



NOVEMBER 2024
November 1-30

**SAINT MARY OF THE LAKE
AND OUR LADY OF LOURDES
CATHOLIC CHURCH**

WELCOME TO OUR *Parish Community*

PASTORAL STAFF

FR. MANUEL DORANTES

Pastor
mdorantes@saintmarys.org

FR. JESÚS ROMERO

Associate Pastor
frjesus@saintmarys.org

FR. VINCE COSTELLO

Resident Priest
vcostello@saintmarys.org

SR. CLAUDIA SANCHEZ, FCJ

Faith Formation & Hispanic Ministry
csanchez@saintmarys.org

SR. MAYRA JIMÉNEZ, FCJ

Faith Formation & Hispanic Ministry
mjimenez@saintmarys.org

MARC VEGA

Pastoral Associate
mvega@saintmarys.org

MICHAEL RUZICKI

Director of Sacred Music & Liturgy
mruzicki@saintmarys.org

PARISH STAFF

GEOFF PAUTSCH

Director of Operations
gpautsch@saintmarys.org

GABRIEL MAYHUGH

Administrative Manager
gmayhugh@saintmarys.org

Administrative Assistants

CAROL BROWN

cbrown@saintmarys.org

ROSA GARCIA

rgarcia@saintmarys.org

JACQUELINE ROMERO

jromero@saintmarys.org

Maintenance & Facilities

SERGIO CIENFUEGOS

MARIA PATINO

AMALIO SANTIAGO



SAINT MARY OF THE LAKE AND OUR LADY OF LOURDES CATHOLIC CHURCH

Worship of God and Service to the Poor

MASS TIMES

SAINT MARY OF THE LAKE

WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday Vigil
4:30 PM - English
6:30 PM - Spanish

Sunday
8:30 AM - English
10:30 AM - English
12:30 PM - Spanish
6:30 PM - English

DAILY MASSES

Monday - Saturday
9:00 AM - English

RECONCILIATION

Thursdays - 7:00 PM
Saturdays - 9:30 AM

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Thursdays - 9:30 AM—8:00 PM

PRIVATE PRAYER

ST. GABRIEL CHAPEL
Monday - Friday - 9:30 AM - 7:30 PM

PARISH OFFICE
4220 N. Sheridan Rd
Chicago, IL 60613

(773) 280-7700
office@saintmarys.org

Monday - Friday
9:00am - 8:00pm

Saturdays & Sundays
9:00am - 2:00pm

OUR LADY OF LOURDES CHURCH
(4640 N Ashland Avenue) is closed for
worship as of May 20, 2024.

****Parish Transportation is AVAILABLE**
from Our Lady of Lourdes for parishion-
ers who need assistance getting to
Saint Mary's. **Please call the parish by**
Friday to arrange for pick-up.

A MESSAGE FROM *Father Jesus*

BROTHERS AND SISTERS,

As we get closer to the end of our liturgical year, which will conclude this month with the celebration of the solemnity of Christ the King, the Church will help us meditate about the ending of times, and more importantly, the ending of our own time here on earth, which is what I want to reflect on today. Let me begin by asking, how do you prepare yourself for your last day? It is an uncomfortable question, but at the same time, a necessary one to keep in mind, not to stress us out or make us anxious or depressed, but rather, to strengthen our faith in God. We all want to meet the Lord face to face, but for this to happen, there is a necessary step we all have to take sooner or later: facing death. Far from being a scary situation, we should look at it with eyes of faith and hope knowing that for our God nothing is impossible (Lk. 1, 37; Mk. 10,27), and even death has been conquered by Him who is our strength, Jesus Christ, our King (1 Cor. 15:55-58). Because of this, we shouldn't fear death, rather, we should prepare ourselves for that moment with a heart filled with hope.

