

⊕ Old St. Mary's Catholic Church

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.



THE FEAST OF THE CONVERSION OF ST. PAUL

JANUARY 26, 2025

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 S. Michigan Ave., Chicago IL 60605 | 312-922-3444 | www.oldstmarys.com

PASTORAL MESSAGE

A Mission-Driven Parish

The Parish Pastoral Council drafted an updated mission statement in October, collected parishioner feedback on it in November, and revised the statement in December. You now see the final version on the front of every bulletin: ***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.*** We're quite pleased with it, but it definitely deserves further commentary. Here are some initial thoughts:

Church has changed a lot in the 21st century! Even 25 years ago, most Catholics envisioned that people would first *believe* in the faith, then come to church to learn how to *behave* as disciples, and eventually develop a sense of *belonging* to the community. Today, if someone is going to join a faith community, they usually need to experience a sense of belonging before they will be interested in the community's beliefs and behaviors. ***Old St. Mary's excels at helping people understand that they belong.*** That is at the heart of our current mission statement.

Isn't this just like every other Catholic parish mission statement? No. We explicitly emphasize welcome and accompaniment as our core values. Deeply rooted in our Catholic identity, our mission statement honors that each person's journey of faith is unique. Our doors are open to all people. Old St. Mary's is a place where everyone can explore faith and spirituality with no pressure or preconditions. Whether a person is searching for God, curious about Catholicism, or simply seeking a community to which they can belong, they should feel at home here.


Why doesn't it mention the Paulist Fathers? Not everyone knows who the Paulists are. We didn't want to use any unfamiliar terms that would alienate newcomers. All are welcome.

Why doesn't it mention our history or the school? A mission statement needs to be concise, expressing who we are now and who we desire to be in the near future. We tried to shoehorn a mention of our history and the school into the statement, but the extra words diluted our main message: ***Old St. Mary's welcomes and accompanies everyone on their faith journey.*** You'll note that we've added information about the school at the bottom of the bulletin cover, which has previously mentioned only the parish history and the Paulists. Even though the current mission statement is finalized, you can email councilparish@oldstmarys.com with your suggestions for rewording the information at the bottom of the bulletin cover.

Does this give adequate guidance about our priorities? We think so, for now. A mission statement should guide an organization for 2-5 years before being revisited. At this point, we are still recovering from the pandemic and revitalizing the basics of ***Eucharist, worship, prayer, education, and service.***

Together, we will continue discerning who God calls this community to become. Probably by Autumn 2026, the Pastoral Council will begin planning a mission discernment process for the entire community of Old St. Mary's Catholic Parish and School.

Many thanks to everyone who has contributed to the crafting this statement, especially the members of the Parish Pastoral Council!



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



Old St. Mary's
Catholic Church

HAPPENING THIS WEEKEND



Catholic Schools Week

SUNDAY, JANUARY 26

9:30 AM - 10:45 AM: Open House (School)

11:00 AM: Mass (Church)

12:15 PM: Knights Around the
World (Gym)



All are welcome -
we hope to see you
there!

Catholic Schools
United in Faith and Community

Altar Server

FAMILY CELEBRATION

Wednesday, January 29

6:00 - 7:30 PM

Donovan Hall

Calling all altar servers and their families! Join us for an evening celebrating our altar server ministry. There will be food, fellowship, and prayer.

Pls. RSVP to:

altarserver@oldstmarys.com

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, January 26

8 AM Charles Young (+)
11 AM Amelia & Telesforo Pascual (+)
4 PM For the people of the parish

Monday, January 27

8:30 AM Carlito & Max Daclan (+)

Tuesday, January 28

8:30 AM Dora Phillips (+)

Wednesday, January 29

8:30 AM Cardinal Cody (+)

Thursday, January 30

8:30 AM Laura Thompson (+)

Friday, January 31

8:30 AM Rosie Mae Lee (+)

Saturday, February 1

5:00 PM Jeffrey Radford (+)



St. James Food Pantry

Old St. Mary's proudly supports the St. James Food Pantry with ongoing donations of hygiene items like toothbrushes, deodorant, feminine products, and diapers. Donations are welcome anytime. Please drop them off in the commons or the parish office.

To learn more, visit www.stjameswabash.org/food-pantry/.

Interested in Being Catholic?

The Order of Christian Initiation (OCI) is a process for those discerning becoming Catholic outside the typical timeline of initiation. At Old St. Mary's, we offer three tracks: one for children, one for teens, and one for adults. Contact: Oblate James Holzhauser-Chuckas, ObSB obl.james@oldstmarys.com.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

The readings for the week can be found on the US Catholic Bishops Conference website at: <https://bible.usccb.org/>

LEARN MORE ABOUT THE BIBLE

St. Austin Catholic Church, with Fr. Rich, has created an online guide to explore Bible readings from Mass.

Visit staustin.org/lectionary-guide.

In the first four weeks of Ordinary Time, we hear from "The Letter of St. Paul to the Hebrews." Though not a letter or authored by Paul, it's a profound treatise in refined Greek, explaining Christ as our high priest to those familiar with Jewish rituals. Learn more at staustin.org/weeks-1-4-in-ordinary-time-year-i.

Fires in Los Angeles

Our hearts go out to all those impacted by the devastating fires in Los Angeles—the families displaced, the first responders working tirelessly, and all facing uncertainty and loss. In times of trial, we turn to God, who is our refuge and strength. Let us keep them in our prayers, asking for protection, comfort, and hope. May we also be moved to offer support in whatever ways we can, standing in solidarity with our brothers and sisters in need.

