

# *Our Lady at St. Germaine*

Our Lady at St. Germaine Parish Center: 708-636-5060  
9711 S. Kolin Avenue  
Oak Lawn, Illinois 60453  
St. Germaine School: 708-425-6063

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December 11, 2022

Third Sunday of Advent

## **The Lord's Highway**



## A Letter from the Pastor

Dear Parish Family of Our Lady at St. Germaine,

God sent his son, Jesus, the Christ, the Anointed One to fulfill the words of the prophet Isaiah: *He has sent me to bring glad tidings to the poor, to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to captives . . .* There are so many voices crying out to us for help today from all sides, but, they are not always easily heard or understood. These voices themselves are not always sure what they need or want.

We live in a world that lives in much physical poverty, but, also in great spiritual poorness. People are looking and searching for freedom from the anxieties of their daily lives. They feel captive and bound to a way of life that only ties them down. Lives meaning and value has, for them, been centered on social trends that are fleeting, quickly replaced by something that promises a greater joy.

Through the Sacrament of Baptism, we all share in the priesthood of Christ, the Anointed One of God. The spirit of the Lord, our God, dwells within us, giving us the power to release those held captive by the promises of a world that cannot of itself bring us true freedom from our human condition and sinfulness. Left on our own we cannot restore the Lord's justice in the world. Only Christ, who took upon himself our human nature, can free us from whatever imprisons us in anxiety and broken hearts. Christ truly understands our broken hearts and he alone can free us from whatever holds us down from living in true joy with the Father.

Christ is our source of joy, freedom and salvation, because he humbled himself, by taking our human nature that we might share in his divine nature and be one with God in Holiness. Sharing in Christ's priesthood, we must also humble ourselves that we too may bring joy, freedom, and justice to our world. We must humbly allow the spirit of the Lord to take hold of us and make us his anointed ones, sharing in the voice of Christ, who is the source of all holiness.

Fr. Tom Cabala  
Pastor

### FRIDAY, DECEMBER 16 @ 7PM—CARDINAL CUPICH PRESIDING

SIMBANG GABI is a devotional nine-day series of Masses attended by Filipino Catholics in anticipation of Christmas. Simbang Gabi originated in the early days of Spanish rule over the Philippines, around 1669, as a practical compromise for farmers who began work in the fields before sunrise to avoid the noonday heat. Priests began to say Mass in the early mornings instead of evening novenas that were more common in the rest of the Hispanic world. This cherished Christmas custom eventually became a distinct feature of Philippine culture, community and sharing.

**Our parish will host one of the Simbang Gabi novena Masses this Advent on Friday, December 16 at 7pm. Cardinal Cupich will be presiding.**

**Mark your calendars and join us for this joyful celebration as we wait in hope for the coming of our Savior's birth.**

On my behalf and that of the entire parish staff, may your Christmas be filled with the sounds of Christmas joy. May this coming year of 2023 keep us embraced in the peace and love of the Lord through the intercession of Our Lady of Loretto and St. Germaine.

Our holiday schedule is as follows:

**Parish Reconciliation Service: Monday, December 19 at 6:30 PM**

**Christmas Eve Masses: Saturday, December 24 at 3:00 PM (family mass), 4:30 PM and 9:00 PM**

**Christmas Day Masses: Sunday, December 25 at 7:30 AM, 9:30 AM and 11:30 AM**

**New Year's Eve Mass: Saturday, December 31 at 4:00 PM**

**New Year's Day Masses: Sunday, January 1 at 7:30 AM, 9:30 AM and 11:30 AM**

*Rev. Thomas S. Cabala*

**MASS INTENTIONS****Monday, December 12-Our Lady of Guadalupe**

8:30AM Mass:  
Anna Marie Kane, Lorraine Flanagan

**Tuesday, December 13-St. Lucy**

8:30AM Mass:  
Rose Stachovic, James Cesak, John Flanagan

**Weds, December 14-St. John of the Cross**

7:00AM Mass: Karol Ault  
8:30AM Communion Service:

