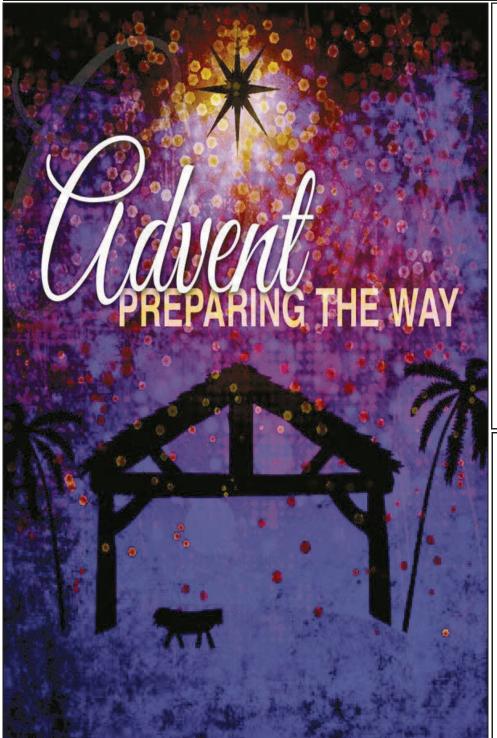
St. Catherine of Alexandria

Oak Lawn, Illinois 60453

First Sunday of Advent December 3, 2023



Pastor **Rev. Dennis Ziomek** dziomek@scaoaklawn.org

Associate Pastor Rev. Fred Pesek fpesek@scaoaklawn.org

School Principal **Ms. Kristine Owens** kowens@scaoaklawn.org

Director of Music Ministry & Liturgy
Mr. Phil Caffee
pcaffee@scaoaklawn.org

Coordinator Family Faith Formation Mrs. Sandra Bustamante sbustamante@scaoaklawn.org

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We thank God for sending you.

Please introduce yourself to Fr. Dennis or Fr. Fred after Mass.

parish.scaoaklawn.org

PRAY FOR OUR SERVICE MEN AND WOMEN

Please pray for the following members of our parish and community who are serving in the military.

Travis Albrecht Carlos Arroyo David Bailey Alexander Baron Charles Berglund Gregory Brazinsky Liam Burke Captain Daniel Caddigan Billie Capertone Sam Carollo Stephen Carrigee Jose Cervantes Michael Chesna Mark Christian Michael Connolly Martin Liam Cosgrove Glenn Dietrick Eric Drey Daniel Eul Timothy Evans
Major Jeffrey T. Finley
Bob Fix
Captain Joe Fix Kimberly White-Fix Carrie Garrison Christopher Gierhahn Fr. Ed Gorman, Chaplain Dave Handing Will Hanson John Hartrich **Thomas Hartrich** Matthew Raymond Hasting Joseph Heredia Joseph L. Korpitz Steven Macke

Daniel Maikisch Patrick Maikisch Jason Malburg
Peter Manning, Jr.
Matthew Marcinkowski Ryan Markmann Jeffrey McGowan Thomas McGowan, Jr. Steve McHale Patricia McNamara Robert Michaels John Jeffery Miller Thomas Murphy Sean O'Malley John O'Sullivan Anthony Parmigiani Vincent Parmigiani Nicholas Patla Joe Pohl III Mark Pruzinowski
Patrick J. Reidy Terra Salamone Eric Smith Michael Sorice Bryan Stalzer James Stevens Dan Sullivan Tim Sullivan Brandon Vasquez Vincent F. Vitek Conor Wedel Sean Wedel Charlotte White John White III Steve Wilson