When would our last day be? We don't know. Then, how do we prepare ourselves for that day if we don't even know when it will be? It's definitely not by living in fear of dying at any moment, but rather, by truly living the present because that is what God is asking us to do; to focus on doing what we are supposed to be doing at the moment we are in. A good example of this comes from St. Louis de Gonzaga. When he was young, someone approached him while he was enjoying his recreation time at school and said: "Suppose that at this very moment, someone were to come telling you that the end of the world would take place in a moment, that you would appear before God, that you would be judged by the Supreme Judge, and that your eternity would be decided by his decision. What would you do? The young Louis de Gonzaga answered: "Well, I would keep on playing ball!". You may ask, why? Well! because it was recreation time, and there is time for everything according to God's will (Eccles. 3:1-8).

In short, one way to prepare ourselves for our last day would be by fully living the present, but we need to make sure we live the present in a state of grace. How do we do that? By active participation in the Church's sacramental life, particularly, a frequent partaking of the Holy Eucharist and the sacrament of reconciliation, along with an intentional resolution of staying away from mortal sin.

It is important to be aware of the fact that the current situation of our world, with its cultural and moral values in decay, makes it harder for all of us to escape from sin, which seems to be chasing us wherever we go, at home by fighting with the family, at work by gossiping about our neighbor, while driving by losing patience with other drivers in the middle of traffic, on the movies by suggestive languages and scenes, and the list goes on; unending occasions of sin meet us everywhere at any time, and the danger is that, in the same way, death can meet us around the corner at any moment, finding us in mortal sin, and condemning us to eternal damnation. Far from making us anxious, it should encourage us to seriously consider taking advantage of the means of salvation offered by God through His Church.

How wonderful would it be if, at our time of death, a priest could be at our side, offering us the last rites and providing us with the Food for the Journey, sadly, that may not be possible for most of

us, first, because of the uncertainty of the time of death in the current world (accidents of any type, violence, etc.). Secondly, because of the constant decrease in number of priests around us. In the past, our grandparents and parents were able to call the priest in the moment of agony, and due to the great number of priests in rectories, many were able to assist the dying, but in our current situation, with fewer men answering to God's calling to the priesthood, we must prepare ourselves in advance for that moment, aware that we may not have the opportunity to be assisted by a priest in our very agony.

First of all, if you are elderly or are already dealing with a chronic illness, do not wait until things get really bad to call the priest to anoint you. Receiving the sacrament of Anointing of the Sick doesn't mean that you are going to die, as many people think, rather, it is a sacrament full of prayers asking God to restore the health of the one who is being anointed. It comforts, gives peace and courage, and even provides forgiveness of sins if the sick person is not able to make a confession.

Here you may say: "It doesn't apply to me, I am a young and healthy person." Well, sadly death doesn't discriminate, and it can come at any time. For you, I have some advice that I heard from a wise and holy Jesuit priest from Spain, Fr. Jorge Loring of blessed memory. He used to emphasize God's mercy, and how easy it was to receive it, we just need to ask for it. St John presents it to us in this way: "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness." (1 Jn 1,9). Now, we face one problem, would you be able to ask for forgiveness at the time of dying? What if you die in an accident? What if you die while asleep? Based on this uncertainty, besides frequent participation in the sacrament of reconciliation, we should make the act of contrition part of our daily prayers. Fr. Loring suggests an easy one to say, which is at the same time very easy to remember: "My God, forgive me."

What makes it an act of contrition is the fact that we ask God's forgiveness out of love for him by using the expression "My God" which is loving, and the request "forgive me" which implies repentance. This may not be compared to the sacramental absolution, but it at least saves us from eternal damnation through the appeal of God's mercy just as the Good Thief who was crucified alongside Jesus (Lk. 23 39:43). Fr. Loring advises us to do a daily examination of conscience reflecting on what we have done during the day, then, we should heartfully say: "My God, forgive me. My God, forgive me. My God, forgive me." (three times as an appealing to the Holy Trinity).

What to do when you find yourself in a situation where a loved one is dying but there is not a priest available? Use the same formula. Instead of falling in despair or getting angry for not being able to reach a priest, Fr. Loring suggests we whisper in the dying person's ear many times "My God, forgive me" to invite the agonizing person to appeal to God's mercy. If the person accepts your words and repeats them, even if only in his mind and heart, you may have saved him from eternal damnation by the merits of Christ, and you may have given him the greatest gift he may have ever received. Even when this is not an official teaching of the Church, it doesn't conflict with it, and as a pious act of mercy, we should practice it, not only for the salvation of our souls but also for the salvation of those around us.