**Thursday, December 15-Weekday**

8:30 AM Mass:  
Greg Grochowski(healing)

**Friday, December 16-Weekday**

8:30 AM Mass:  
Deceased Members of Our Lady at St. Germaine

**Saturday, December 17-Weekday**

8:30 AM: Lida Sawszak, Menzie Hojilla  
4:00 PM: Sharon Baran, Irene Kaval

**Sun., December 18-4th Sunday of Advent**

7:30AM- Byron Glista  
9:30AM- Mary Louise Alai, Juan Manuel Martinez  
11:30AM- Marge Ricker, Jean Nelson,  
Stephen Walsh, Maria DeRosa Corrado,  
Geraldine Companio, Domingo Damatan Jr.

**REMEMBER OUR BELOVED DEAD**

Caryl LaPorte

**Please pray for those who are sick, their families & caregivers, including:**

David Akai, Michael Barry, Brian Bednarski, Chris Benjamin, Virginia Bovilsky, Elaine Bridgeman, Baby Nolan Burby, Diane Cernivivo, Pat Cesak, Geri Chaput, Taylor Collard, Mary Connolly, Alexandra Connor, Matthew Connor, Ann Contorno, Elizabeth Czajka, Jericho Jeffrey DeVivo, Emily DiPierro, Adriana Elgas, Paige Epstein, Karen Finn, Walter Furtner, Patsy Galecki, Giblin Family, Lynn Groebe, Gerardo Gonzalez, Pearl Goworowski, Tom Hamilton, Peg Hansen, Kaitlyn Hedderman, Debbie Heitz, Cathy Hinz, Gina Jakelski, Robert "Mitch" Jones, Liz Kapovich, Dennis Kelsch, Garry Keller, Lorna Kendall, Alvina Kita, Richard Kita, Joe Kress, Mario LaPorte, Judith Lasky, Charles Lee, Kim Lewis, LaVerne Lewandowski, Frank Lopez, Ray Lynch, Eileen Carroll Lynch, Rita Martin, Eugene Martyn, Michael Mattaliano, Raimonda Miknius, Dean Ojeda, Raul Osornio, Katherine Pape, Nicolas Rossio, Frank Roti, Guadalupe Martin Ruvalcaba, Marty Safstrom, Sharon Safstrom, Norma Salas, Devin Sanchez, Audrey Schmitz, Monica (Ranalli) Schuberth, Mary Schwappach, Phillip Scropp, Jayme Shipman, Ellie Smith, Ryan Smith, Joe Smyth, Kayla Smyth, Carol Spero, Michael Stupay, Rita Daniels Suchor, Jay Szewczyk, Patty Tapia, Kimberly Thielen, Mary Ann Trop, Ethan Trusk, Tom Trusk, Zach Trusk, Vickie Vertucci, Pat Walker, Casey Wiedenski, Adrienne Wild, Susan Zak, Gussie Zawaski

**Ministers' Schedule for Next Weekend December 17-18, 2022**

|                              | SAT 4:00 PM                | SUN 7:30 AM                | SUN 9:30 AM                | SUN 11:30 AM            |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|
| <b>Proclaimer</b>            | T. Vorderer                |                            | S. Rosenbaum               | G. Chaput               |
| <b>Eucharistic Ministers</b> | T. Vorderer<br>L. Vorderer | J. Antos<br>K. Kobiernicki | G. Pacetti<br>S. Rosenbaum | S. Chimera<br>M. Powers |



**LESSONS and CAROLS**  
**TODAY, SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11th @ 3pm**

Lessons and Carols is an Advent prayer in music and scripture readings that proclaims the coming of Christ through the prophets of the Old Testament and brought to fulfillment at Jesus' birth in Bethlehem.

As the days become more hectic it is good to take some quiet time to prepare our hearts for the real meaning of Christmas to enter our lives.

Please join us for this sacred event on Sunday, December 11, at 3PM in Church.

