

⊕ 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.

8TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

MARCH 2, 2025

A GOOD TREE DOES NOT BEAR ROTTEN FRUIT.

LUKE 6:43



**PLUS SCHEDULE FOR
ASH WEDNESDAY (MARCH 5)
AND THE SEASON OF LENT**

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

Welcome To Those Visiting on Ash Wednesday!

Dear friends,

Whether this is your first time or your four-thousandth time visiting Old St. Mary's, welcome! We're glad that you're with us!


There's no other public ritual in the Western world like Ash Wednesday. It's a day to publicly acknowledge that we are imperfect people in need of God's love, grace, and mercy. It's not just a ritual for Catholics: people of other Christian denominations, other faith traditions, and people with no religious affiliation feel drawn to Catholic churches on Ash Wednesday!

As the oldest parish in Chicago (founded 4 years before the city was incorporated), Old St. Mary's has welcomed Catholics and non-Catholics for generations. As our community has grown and changed over the subsequent 192 years, we have moved to various locations throughout the Loop and South Loop neighborhoods. While Chicago was still heavily segregated, we welcomed a wide diversity of people, including Servant of God Augustus Tolton, the first African American Catholic priest. We believe that we are the only church in the world to inspire an Oscar Best Picture winner (*Going My Way* in 1944) and the world's top-grossing movie of the year (*The Bells of St. Mary's*, 1945). Fr. Dan, Fr. Bob, and I are members of the Paulist Fathers, the first community of Catholic priests founded in the United States, who specialize in reaching out to people on the margins, including young adults, people of color, women longing for leadership roles, and people who identify as LGBTQ+. Old St. Mary's Catholic School — founded in 2004 shortly after the parish moved to the South Loop — is Blue Ribbon School bringing in families from all over the city. And while we are a Roman Catholic community, people of other religious beliefs — and people who have doubts about their Catholic faith — are integral members of our parish and school community.

Something led you through the doorway into Old St. Mary's today — be it curiosity, a sense of obligation, or a desire to start again. In 1842, a young baker from New York City named Isaac Hecker moved into in a Transcendentalist commune outside of Boston at the promptings of what his friends Ralph Waldo Emerson, Henry David Thoreau, Margaret Fuller, and Bronson Alcott called "the Oversoul." Hecker, who eventually founded the Paulist Fathers, came to recognize these promptings as originating from the Holy Spirit. Maybe that's the case for you, too.

No matter what brought you here, please know that this is a place where you are always welcome to question, to grow, to contribute, and to belong. We welcome you, as you are. And you're joining us just as we begin Lent, the season of spiritual growth. None of us are perfect, and we don't expect you to be, either! Check out this bulletin or oldstmarys.com/lent to learn more about the many special activities we have going on this Lent. Come as you are, whenever you are available. If you feel comfortable doing so, introduce yourself to the people around you. We look forward to learning from one another and growing with you!

Once again, welcome!



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



Ash
WEDNESDAY
MARCH 5

MASS WITH ASHES
8:30 AM & 7:00 PM

**ASHES DISTRIBUTED
IN THE COMMONS**
12:00 – 1:00 PM &
5:00 – 6:00 PM

**Ashes will also be available
from our receptionist**
8:00 AM – 4:00 PM
(Please enter through door
with blue awning on S. Michigan)

THE SEASON OF LENT



LENTEN SMALL GROUP

This year, we are excited to offer **faith-sharing small groups** throughout Lent! Our small groups offer a meaningful way to walk this season together. In these gatherings, you'll have the chance to pray, reflect on Scripture, and share insights with fellow parishioners in a welcoming and supportive environment.

Whether you're new to small groups or have participated before, these gatherings provide a space to deepen your faith, form connections, and discover how God is working in your life this Lent. **Groups will meet weekly and are open to all – so invite a friend to join you!**

Tuesday Small Groups (start March 11)

9:30 AM | in-person | open to all
Leader: Aimee Tracy

7:00 PM | in-person | open to all
Leader: Sandy Shelley

7:00 PM | virtual | young adults
Leader: Brent Zey & Fr. Dan

Wednesday Small Groups (start March 12)

9:30 AM | in-person | open to all
Leader: Dorothy O'Malley

7:00 PM | in-person | men's group
Leader: Jim Walz

Sign up at:
bit.ly/osm-lent-smallgroup-2025
Or scan the QR code!