Megan Abel Geraldine Albrecht Geraldine Anderson Matt Anderson & Family Mike Anderson & Family Brianna Beissmann Vivienne Benda Clare Bergnach Rita Bertucci James Bielinski Rich Bogacki Parker Bolton Bob Bonner Ken Bradshaw Marty Brogan Brother Gerry Brown June Burniski Jack Busking Debbie Caffee Shirley Caffee Scott Chicoine, Jr. Monica Chieko Margaret Christin Jeanne Cismoski Baby Lily Clark Joseph Connell Baby Greyson Corbett Mary Ellen Cosgrove Vince Cozen Fr. Richie Creagh Alex Cuellar Patrick Cunningham Michael Curtin Jerry Cushing Dana Davis Maryann Davis Patrick & Tom Davis Ann Gaudry Dean Jeffrey DelPonte Beau Dowling
Maureen Doyle
Tammy Doyle
Kelly Drey
Edward Dubaka Christine Duerr Annie Duggan & Family Steven Duggan Jacob Dumella Kalisla Elwood Mary Ann Entrup Mary Falbo Joan Farrell Patrick Ferguson

Joan Farrell Patrick Ferguson Michelle Ferrara Mary Ellen Figura Fitzgerald Family Ed Fitzpatrick Sara Fitzpatrick
Janice Fox & Family
Pope Francis
Robert and Carol Fuller Fr. Michael Garcia, O.P. Joan Gannon Summer Garl Summer Garbe Walter Gierhahn Bernie Gierut Grantz Family Josh Grimes Roberta Gritton Lorraine Gutierrez Yvette Gutierrez Margaret Hach Mary Rita Hamann Gracelynn Handing Gerald Hansen Patrick Harkness Rita Heidinge Kathy Hesek Hedda Hess Patricia Higgins Marilyn Hogan Becky and Brett Honn Charlene Hoyer Ruben Jaime Bill Kalata Ted Kania Robert Karczewski David Karczewski Marge Karminski Delaney Kary John Kelleher John Kennedy Kay Kenny Margaret Kenny Carolyn Klapacz Deborah Klun Phoebe Knibbs Donna Kochan Geri Koenig Betty Kohs Kazimierz Kozlowski

Virginia Kozlowski Brittany Laschober Kevin Larson Rich Lennert Florence Litz Janice Lowery Joe Maikisch Marlene Marciano Billy Marszewski Thomas McDaniel Marilyn McEarthren Regina McFarland Denise Maguire Claire Maloney Major Vance Marsh Billy Marszewski Chuck Martinovich Arlene & James Marzano Jeanne Matug Kenneth Mead Judy Menconi David Micelli Donna Mierzwa Jim Mohr Ramiro Munoz Gabrielle Murphy Tim Murphy
Baby Clare Nelson
Megan Nelson Tom Nelson Marie Notter Mark Notter Brian O'Callaghan Eileen O'Connell Mike and Chris O'Mara Baby Owen Paska Beth Patko Karen Pavlak Jim Pebo Mary Perskes Fred Pesek, Sr Jean Peters Loretta Petreikas Carol Pienkos Darwin Pisanka Tim Portal Chris Prouty Robert Priley Jim Ouick Dan & Diane Rafter Gerry Ready Kamorah Riley

Kem Roach Carrie Rowe Kimberly Rule Lucy Ryan Winnie Ryan Christine Sanchez Barbara Schaeffer Katie Schwarz Gale Sereiko Tom Shanahan Mark Shields Maureen Shields Amber Sikes Ella Siears Cathie Simon Logan Simpson Donna Skibinkski Hannah Smith Anthony Spalla & Family Gerry Stanke Kenny Stockus Strainis Family Rita Striegel Brian Styka Terry Styka Annie Sullivan Salamah Sullivan Melanie Summers Janice Sutor Elliott Szczepanski Ocie Blackman Teamer Georgianna Tiema Alicia Toscano
Kitty Turkowski
Mary Villafan
Theresa Villalobos
Jeff Virene Luke Vugrin Judy Walker Anna Warchal Chris Weiler Kim Welter Wiley Family Eric Withers Bernice Wszolek Dee York Ann Zarnycki Charles Zen Fleeta Zielinski
Fr. Dennis Ziomek
Bob Zutoft