## Advent Reconciliation Service

Please join us for our Advent Penance  
Service Monday, December 19th at 6:30pm



**Tuesday, December 13<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm**  
**Our Lady at St. Germane**  
**Church**



Please join the Knights of Columbus in  
honoring our Blessed Mother, Mary, by praying  
Her special prayer, the Rosary.

Hosted by the Knights of Columbus  
Council 14553



### ***Thank You***

Thank you to all the women of the Parish that attended or hosted a table at the Advent by Candlelight event on November 28<sup>th</sup> in the Parish Hall.

It was so good that we had time to reflect on the Season of Advent preparing our hearts with the reflections of "Five Little Words" associated with the candles on our Advent Wreath;  
**Hope –Love– Joy –Peace and Messiah.**

The final or fifth candle is called Messiah, which many people celebrate and light on Christmas Eve.

The last little word is most important of all: Christ—the Messiah. Christ's time on this earth brings you the ultimate hope, love, joy and peace- blessings that you are compelled to share with others.

Wishing all a very blessed Christmas Season.



## Adoration Chapel

Adorers are needed for the following hours

**Tuesday 3~4pm 4~5pm**

**Thursday 1~2pm 2~3pm**

Please call Fran Barba at 708-567-6119 if you are able to be a scheduled  
adorer or be a temporary adorer

### **READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

Monday: Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab;  
Jdt 13:18bcde, 19; Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47,  
or any readings from the Common of the Blessed Virgin Mary, nos. 707-712  
Tuesday: Zep 3:1-2, 9-13; Ps 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-19, 23; Mt 21:28-32  
Wednesday: Is 45: 6b-8, 18, 21b-25; Ps 85:9ab, 10-14; Lk 7:18b-23  
Thursday: Is 54:1-10; Ps 30:2, 4-6, 11-12a, 13b; Lk 7:24-30  
Friday: Is 56:1-3a, 6-8; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 7-8; Jn 5:33-36  
Saturday: Gn 49:2, 8-10; Ps 72:1-4ab, 7-8, 17; Mt 1:1-17  
Sunday: Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-6; Rom 1:1-7; Mt 1:18-24

### **CHOIR NEWS**

Our choir practices will  
be Wednesday  
evenings from 6:50pm-  
8:00pm.

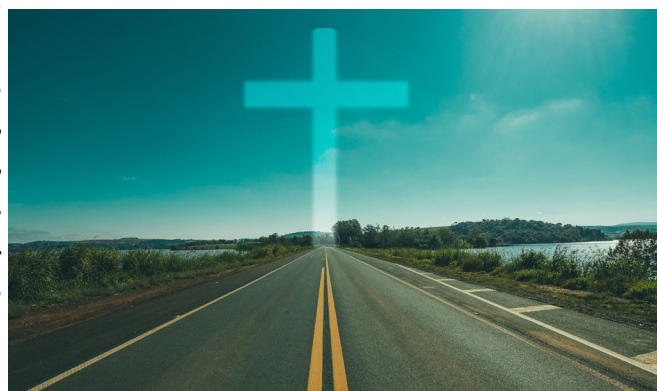
**DEC 16** Simbang Gabi  
7pm

## *The Lord's Highway*

*Our theme for this Advent is "The Lord's Highway." The reading from the book of Isaiah on this first Sunday invites us to "climb the Lord's mountain," and to "walk in the light of the Lord." We know that the gospel message of John the Baptist is to "prepare the way of the Lord," and "make straight his path." The Psalms too speak of the joy of "going up to the house of the Lord." This Advent, we will reflect on our journey along the Lord's Highway. Like any journey, we look for the directions to reach our destination.*

*The season of Advent isn't really designed to be a countdown to the celebration of Christmas. Instead, it is a time of preparation for Christ's return and the establishment of the kingdom of God. It is a reminder that we are heading someplace; we are works in progress; we are longing for something more. That's the true call of Advent. At the same time, we are indeed looking back. We remember the Incarnation, when God broke into our history and became present in an astonishing way. We also look forward to when Emmanuel—God with us—will be how we live always.*