STATIONS OF THE CROSS & SOUP SUPPER

Each Friday during Lent, we invite you to walk the Way of the Cross with us as we reflect on Christ's passion, love, and sacrifice. The Stations of the Cross will take place **every Friday at 6:00 PM**. A simple soup supper follows after the Stations of the Cross.

2025 Dates:

March 7, March 14, March 21, March 28, April 4, April 11

LENTEN FISH FRY

Join us for our Lenten Fish Fry on **April 4** after the Stations of the Cross! Enjoy a delicious meal, connect with fellow parishioners, and support our parish community. Thank you to our Knights of Columbus for hosting this annual tradition! More details to follow.

USING OUR MINDS TO REACH OUR HEARTS

A WORKSHOP ON IGNATIAN
PRAYER TECHNIQUES

— Fr. Rich Andre, CSP

THURSDAY, MARCH 13
7:00 – 8:00 PM

SUNDAY, MARCH 16
9:30 – 10:30 AM

Do you approach faith merely as an intellectual exercise? Do you find it tough to pray with your emotions? Are you looking for ways to "switch up" your prayer life? St. Ignatius of Loyola (1491-1556) was skilled at helping people take that difficult 18-inch journey from the mind to the heart. Join Fr. Rich in the Van Buren Room for a workshop in which we'll explore the Conscious Examen (invented by Ignatius) and Simple Contemplation (popularized by Ignatius). We'll explain each prayer form, try it out as a group, and discuss our experience afterwards. **The March 13 session will also be offered online; the March 16 session is in-person only.**

FAMILY RECONCILIATION SERVICES

Saturday, March 15 at 10:00 AM & 12:30 PM
Tuesday, March, 18 at 7:00 PM

This Lent, we invite families in our school and faith formation program to take part in our Family Reconciliation Services — a special opportunity to experience God's mercy together.

TAIZÉ PRAYER SERVICE

Join us for a Taizé Prayer Service on **Thursday, March 20, from 6:00–7:00 PM** in the church.

Rooted in meditative song, scripture, and silent prayer, this beautiful service offers a peaceful space to reflect and draw closer to God during Lent. Come experience the stillness, simplicity, and prayerful atmosphere of Taizé.

PARISH RECONCILIATION SERVICE

Monday, April 7
7:00–8:00 PM

As we prepare for Easter, take time to experience God's mercy and healing at our Parish Community Reconciliation Service on Monday, April 7, from 7:00–8:00 PM in the church.

Through scripture, prayer, and the Sacrament of Reconciliation, we open our hearts to God's grace and renewal. Multiple priests will be available for individual confession.

NAVIGATING POLARIZATION, GAINING INSIGHT: RESOURCES FROM OUR CATHOLIC TRADITION



SUNDAY, MARCH 23
9:30 AM | VAN BUREN ROOM

A talk by **Dr. Craig Ford**
Assistant Professor
St. Norbert's College

For more information, contact: parishoffice@oldstmarys.com

LENTEN PROGRAMMING FOR OSM YOUNG ADULTS

Our ministry for those in their 20s and 30s

LENTEN SMALL GROUP

Our Lenten Small Group meets **virtually** every Tuesday of Lent, beginning **March 11 at 7:00 PM**. Brent Zey and Fr. Dan will co-lead. More details on page 4 of this bulletin.



Sign up at bit.ly/osm-lent-smallgroup-2025 or scan the QR code!

Winter Check in Social

Join us for a Young Adult Winter Check-In Social **after the 4:00 PM Mass on Sunday, March 2**. Come warm up with good company, light refreshments, and casual conversation.

It's a great chance to meet new friends, catch up with familiar faces, and check in on how life is going as we journey through Lent together.