Kennedy Riley



Monday, December 4

Saint John Damascene, Priest and Doctor of the Church

8:30am: †Patrick Corcoran

Tuesday, December 5

8:30am: †All the Souls in Purgatory

†Anthony Kowalski

Wednesday, December 6 Saint Nicholas, Bishop

†The Innocent Victims of Violence & War 8:30am:

Thursday, December 7

Saint Ambrose, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

8:30am: †Jim Schwarz

7:00pm: †All Religious (living & deceased)

Friday, December 8

THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

†All Priests (living & deceased) 6:30AM:

8:30am: †Dolores McCarthy

10:00am: SCA & Rel. Ed. Students,

Teachers and Staff Members

Saturday, December 9

San Juan Diego Cuauhtlatoatzin

4:00pm: †Agnes L. Pemberton

†Thomas O'Mara

†Giuseppe & Incoronata Musto

Sunday, December 10 Second Sunday of Advent

8:00am: †Fred Gonzalez

9:30am: †Jack Matthews

†Mary Fitzgibbons

†Patrick Reidy

11:30am: †Thomas O'Mara

†Dorothy Nothhelfer

†Alice Mucha

6:00pm: †Michael Nichols



The Sanctuary Lamp

The Sanctuary Lamp burns this coming week in thanksgiving to God for all the blessings given to her family; requested by Evelyn Spitzer.



REST IN PEACE

Please pray for the repose of the souls of:

Susan Wilson, Geraldine Crivellone, and Guadalupe Perez

Please keep the Wilson, Bergnach, Crivellone, and Perez families in your prayers.

St. Catherine of Alexandria Parish & School Altar Server Registration Form 2023-2024

Student's Name (First & Last)

Grade Level Starting in Fall 2023:
Are You: New Altar Server () Trained Altar Server ()
Student's SCA Email:
Parent's Name:
Parent's Email:
Parent's Phone Number:
Mass Time Regularly Attended:

Becoming an Altar Server is not only an honor, but an important part in the offering of the Mass. You will be assisting the priest in the celebration of the Eucharist, which is the foundation of your faith. If you are interested in becoming an Altar Server, please discuss it first with your parent (s) or guardian (s), as you will be making a serious commitment. It is no different than being on the basketball team, or any other hobby or activity that you participate in. You will be able to indicate your preferred Mass time and any dates that you are unavailable.

If you decide you would like to become an Altar Server, please fill out this form and drop it off at the Rectory Office or in the Collection Basket at Church. We will contact you with the dates for the Altar Server Training classes.

Upcoming Training: December 14th, 2023 2:45pm to 3:30pm & 6:30pm to 7:15pm in the Church

If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Sandra Bustamante, Altar Server Ministry sbustamante@scaoaklawn.org 708-423-5747



Advent Focus: Prince of Peace, Come to Us

"Brothers and Sisters: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ." That is the greeting used by St. Paul in today's second reading from Paul's first letter to the Corinthians. This salutation is used by Paul five times in the New Testament. Grace is always first followed by peace. That is most likely because without grace there can be no peace. Peace naturally follows grace. Grace is the blessings we receive from God, the gifts to which we respond with gratitude as His disciples.

This is the First Sunday of Advent, the first Sunday in our liturgical Church year. Advent means "arrival" or "beginning." We are preparing for the arrival of the Christ child, but we are also initiating our Church year, and we are invited to evaluate our lives in Christ and to try to deepen that relationship.

The first reading (Isaiah 63: 16B-17, 19B; 64: 2-7) is a prayer. In that prayer Isaiah calls out to God to "return" as if He has gone away. What the prayer says first, however, is "Why do you let us wander, O Lord, from your ways?" Advent is a time for us to strive to refocus on God, to quit wandering, and to return to walk with the Lord as we prepare for His coming. "Our guilt carries us away like the wind." Temptation and sin are powerful forces — hurricane winds — and without God's help we can be carried away by that. Advent is the time to turn back to the Lord, to prepare, to begin anew.