LET US PRAY *Together*

We are in the world, but we are not for the world (Jn. 17:11, 14-15), for this reason, enjoy this world that God has created and entrusted to us, but do not lose sight of the Eternal Home God has prepared for you and I, instead, let us get ready to take possession of the inheritance God has promised to us with Mother Mary and all the saints in heaven.

“... Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.”

Fr. Jesús Romero Galan
Associate Pastor



of



MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER

The following are prayer requests we have received from the Saint Mary of the Lake and Our Lady of Lourdes community. Please keep them in your prayers.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK

Marcela Rodriguez, Hector De León, Rod Reyes, Maria Estela Alvarez, Austreberta Escobar, Adolfo Ruiz Baca, Melissa Velazquez, Molly Morris, Alfredo Pinon, Rose Mueller, Michael Snyder, Angela Bates, Angelica Luviano, Lauren Troy, Jack Denihan, Maria Pardo, Rachel Hohner, Angela Turley, Mary Pilarczyk, William Himmelmann, Marilyn Trant, Vivian Morales, John Okeeffe, Benjamin Blanco, Elvira Blanco, Kenneth Towers, Rosabella Payomo, Antonio Alcantara, Joe Klochan, Sue Leach, Patrick Bentley, Vazha Kareli, Lina Aguilar, Marianne Gaul, Maureen Bruzzini, Lazaro Eduardo Chapa, Maria Blanco, Pedro Talavera, Helen Ann Mejia, Brian Ordaz, Carl and Melinda Stopczynski, Olivia Aguilar, Fr. Dan Collins and for all our sick parishioners and those who are in nursing homes.



+ NOVEMBER +

The Month of All the Faithful Departed

Deceased

†Emilio Diaz
†Maria Josefa Gamboa
†Lorenzo Cervantes
†Maria Elena Flores
†Rosalba Romero
†Cuberto Moctezuma
†Silvia Moreno Garduno
†Maria Carmen Merlos
†Pedro Esquivel
†Estela Zepeda
†Rey Escobar
†Victoria Islas
†Manuel Sifuentes
†Maria Magdalena Perez
†Chelina B. Alegre
†Gary Herrlich
†Mary Helen Aquila
†Aurelio Inamagua
†Mauricio Garrido
†Robert D. Kern
†Mary Aufmann
†Domingo Perez
†Jesus Garcia Hernandez
†Vincent J. Costello
†Sabastian Rocha
†Hal Smith & Family
†Manuel Urquiza
†Vianette Urquiza
†Jaime Humberto Melgar Limon
†Renee De La Rosa

†Gilberto De La Rosa
†Armando Suyosa
†Rogelio Gutierrez
†All Souls in Purgatory

Health

Pat Whiting
Benjamin Blanco
Maria Blanco
Fr. Dan Collins

Special Prayers

Christopher Rafael Mozqueda



For the members of our parish community who have recently passed away.

†Fr. Marcelo Perez Perez

†Shigeko Tomimasu
(The mom of Darlene Kelly)

REMEMBERING *the Faithful Departed*

NOVEMBER: THE MONTH OF ALL THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

We pray for all those who are enrolled in our All Souls Novena, whether you have remembered them on one of our *ofrenda* altars,

written their names in the Book of the Names of the Dead or on an offertory envelope or have called our parish office and shared their names.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU! We extend our gratitude to the members of our Hispanic Community who constructed and decorated the beautiful altars of the dead.

PARISH MASS OF REMEMBRANCE

Tuesday, November 12, 2024

6:30pm—Musical Prelude

7:00pm—Bilingual Mass

Together, we join and pray for those members of our parish family who have died in the last year. At this special liturgy, we live out the spiritual works of mercy by comforting the sorrowful and praying for our deceased brothers and sisters. All are welcome and encouraged to attend this beautiful celebration.