Eucharistic Adoration & Guided Meditation

Young adults are invited to a special evening of Eucharistic Adoration & Guided Meditation on **Wednesday, March 19**, from **7:00–8:00 PM** in the church.

Come rest in God's presence through quiet prayer, reflective meditation, and the peace of Adoration. Whether you're seeking stillness, renewal, or simply a moment to pause, this is a space to encounter Christ in a deeper way.

A Conversation with Dr. Craig Ford



Our chat with Dr. Craig Ford has been rescheduled to mid-March, likely on Friday, March 21. Stay tuned for upcoming details!

STATIONS OF THE CROSS & SOUP SUPPER

Every Friday of Lent, our parish will be praying with the Stations of the Cross. Join the Young Adult Ministry as it hosts Stations of the Cross & Soup Supper on **Friday, March 28** from 6:00 – 7:00 PM.

Mass by Candlelight

Step away from the noise and into the quiet presence of God at our Young Adult Mass by Candlelight on **Wednesday, April 9**, from **7:00–8:00 PM** in the church.

Through gentle candlelight, sacred silence, and reverent prayer, this Mass offers a space to slow down, be still, and encounter Christ in the Eucharist.



Scan the QR code to sign up for our young adult mailing list!

Questions? Contact frdan@oldstmarys.com

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



SATURDAY, MARCH 8

7:00 - 10:00 PM

The Chicago Firehouse Restaurant

Join us for Old St. Mary's School's Signature Event, "Mardi Gras: Let the Good Times Roll," on Saturday, March 8th, 2025. This unforgettable evening will feature a live DJ, delicious food and drinks, and the company of our wonderful community. Proceeds will support our dedicated teachers through additional compensation and enhance the school's financial vitality, focusing on campus safety and reducing building debt. Scan the QR code to learn more and to purchase tickets!

Learn more at
www.osmschool.com/signature-event



MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES AT OLD ST. MARY'S

MINISTRY OF CARE TRAINING

After five years, Old St. Mary's is re-launching its Ministry of Care! Ministers bring Communion to the sick and homebound, keeping them connected to our faith community.

Training Session:

Saturday, March 8 | 2:30–4:30 PM

Walk-ins welcome, but RSVP if possible:
careministry@oldstmarys.com

VIRTUS Training Required — Need to start or check your status? Contact Patti Murphy at patti@oldstmarys.com.

The Old St. Mary's Choir

We're excited to bring the Old St. Mary's Choir back to life! If you've sung with us before or want to try something new, all are welcome — no experience needed!

Every Sunday
Rehearsal: 9:20 AM
Mass: 11:00 AM

*Come lift your voice
in worship and community!*

For details, contact **Ace Gangoso**,
Director of Liturgy & Music at
ace@oldstmarys.com.

PROCLAIM THE WORD: BE A LECTOR!

Do you feel called to share God's Word? We invite you to consider serving as a lector at Mass! Lectors play a vital role in our parish by proclaiming Scripture and helping bring God's message to life for the community.

Contact Ace Gangoso, our Director of Liturgy and Music, at ace@oldstmarys.com.

BECOME A EUCHARISTIC MINISTER

We invite you to consider serving as a Eucharistic Minister, helping to share the Body and Blood of Christ with our parish community at Mass. This ministry is a beautiful way to deepen your faith and participate more fully in the liturgy.

Contact Ace Gangoso, our Director of Liturgy and Music, at ace@oldstmarys.com.

HYGIENE SUPPLIES NEEDED

Each month, the youth of Old St. Mary's host a hygiene kit packing event to support our brothers and sisters in need. Please consider donating essential items such as travel-sized shampoo, soap, toothbrushes, toothpaste, shaving cream, razors, and deodorant—these small items make a big difference! Donations can be dropped off in the commons or at the parish office. Thank you for your generosity!

Our next youth hygiene kit packing service opportunity will likely be in mid-March.