St. Paul, in the second reading (1 Corinthians 1: 3-9) offers thanks to God. The last five verses of today's reading are a prayer of thanksgiving. "I give thanks to my God always..." Discipleship, living a stewardship way of life, summons us to live lives of thanksgiving and gratitude. Paul understood that. Viewing life from the perspective of our blessings is an excellent way to prepare for Christmas. Attitude of gratitude. Four times in this reading Paul refers to Jesus as the Lord Jesus Christ. In Greek and Hebrew translations, the name "Lord" is interchangeable with the name "Yahweh." This is truly the one and only God. Jesus is, of course, the given name of the Christ child. "Jesus" is the Greek pronunciation of the Hebrew "Joshua," and Joshua in Hebrew means "Yahweh is salvation." And the name "Christ" is the Greek translation of the Hebrew "Messiah," meaning the "anointed one." As we prepare for the arrival of the Christ child, Paul has it all included in that phrase, Lord Jesus Christ.

Are we truly prepared for the Kingdom of God? Does it cause us to live God-centered lives that bring us ongoing renewal? These are all questions that are answered more easily if we strive to live discipleship as a way of life. In the five verses of our Gospel from Mark today, Jesus gives great emphasis to being watchful and alert. This is not a piece of advice to just "be on the lookout," but that we must be ever ready. The Lord reminds us in Scripture that we cannot and do not know the time and place of His coming.

Today's Gospel (Mark 13: 33-37) tells us, "You do not know when the time will come," and "You do not know when the Lord of the house is coming." Advent is the perfect time to take time each day, more than once daily, if possible, to talk to the Lord and pray as an individual and as families; to turn to God; and to be alert, eager, and ready.

Until we meet at the Table, Father Fred

3



November 26, 2023



Luke Robert Hutchinson Parents: Frank & Jennifer (Finn) Hutchinson Godparent: Gabrielle Finn



To schedule your child for Baptism, please contact: Sandra Bustamante sbustamante@scaoaklawn.org 708-423-5747

4th Sunday of Advent Mass Times



December 23, 2023 Saturday 4:00 PM

December 24, 2023 Sunday 8:00 AM, 9:30 AM & 11:30 AM No 6:00 PM Mass



Christmas Season Mass Schedule 2023

FEAST OF THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD (A Holy Day of Obligation)

Sunday, December 24, CHRISTMAS EVE

3:00 PM: Family Mass in the Gym (Note NEW time) Children's Christmas Pageant Gospel, & Children's Choir and Bell Chimers

4:30 PM: Mass in Church (Note NEW time)

No 6:00 PM Mass

Monday, December 25, CHRISTMAS DAY

12:00 AM - Midnight Mass: Gathering Carols at 11:45 PM

8:00 AM (Music with Phil Caffee)

9:30 AM (Live-streamed, Hallelujah Choir)

11:30 AM (Contemporary Praise Ensemble)

No 6:00 PM Mass

Sunday, December 31, FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY

4:00 PM (Anticipated on Saturday, December 30)

8:00 AM

9:30 AM

11:30 AM

No 6:00 PM Mass

Monday, January 1, 2024: FEAST OF MARY, HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

4:00 PM (Anticipated on Saturday, December 31) 8:30 AM & 10:00AM

FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY

Saturday, January 6, 2024: 4:00 PM

Sunday, January 7, 2024: 8:00 AM, 9:30 AM (Live-streamed), 11:30 AM & 6:00 PM

Confessions: Saturday, 3:00 PM- 3:45 PM

Weekday Masses: Monday - Friday, 8:30 AM

Communion Service: Tuesday -Thursday, 6:30 AM (Enter through the north parking lot wood doors)

Adoration Chapel: Monday – Friday, 3:15 PM - 6:15 PM

(Located at 10600 S. Karlov Ave)



Christmas Toy Drive

November 18 through December 3rd (Before and after all Masses)

We will be helping to support Catholic Charities' Christmas Toy Drive. Last year, the Toy Drive helped some of the neediest children in the care of Catholic Charities unwrap the Spirit of the Season.