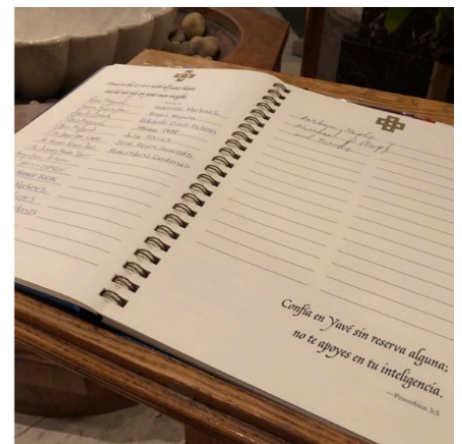
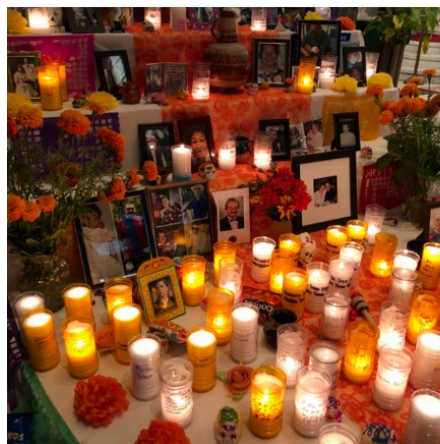


DURING THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER

Remembrance Candles, Photos of Loved Ones and The Book of Names of the Dead

Throughout the month of November everyone is invited to continue bringing photos of your loved ones, write names in the Book of Names of the Dead or light a Remembrance Candle.

The candles will be available for a \$5.00 donation in the office until all are sold out.



REMEMBERING OUR DEPARTED LOVED ONES

In a special way, we pray for those who have been buried from Saint Mary of the Lake and Our Lady of Lourdes Parish this past year.

- Elva Rosa Maradiaga
- Maria De Lourdes Ballesteros
- Luz Gaitan Dyer
- Estella Reynaldo
- Gorgonio Castillo
- Maria Juana Coss Morales
- Clodulfo Francisco
- Gabriel Burgos
- Aura Rizzo
- Mela Alvezo Roque
- Jose Luis Rodarte
- Abel Rosendo
- Adan Juanes
- Philip Zachary Silva
- Gonzalo Navarrete
- Elisa Chavez
- Alfonzo Parra
- Jo Anne Festle
- Timothy Koertgen
- Charles Edwards
- Salvador Sosa
- Dorian Richardson
- Irma Concepcion
- Francisco Rangel
- Ezinne Theresa Igwem
- Sarah Delaney

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

PARISH *Community*

Sunday Commitment Weekend

Thank you for your generous response to our Sunday Commitment weekend in support of the good work at St. Mary of the Lake and Our Lady of Lourdes Parish. Your generosity and faithfulness will truly help strengthen our parish community and the people of God whom we serve. Our true gratitude cannot be expressed in words. However, you will see our gratitude in the joyful faces of those we serve each day. Without such evidence of faith and generosity, our parish would be unable to sustain and grow. On behalf of all those who will benefit from your generosity in the present and for years to come, please accept our heartfelt thanks for your generosity and prayers. Be assured of our prayers for you!

Sincerely yours,

Fr. Manuel Dorantes

Fr. Manny Dorantes, Pastor



Our parish saw a remarkable return of Sunday Giving Commitment envelopes last weekend. If you were away last weekend or took an envelope home with you last weekend, please return your commitment using the regular Sunday collection over the next few weeks. Extra envelopes are available in your pew or in the parish office. You may use this QR code to submit your commitment using our new online giving provider and parish census database, Pushpay. **If you are new to the parish, please help us know you!**

Sunday Giving Commitment

Mass Time	Number of Commitments
4:30pm	30
6:30pm	26
Saturday	
8:30am	39
Sunday	
10:30am	67
Sunday	
12:30pm	86
Sunday	
6:30pm	13
Sunday	
TOTAL	261

What will your generosity to the parish be used for? 1) Enhancing the faith life of our parish community and provide necessary tools to bring our community closer to Christ, 2) Supporting our religious education and faith formation program in educating our children and adults in the faith, and 3) Addressing our parish infrastructure and capital needs for both short- and long-term needs.