Please consider donating to the Wildfire Relief Fund of Catholic Charities USA: www.catholiccharitiesusa.org

Bulletin Submissions

Looking to put something in the bulletin? Email bulletin@oldstmarys.com

PARISH STAFF

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Mamie Smith
Mattie Young
Receptionists

Lorena Villegas

Maintenance

Fr. Bob Cary, CSP

Priest-in-Residence

SACRAMENTS

MASS TIMES

Monday – Friday 8:30 AM
Wednesday School Mass during School Year

Saturday 5:00 PM Vigil

Sunday 8:00 AM, 11:00 AM
4:00 PM

Holy Days *contact parish office*

BAPTISM

Register at <http://oldstmarys.com/baptism/>

- To request a copy of your baptismal certificate, email fr.dan@oldstmarys.com

MATRIMONY

<https://oldstmarys.com/weddings/>
Please contact Fr. Rich or Fr. Dan

RECONCILIATION

Every Saturday from 4:00 – 4:30 PM,
or contact Fr. Rich or Fr. Dan

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Every First Friday during the 8:30 AM Mass,
or contact Fr. Rich or Fr. Dan

CONFIRMATION

Inquire at
<https://oldstmarys.com/confirmation/>

FUNERAL

Please contact Fr. Rich or Fr. Dan

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Every Friday after the 8:30 AM Mass
(9:00 AM – 11:30 AM)

Low Gluten Hosts at Mass

Low Gluten Hosts are available at mass for those with a gluten sensitivity. For a low-gluten host, arrive at least 5 minutes before Mass, visit the sacristy to request one, and receive it from the presider during Communion.



OLD ST. MARY'S SCHOOL

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1474 S. Michigan Ave.

New to the Parish?

Welcome! Register at
bit.ly/osm-registration
or scan the QR code





JOIN US FOR YOUTH COUNCIL PLANNING!

CALLING ALL YOUNG PEOPLE IN HIGH SCHOOL TO JOIN OUR NEW PARISH YOUTH COUNCIL!



We want to hear from YOU about what the Youth Council can look like at OSM! Bring your ideas for FUN, faith, and fellowship on **January 31 @ 7:00 PM** to help shape our community's next steps! There will be food!

Hospitality Ministers

Do you have a gift for making others feel welcome?



We are looking for parishioners to join our hospitality ministry in the new year! Sign up at bit.ly/osm-hospitality-2025 or scan the QR code.



Join us for a Come & See Discernment Retreat at Hecker House, the Paulist Fathers' Seminary in Washington, D.C.

Young Adults at OSM

For those in their 20s and 30s



We're restarting our young adult ministry in 2025! Scan the QR code below and sign up to be included in our mailing list.



FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO REGISTER, CONTACT:

Paulist Fr. Ed Nowak
C.S.P., Vocation Director
vocations@paulist.org
(917)763-7899
beapaulist.org/comeandsee

COMING SOON

The 2025 Annual Paulist Appeal

In most years near the end of January, Old St. Mary's hosts a speaker for the Annual Paulist Appeal (APA). The APA directly supports the Paulist Fathers' mission to share the Gospel in ways that are welcoming, inclusive, and innovative. This includes forming new Paulists, caring for senior Paulists, and advancing initiatives focused on outreach, reconciliation, and dialogue. Your contributions to the APA enable ministries that foster engagement with young adults, embrace diversity by supporting people of color and the LGBTQ+ community, empower women in leadership, and build bridges of understanding in a divided world.

This year the 2025 APA will be preached in late April. If you'd like to pledge early, visit paulist.org/apa. Thank you for your generosity!

D'VINE AFFAIR

Sunday, February 2, 2025 | 2-6pm

VENUE WEST CHICAGO | 221 N. PAULINA STREET

Expand your wine horizons! Sip and savor in style while supporting the work of Catholic Charities!

Join us at a chic, new Chicago venue and taste over 200 wines, along with appetizers, carving stations, and sweets — all while supporting our mission.

To purchase tickets for \$175 each, use the QR code or link below

catholiccharities.net/events/dvine-affair-2025/

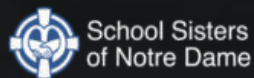
Questions? Contact events@catholiccharities.net



Giving at Old St. Mary's

Every contribution at Old St. Mary's nurtures our faith community and supports those in need. Your generosity: through donations, volunteering, or outreach, makes a difference.

Give online at
<https://oldstmarys.com/donate/>



young adult
**evening
prayer**
via Zoom

Young adults ages 18+ are invited to pray online together with other young adults and School Sisters of Notre Dame from across the U.S. and Canada.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 28
@ 8p ET / 7p CT



Learn more & register at
snd.org/events/1-28-25/

OLD ST. MARY'S SCHOOL PRESENTS
THE 2025 SIGNATURE EVENT

MARDI
GRAS

SAVE THE DATE
SATURDAY, MARCH 8

Signup for Our Email Newsletter!

We publish an email newsletter every Thursday that covers events going on for the weekend and following week at Old St.

Mary's. Sign up at
bit.ly/osm-newsletter-signup or scan the QR code below!



**Audrey McFarlin
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ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

- Multiple Sclerosis Diagnosis
- Major Depressive Disorder
- Internet and e-mail access
- Physically Inactive
- Able to walk
- 18-64 years old
- English as primary language
- Live within 200 miles of Chicago

EMAIL ADDRESS
METSforMS@uic.edu

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(312) 355-1790

WEBSITE
Metsforms.ahs.uic.edu

RESEARCH COORDINATOR
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UIC STUDY2022-1354

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