Please bring the toys to the church vestibule. Toys should be **NEW**, in their **ORIGINAL PACKAGES**, and **UNWRAPPED**. Catholic Charities' volunteers will wrap the toys and distribute to the needlest of children throughout the Archdiocese.

A **Monetary** or **Gift Card** donation can be dropped off in the rectory mailbox. Please write **Toy Drive** on the outside of the envelope.

Catholic Charities will pick up all donated toys on Monday, December 4th.

NEW THIS YEAR, for your shopping convenience, Catholic Charities has provided a suggested list of desired toys/gifts for the children. Look for the bulletin insert next weekend! You can also donate at:

https://www.catholiccharities.net/give/celebration/ This Toy Drive is sponsored by our St. Vincent de Paul Society.

Christmas Decorating for Jesus' Birthday

We need your **strength** to carry and set up the trees on **Sunday, December 3 at 1:00pm** in Church.

Please join us!

Let's glorify the Lord and decorate the trees, the Church and the vestibule! All are welcome to this celebration on **Sunday**, **December 10 at 1:00pm** in Church. **We need your help!**

January 14: all are invited to help put all our trees and decorations in their storage rooms.

All are welcome, bring the whole family!

Students can receive service hours!

Parents: please contact Sandra Bustamante,
sbustamante@scaoaklawn.org

Please email Theresa Ready at tready@scaoaklawn.org if you are able to help at any of the above dates or call 708-425-2850.

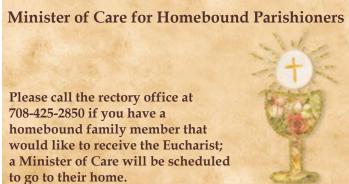
SUPPORT St. Catherine

GiveCentral Offering QR Code

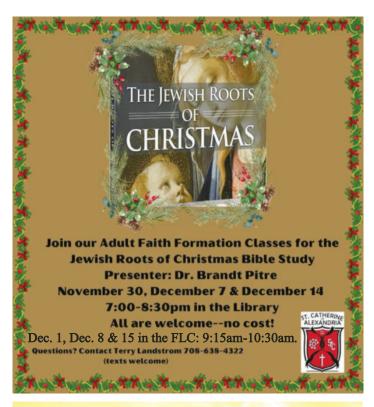


This QR Code will take you directly to our SCA GiveCentral Page. Scan the QR Code with your smartphone and scroll to the desired donation envelope/link. We are very grateful for your support. https://www.givecentral.org/location/302event/20836









Alpha Week # 11: Wednesday, December 6 at 6:45pm Session Topic: Does God heal today?

Explore: life, faith, meaning Watch Alpha stories: alphausa.org/stories

Interested?
Contact Mike Bentley,
mbentley@scaoaklawn.org
or 708-423-4047

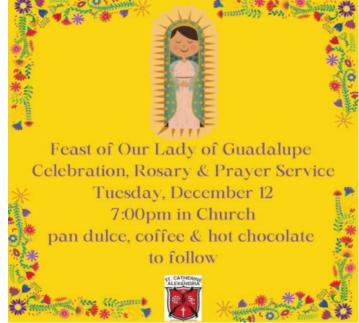
All sessions will be held in Kane Hall.



PERPETUAL NOVENA TO ST. RITA OF CASCIA

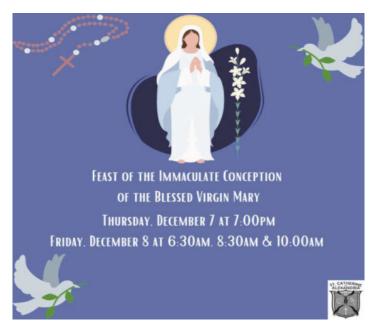
Monthly Perpetual Novena to St. Rita of Cascia St. Rita of Cascia Shrine Chapel 7740 S. Western Ave. Thursday, December 7, 2023 at 7:00pm