HOW YOU CAN HELP SUSTAIN AND STRENGTHEN OUR PARISH

Increase or be consistent in your giving to the parish. We ask that everyone to consider equal sacrifice in their giving by using your Sunday envelopes more regularly or increasing your weekly or monthly giving to the parish. We also encourage you to contribute to the parish using a variety of online giving tools: Zelle or Pushpay. By doing so, your donations will be consistent and available to the parish even when you are away from the parish.

Consider a donation through your IRA Required Minimum Distribution.

Remember Saint Mary of the Lake-Our Lady of Lourdes Parish in your will. This can be done in so many ways. Please reach out to the parish office if we can be of any assistance.

Pray for our parish!

Annual Income	Weekly Income	What does your weekly giving look like?					
		1%	2%	4%	6%	8%	10%
\$20,000	\$385	\$4	\$8	\$15	\$23	\$31	\$38
\$25,000	\$481	\$5	\$10	\$19	\$29	\$38	\$48
\$30,000	\$577	\$6	\$12	\$23	\$35	\$46	\$58
\$40,000	\$769	\$8	\$15	\$31	\$46	\$62	\$77
\$50,000	\$962	\$10	\$19	\$39	\$58	\$77	\$96
\$60,000	\$1,154	\$12	\$23	\$46	\$69	\$92	\$115
\$75,000	\$1,442	\$14	\$29	\$58	\$87	\$115	\$144
\$90,000	\$1,731	\$17	\$35	\$69	\$104	\$138	\$173
\$100,000	\$1,923	\$19	\$38	\$77	\$115	\$154	\$192
\$120,000	\$2,308	\$23	\$46	\$92	\$138	\$185	\$231
\$150,000	\$2,885	\$29	\$58	\$115	\$173	\$231	\$289
\$175,000	\$3,365	\$34	\$67	\$135	\$202	\$269	\$337
\$200,000	\$3,846	\$38	\$77	\$154	\$231	\$308	\$385

CHARITY and Service

WEDNESDAY SOUP KITCHEN

Volunteers are NEEDED to make Sack Meals and to help with service on Wednesday nights. **To make this a success consistently each week, we need 200 individuals/families to commit to donating at least once a month.**

We are looking to have **50 volunteer make 5 Sack Meals each week.**

Each sack meal should contain:

- 2 lunchmeat sandwiches with no condiments, cheese is optional but a nice addition
- 2 cheese sticks
- 1 bag of chips (or similar)
- 1 piece of soft fruit (for example, orange, banana, grapes) • Dessert (cookies or candy bar)
- Beverage (juice box, can of soda, or 8oz water bottle/sports drink)
- Napkin

Please pack each meal in a gallon-sized plastic bag (like Ziploc). Or please use a plastic grocery bag.

DROP OFF

Wednesday between 9:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.-- drop off at the parish reception desk, as they will be handed out beginning at 6:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers are needed to help with the distribution of sack meals, set up, and serving a hot meal to our unhoused community members every week. Help is needed every Wednesday from 4:30-7:30pm.

If you have any questions, please call the office at 773-280-7700 or email office@saintmarys.org

THANKSGIVING DINNER FOR THE GUESTS OF OUR SOUP KITCHEN

The parish will host a Thanksgiving Dinner for the guests of our Soup Kitchen.

We are in need of desserts for the dinner. If you are able to provide a dessert, please drop it off at the parish office on Wednesday, November 27.