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, March 2

8 AM Patrick & Allison Reisch
11 AM Ruth Fear (+)
4 PM Anabelle Tadalán

Monday, March 3

8:30 AM Robert Decena (+)

Tuesday, March 4

8:30 AM Ana Lee (+)
8:30 AM Ana Tran (+)

Wednesday, March 5

8:30 AM The Quinn Family in Thanksgiving
7 PM Jonathan Ho (+)

Thursday, March 6

8:30 AM Angelico Tiongco (+)

Friday, March 7

8:30 AM Ana Burian

Saturday, March 8

5:00 PM Mary Thelen (+)

Have mercy on me,
O God, in your goodness;
in the greatness of your compassion
wipe out my offense.
Thoroughly wash me from my guilt
and of my sin cleanse me.

For I acknowledge my offense,
and my sin is before me always:
"Against you only have I sinned,
and done what is evil in your sight."

A clean heart create for me, O God,
and a steadfast spirit renew within me.
Cast me not out from your presence,
and your Holy Spirit take not from me.

Psalm 51



READINGS FOR THE WEEK

The readings for the week can be found on the US Catholic Bishops Conference website.

Scan the QR code or head to
<https://bible.usccb.org/>



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

Visit staustin.org/lectionary-guide.

EXPLORING OUR FAITH

Ash Wednesday Ashes

Q: Why do we place ashes on our forehead each Ash Wednesday?

Ashes are rich in spiritual symbolism. We recall in the second chapter of Genesis, when the human person is fashioned "out of the dust of the ground" and receives the breath of life (Genesis 2:7). In death, a person returns to the ground from which we came. The ancient Hebrews used ashes as a sign of repentance, reminding themselves that God is God and we are not.

As the minister places ashes on our forehead, we hear either "remember that you are dust and unto dust you shall return" or "turn away from sin and be faithful to the Gospel." When we receive ashes, we remember our own mortality. We're reminded that we have limited time on this earth and we ought to make the best use of it that we can! People are in need of love, care, and compassion. We all need to continually rediscover the love of God. The Gospel invites every person in every stage of life to encounter and imitate Jesus here and now. The forty days of Lent are the perfect time to assess our own awareness of these realities. ©LPI

Bulletin Submissions

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

The Lenten Disciples of Fasting and Abstinence

Catholics in good health, ages 18 to 59, are required to fast and abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.

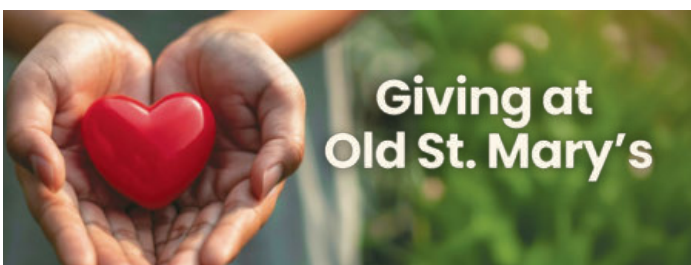
Fasting means eating only one full meal, with the option of two smaller snacks that together do not equal a full meal.

Catholics age 14 and older are required to abstain from meat on all Fridays in Lent.

Exceptions to fasting and abstinence include those outside the age limits, individuals with health conditions that prevent fasting, and pregnant or nursing women. In all cases, common sense should prevail—those who are ill should not jeopardize their health by fasting.

New to the Parish?

Welcome! Scan the QR code or register at bit.ly/osm-registration



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.



Scan the QR code, or give online at

<https://oldstmarys.com/donate/>

2024 Tax Statements

2024 end-of-year tax statements were sent out in January by email and regular mail. If you haven't received yours and would like a copy, please contact our business manager, Dawn Burns, at dawn@oldstmarys.com. Thank you!

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.

Scan the QR code, or signup at bit.ly/osm-newsletter-signup



PARISH STAFF

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Mamie Smith
Mattie Young
Receptionists

Lorena Villegas

Maintenance

Fr. Bob Cary, CSP
Priest-in-Residence



OLD ST. MARY'S SCHOOL

Pre-Kindergarten to Grade 8
A National Blue Ribbon School

www.osmschool.com
312-386-1560
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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 baptisms@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.

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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

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