Confession is available at 6:00pm. Mass and novena prayers will begin at 7:00pm. Stay after Mass to enjoy a slice of the famous Racine Danish Kringle and socialize with new friends. Secure and ample parking is available. stritashrinechicago.com



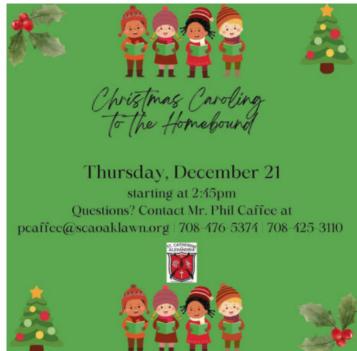














Pray the Rosary with the 55+ Club Wednesday, December 13

All are welcome to join us, as a guest, for the 8:30am Mass in memory of Ronald Niego from the 55+ Club. We will pray the Rosary after Mass and then meet at the Country House Restaurant at 9:45am for breakfast. It is located at 5400 W. 127th Street in Alsip. To register call: Arlene Breier 708-425-5712 or Larry Bergnach 708-499-2672.

The Personal & Political Life of Mayor Richard J. Daley

Thursday, December 7 at 10:00am Oak Lawn Senior Center 5220 W. 105th Street

To register call: Larry Bergnach at 708-499-2672 (Refreshments will be served)



SCA SCHOOL NEWS



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Retirement Fund for Religious Second Collection - December 9 & 10 retiredreligious.org

Please give to those who have given a lifetime.

Lector Schedule

December 9

4:00pm: Jerry Carberry

December 10

8:00am: Peggy Faust 9:30am: Family Mass

11:30am: Donna Marie Ivers

6:00pm: Deb Caffee



Music Schedule

December 9

4:00pm: Hallelujah Choir

December 10

8:00am: No Music

9:30am: Children's Choir/Bell Chimers 11:30am: Contemporary Praise Ensemble

6:00pm: Phil Caffee



Eucharistic Minister Schedule

December 9

4:00pm: Ralph Soch/TBD

December 10

8:00am: Maureen Doyle/Peggy Faust 9:30am: Pat Tobias/Ted Tobias 11:30am: Mitch Ciesla/John Farrell

6:00pm: Fernando Flores



Altar Servers

December 9

4:00pm: Lily H December 10 8:00am: TBD 9:30am: Mikey H

11:30am: Millie H 6:00pm: TBD





Weekly Financial Summary

Week of November 26, 2023

Regular Sunday Collections: \$8,040*

*GiveCentral will be included in the monthly summary.

Thank you for your continued support!

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No TRIP Sales on December 28 or January 4

Weekly Activities:

The Adoration Chapel is open Monday - Friday

from 3:15pm to 6:15pm in the FLC.

(December 5-7: Santa's Secret Workshop-FLC)

Monday, December 4

7:15pm: Liturgy Meeting-FLC Kitchen

Tuesday, December 5

2:15pm-3:15pm: Apostolate of the Returning King-Rectory 7:00pm: Family School Association Meeting-Kane Hall

Wednesday, December 6

2:30pm-3:30pm: Children's Choir & Bell Choir Practice-Church 4:15pm-4:45pm: Children's Choir & Bell Choir Practice-Church

6:45: Alpha-Kane Hall

7:15pm: Hallelujah Choir Practice-Church

Thursday, December 7

6:30pm-8:00pm: TRIP Sales-Church Vestibule

7:00pm: Men's Club Meeting-Kane Hall

7:00pm-8:30pm:Jewish Roots of Christmas Bible Study-Library

Friday, December 8

9:15am-10:30am: Jewish Roots of Christmas Bible Study-FLC

Saturday, December 9

Second Collection: Retirement Fund for the Religious

8:00am: Church Cleaning (All are welcome)

Sunday, December 10

Second Collection: Retirement Fund for the Religious Religious Education 9:30am Mass/10:30am Classes 9:30am Mass:7th Grade/Hospitality after in Kane Hall 1:00pm: Christmas Decorating-Church (All are welcome)



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Sarah Malburg sarah@firstinrealtye



Hello, nice to meet you! My name is Sarah Malburg. I am a parishioner of St. Catherine's. My husband and I have two students currently enrolled. I live, work and volunteer in Oak Lawn and our surrounding communities. I love where I live and I love our community. I work with both residential and commercial real estate sales and leasing. Please reach out to me if you have any questions.









