank to give@oldstmarys.com.

Our new TipTap Contactless Giving Kiosk in the commons also makes giving easy: just tap your credit card or phone to select a donation amount (\$5, \$10, or \$20). Thank you for supporting OSM's mission

Our giving platform is Pushpay.

To begin using Pushpay as a way to share your treasure go to

<https://pushpay.com/g/oldstmarys/>

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



OLD ST MARY'S has a SOCIAL MEDIA presence.

Bulletin Submissions: Please Email items to

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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Alison Wathen

Principal Investigator: Dr. Rob Mott,
Kinesiology and Nutrition
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