JOIN THE MUSIC MINISTRY

Please, consider joining our parish choir. If you have ever sung in a choir, or you play an instrument, you are invited to share your gifts with your faith community. **If you are interested we invite you to contact our music director, Michael Ruzicki at mruzicki@saintmarys.org**

LITURGICAL MINISTRY

Consider serving in one of our liturgical ministries as a Lector, Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion, Altar Server, Sacristan, Greeter or Usher. We are in need of more people to help with our Sunday liturgies. Training and formation is available to prepare you to serve in these roles. If you are interested in learning more about these ministries **please contact Gabriel Mayhugh at gmayhugh@saintmarys.org.**

SERVE WITH THE COMMUNITY OF SANT'EGIDIO

You are invited to join in friendship and food distribution with our unhoused and migrant communities in Uptown on Sundays. Meet in parish office at Saint Mary of the Lake on **Sundays at 11:30 AM** to prepare food together. Directly following we go into Uptown, visiting with the unhoused and migrant communities bringing coffee and food but most importantly friendship. **For more info contact Krysten McOsker or the parish office.**

LAUNDRY MINISTRY

Saint Mary's and Our Lady of Lourdes Laundry Ministry is a response to the corporal work of mercy "clothing the naked." Each week we provide the loving act of washing the clothing for homeless LGBTQ+ youth serviced by the Center on Halsted, qualified seniors living at Town Hall Apartments and the homeless living on the street. Over the years we have provided additional services to these friends as needed. We meet each **Tuesday at 3:00 PM** at the parish office. **For more information or to support this ministry please contact Ron Schnorbus at rschnorbus@gmail.com**





WELCOME THE NEWLY BAPTIZED

We gladly welcome the following children into the family of God and into the faith community of Saint Mary of the Lake and Our Lady of Lourdes, who were baptized during the **month of October**. Please pray for them and their families.

*Noah Henry D'Aunno
Eleanor Cielo Escalante
Arthur Henry Perlman
Dominic James Meersman
Kali Marlie Cabrera
Santino Isaac Barte Soliman
Allison Yaneth Gutierrez
Leonardo Jose Avila*

Welcome

WELCOME OUR NEW PARISHIONERS

A warm welcome to our newly registered parishioners of our parish community! The following persons and families registered this past month! Welcome to Saint Mary of the Lake and Our Lady of Lourdes!

*Matthew Schaaf
Derek Graham
Ashley Kevin
Mayeri Bueno
Carlos Tello
Brendan Coghlan*

SAVE THE DATE

PARISH MASS OF REMEMBRANCE

Tuesday, November 12, 2024

6:30 pm—Prelude Music

7:00 pm—Bilingual Mass

THANKSGIVING DAY MASS

Thursday, November 28, 2024

English Mass—9:00am

Spanish Mass—11:00am

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Sunday, December 1, 2024

Regular Sunday Mass Schedule

ADVENT GIVING TREE

November 30 to December 22, 2024

Supporting those who are most in need within our community.

ADVENT EVENING OF PRAYER AND REFLECTION WITH TAIZE MUSIC

Tuesday, December 3, 2024

6:30pm—Bilingual Prayer Service

SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Monday, December 9, 2024*

6:30pm—Bilingual Mass

**In 2024, December 8 is the Second Sunday of Advent, so the solemnity of the Immaculate Conception is transferred to Monday, December 9. Previously, when the DATE was transferred the obligation was abrogated. That will no longer be true.*

Give Thanks

The text "Give Thanks" is written in a large, brown, cursive font. It is surrounded by decorative elements including a leaf on the left, a swirl, and another leaf on the right.

©LPI

PARISH LIFE *and Ministry*

REFLECTING ON THE MYSTERY OF GOD: YOUNG ADULT STUDY AND SHARE

Tuesdays - October 8-November 19, 2024

7:30-8:30pm

This is an opportunity for small-group faith sharing, to meet other young adults, and an evening for reflection. This 6-week series is presented by professor and theologian Dr. Milton Kobus, who will guide us through a "study and share" focused on a more comprehensive explication of our God! Since faith seeks deeper understanding, a more profound comprehension to attempt a fundamental penetration into this most sacred Mystery of God is critical. For how can we evangelize properly without a solid foundation and significant dogmatic conception of The Holy Mystery? Questions can be directed to Marc Vega or Katie Arnold. **No registration required. ALL ARE WELCOME!!**



JOIN US

REFLECTING ON THE MYSTERY OF GOD

Facilitated by Dr. Milton Kobus

YOUNG ADULT STUDY AND SHARE

Tuesday Nights
7:30-8:30 PM
October 8-November 19

Parish Center
4220 N Sheridan Rd

www.saintmarys.org/youngadults

Nov 30, 7:45 pm / Saint Mary of the Lake and Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church.