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AD CREATOR STUDIO

St. Catherine of Alexandria Church & School 10621 S. Kedvale Ave. Oak Lawn, IL 60453

> Rectory Office: 708-425-2850 School Office: 708-425-5547

The Rectory Office is located at: 4100 W. 107th Street, Oak Lawn, Illinois 60453

Rectory Office Phone: 708-425-2850

Fax: 708-425-2313

Rectory Office Hours:

Monday through Friday: 8:30am to 8:00pm

Saturday: 10am to 2:00pm

Operations Manager: Joan Strainis

jstrainis@scaoaklawn.org

Parish Secretary/Bulletin Editor: Theresa Ready

tready@scaoaklawn.org

Business Manager: John Leahy: jleahy@scaoaklawn.org

Parish Website: parish.scaoaklawn.org

School Office Phone: 708-425-5547

Fax: 708-425-3701

School Website: scaoaklawn.org

AM & PM School Extended Care Program:

708-568-1259

Alexandria Center: 708-499-4966

Religious Education Office: 10600 S. Karlov Ave.

Coordinator of Family Faith Formation: Sandra Bustamante

708-423-5747 sbustamante@scaoaklawn.org

Director of Music Ministry & Liturgy: Phil Caffee

708-425-3110 pcaffee@scaoaklawn.org

Fr. Lion Center: 10600 S. Karlov Ave.

708-423-5747

Mission Statement

St. Catherine of Alexandria is a Catholic community, rooted in faith, family and friendship. We are responsive to the needs and concerns of those around us. We live out Jesus' words, "Come, follow me," and invite others to join us.

Past Pastors of St. Catherine of Alexandria Parish

†Rev. Patrick Henry †Rev. William Lion †Rev. Joseph O'Brien †Rev. George McKenna †Rev. John Kane

May they rest peacefully in the arms of Christ.

New Parishioners: We welcome you!

Please call the Rectory Office at 708-425-2850 between the hours of 8:30am to 4:00pm to register.

There is a parish registration form available on our parish website: parish.scaoaklawn.org

Weekend Masses: Saturday: 4:00pm

Sunday: 8:00am, 9:30am, 11:30am and 6:00pm

Weekday Masses: Monday through Friday at 8:30am.

6:30am Communion Service: Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday; enter into the North lot wooden doors.

Adoration Chapel: Monday - Friday, 3:15pm to 6:15pm;

10600 S. Karlov Ave.

Confessions: Saturdays from 3:00pm to 3:45pm.

Baptisms: 2nd & 4th Sundays at 1:00pm.

Schedule subject to change.

Weddings: Please call the rectory office at least six months in

advance of the date you plan to marry.

Office for the Protection of Children & Youth 312-534-5254

SCA St. Vincent de Paul Society
Cell Phone 630-750-2348 Email: SVdP@scaoaklawn.org

If you are a victim or survivor of domestic abuse seeking help: National Hotline 1-800-799-SAFE (7233); 1-800-787-3224 (TDD)

Live Stream Mass

The 9:30am Mass on Sunday is live streamed. Live streams are always accessible on the following link:

https://www.facebook.com/stcatherinesoaklawn.

You do not need a Facebook account to access the Facebook link.

Additionally, they are accessible in the late afternoon at:

http://www.parish.scaoaklawn.org/streamed_masses.

Also, go to parish.scaoaklawn.org and select Streamed Masses.

St. Catherine's YouTube Channel:





SCA Parish Instagram Page

Search for it on Instagram with the handle @saintcatherineofalexandria.



St. Catherine of Alexandria has a FACEBOOK PAGE.

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