Saint Cecilia Chamber Choir

A Walk-Through Classical Singing

Zarzuela and tribute to Juan Gabriel.

More inf. Event:
www.nuestraiglesia.org

ZARZUELA CONCERT AND TRIBUTE TO JUAN GABRIEL

The Santa Cecilia Chamber Choir is honored to invite you to an unforgettable evening filled with passion, tradition, and music. We offer you a unique opportunity to enjoy the best of zarzuela, with its captivating melodies and rich Spanish operatic pieces, along with a special tribute to the legendary Mexican composer Juan Gabriel, known as "El Divó de Juárez."

Date: November 30, 2024

Time: 7:45 PM

Address: Saint Mary of the Lake and Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church (4220 N Sheridan Rd)



It will be a magical night where classical and popular music come together to create a truly memorable experience. Don't miss the chance to be part of this event, which promises to be a gathering full of art and emotion.

We look forward to sharing this special evening with you!

MINISTRY *Events*

PRAY WITH THE COMMUNITY OF SANT'EGIDIO

The Community of Sant'Egidio lives in a spiritual and fraternity gathering for prayer and serving the poor and marginalized in our city. Join us as we gather around the Gospel for a Vespers-type evening prayer.

St. Gabriel Chapel at Saint Mary of the Lake **Thursdays at 6:30pm**. The first Thursday of the month is dedicated to praying for peace.

For more info please contact Krysten McOsker at krystenmcosker@gmail.com

SAVE THE DATE — COMMUNITY OF SANT'EGIDIO CHRISTMAS LUNCH

"When you give a dinner or a banquet, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your kinsmen or rich neighbors, lest they also invite you in return, and you be repaid. But when you give a feast, invite the poor, the aimed, the lame, the blind, and you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you. You will be repaid at the resurrection of the just". Luke 14: 12-14

The Christmas Lunch with the poor is a tradition of the Community of Sant'Egidio since 1982, when a small group of poor people were welcomed at the banquet table in the Basilica of Santa Maria in Trastevere. There were about 20 people invited: some of our elderly friends from the neighborhood and some homeless people we had got to know from the streets of Rome.

More than 40 years have passed since that first Christmas lunch. From that moment on, the banquet table has become larger and larger, and from Trastevere it has reached many parts of the world. The Christmas lunch has truly become a worldwide Feast. The feast has widened year after year, like a beneficial contagion, and has reached many countries of the South of the world.

In 2018, about 240,000 people gathered for the Christmas lunch in more than 600 cities and 78 countries of the world. **Chicago will celebrate the third Christmas lunch on Sunday December 22, 2024.**

The Christmas feast takes place everywhere, but above all where there is sorrow. In churches, in institutions for the elderly, for children, for handicapped people, in prisons, at hospitals, and in the streets. Because the sense of Christmas is to bring the feast also to the darkest and coldest corners as well as to the most dispersed and forgotten places.



INTRODUCING PUSHPAY

We are in the process of rolling out our new electronic giving platform called Pushpay. This new platform will help to streamline the operations of our electronic giving. The software integrates fully with our database and church management system which will give our parish leadership more opportunity to engage with our parishioners on multiple levels. The ease at which someone can donate to the parish will be much enhanced and easy to do with most one-time donations taking less than a minute.

Those who give on a recurring basis will be able to select multiple options for recurring gifts and view their account at any time to know how they are contributing. Over the next few weeks, those who give to the parish through Give Central or Abundant will receive an email from us so that you can transition your giving to Pushpay.

Once the parish transition is complete, we will no longer use GiveCentral or Abundant. If you have any questions throughout this process, please contact Gabe Mayhugh at the parish office. gmayhugh@saintmarys.org.

YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

Join the Young Adult community! The Young Adults of Saint Mary's and Our Lady of Lourdes are a vibrant, inclusive group of parishioners, for young adults in their 20s and 30s, dedicated to living and growing in our Catholic faith. For more information please contact Marc at mvega@saintmarys.org or visit www.saintmarys.org/youngadults

LGBTQ+ MINISTRY—NOVEMBER GATHERING

Thursday, November 14 at 6:30pm, Parish Office

Join us for an evening of prayer, faith sharing, and fellowship. Our topic will be "Ancestors in Faith: Celebrating the Communion of Saints in Our Lives." During this month of All Saints / All Souls, we will discuss the saints who have inspired our faith, and we will remember our deceased families and friends who have impacted our spiritual journey.

If you are interested in joining, we simply ask that you RSVP with a "yes, maybe, or next time." Use this RSVP link: <https://forms.office.com/r/80wHtaDhha>

Questions? Contact Michael in our parish office at mruzicki@saintmarys.org.

Monthly Financial Reporting: September and October 2024

September and October Sunday Offertory and Mass Attendance

	9/29/2024 #		10/6/2024 #		10/13/2024 #		10/20/2024 #	
4:30 PM	\$2,375.00	109	\$739.00	123	\$1,918.00	114	\$1,503.00	116
6:30 PM	\$414.00	107	\$421.00	105	\$821.00	122	\$936.00	139
8:30 AM	\$775.00	148	1,734.00	171	\$928.00	135	\$1,025.00	179
10:30 AM	\$1,438.00	271	1,745.00	262	\$1,116.00	125	\$1,064.00	235
12:30 PM	\$1,616.00	394	1,412.00	410	\$1,610.00	423	\$2,496.00	455
6:30 PM	\$520.00	89	\$302.00	89	\$629.00	89	\$752.00	97
Online Gifts	\$4,244.00		\$3,729.00		\$3,052.00		\$7,848.00	
TOTAL	\$11,382.00	1,118	\$10,082.00	1,160	\$10,074.00	1,008	\$15,623.00	1,221

Weekly Sunday Collection Goal: \$ 12,875.00
 Average Weekly Sunday Collection: \$ 9,791.25
 Total Sunday Collection Goal (16 weeks): \$ 206,000.00
 Total Sunday Collections (through October 20, 2024): \$ 156,660.00
Total Sunday Collection Shortfall: (\$ 49,340.00; an average weekly shortfall: \$3,083.75)

Air Conditioning Fund Update (as of October 23)

Total pledged: \$ 264,396.00; Total donations received: \$ 223,396.00

Thank you for your generous support!

Parish Financials for the First Quarter of the Fiscal Year (July—September 2024)

Parish Operating Income

	<u>This Fiscal Year (2024)</u>	<u>Last Fiscal Year (2023)</u>
Sunday Collections:	\$ 121,885	\$ 147,140
Religious Education Tuition:	\$ 5,950	\$ 2,041
Lease Income:	\$ 4,944	\$ 4,800
Interest Income:	\$ 42,396	\$ 2,787
Mass Stipends, Stole Fees, and Votives:	\$ 10,397	\$ 22,801
Total Operating Income:	\$ 185,572	\$ 179,569

Parish Operating Expenses

Salaries/Taxes/Benefits:	\$ 195,613	\$ 167,674
Property/Casualty Insurance:	\$ 44,026	\$ 39,448
Office, Administrative, Rectory:	\$ 38,462	\$ 22,208
Archdiocesan Assessments:	\$ 28,840	\$ 34,194
Altar and Liturgical Expenses:	\$ 4,535	\$ 3,957
Maintenance & Building Repairs:	\$ 7,669	\$ 8,507
Utilities (Gas/Electric/Phone/Water):	\$ 12,844	\$ 12,059
Total Operating Expenses:	\$ 331,989	\$ 288,047

First Quarter (July—September)

Operating Income:	\$ 185,572	\$ 179,569
Operating Expenses:	-\$331,989	-\$288,047
Deficit:	\$ (146,417)	\$ (108,478)

The parish relies solely on your generosity. To find out ways how you can make your parish donations, please visit www.saintmarys.org/give