*We are traveling the Lord's Highway, this Advent and always. We may not yet be all that we can be; we may not have yet reached our destinations as the people of God, but we are on the way. We are a pilgrim people who are ready to be embraced by the Lord as we journey. Let's rejoice in our Advent journey even in the struggles of a difficult world, even as we pray for those who are hurting, who are grieving, who are lost and alone. We celebrate and are joyful because our journey along the Lord's Highway will bring us into the wondrous presence of the Lord.*



### **THE MARION GIVING TREES**

As we soon celebrate the blessing of Thanksgiving and anticipate Advent, it is time to turn our attention to the Marion Trees. Last year was a wonderful year for many families because of YOU.

The Giving Trees and Tags will be up this weekend with cards to help those in the area who are in need. Please take a tag and return your gift by this week!

Once again, the Marion Giving Trees, will be in honor of Marion Krucek. Marion exemplified the spirit of giving in every aspect of her life. She loved this parish, and celebrating Christmas while experiencing the generosity of the parish community was one of her greatest joys. May her spirit of loving concern for others live in all of us this holy season.

The Marion Giving Trees are up and have cards available at the Parish Center or we can mail or email you one as well. The trees will hold cards from our Courage Program, God's Special Friends and our Adopt A Family (Families in Need) Program.

Our parish families are always so incredibly generous. Each year, the cards are taken from the trees, and wonderful gifts are bought. We hope that this year will be the same. We realize that so many of our parishioners have a little less this year, and it might be a little more difficult to share. If you are able to take a card from the trees, we will be most grateful.

Saying "Thank you" doesn't seem enough, but know that it comes with prayers of gratitude for all of our generous givers. May the baby, born in a manger, fill your Christmas with love, joy and peace.

Merry Christmas !!!!!!!

If you have any questions, please call Jen at 636-5060 x200. or email [jstazak@archchicago.org](mailto:jstazak@archchicago.org)

## STEWARDSHIP REPORT

*Please be generous in your support of our parish ministries and services.*

### December 4, 2022

|                        |                    |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| Sunday:                | \$8,0001.00        |
| Sunday (GIVE CENTRAL): | \$2,335.50         |
| <b>SUNDAY TOTAL:</b>   | <b>\$10,336.50</b> |
| *AID ED(GIVE CENTRAL): | \$30.00            |
| St. Vincent DePaul:    | \$240.00           |
| Human Development:     | \$60.00            |
| Solemnity of Mary:     | \$50.00            |
| Christmas Flowers:     | \$252.00           |
| Christmas:             | \$460.00           |
| Food Baskets:          | \$45.00            |
| Immaculate Conception: | \$240.00           |
| Thanksgiving:          | \$125.00           |

\*GIVE CENTRAL & ACH ARE IN ADDITION TO REGULAR COLLECTION

*2023 Mass book is open and has plenty of availability. Please call the office at 636-5060 x200 to request a mass. Sympathy, healing, birthday, anniversary and special intentions.*

## FOOD PAN-TRY

Needed this month....



Jelly, Cereal, Peaches, Stuffing ,  
Rice or Pasta-roni, Coffee, Cereal,  
Mac & Cheese,  
Pudding Cups, cookies.  
Gift cards to buy perishables

**THANK YOU FOR ALWAYS  
HELPING US HELP OTHERS**

## Split The Pot Drawing



This week envelope #351 was drawn and did not participate in the drawing. The amount of \$540.00 will be added to next weeks pot.

Catholic radio is available 24 hours a day at 950AM. You can listen to Mass at noon, join in the family rosary at 7pm, and learn about the faith listening to Relevant Radio. The daily schedule is printable at [relevantradio.com](http://relevantradio.com), or call 1-877-291-0123 for more information.

We would like to update our list of members of our parish and community who are serving in the military.



Please submit names to [jstazak@archchicago.org](mailto:jstazak@archchicago.org)

## SAVE THE DATES:

Rosary– December 13th at 7:00pm  
Simbang Gabi– December 16th  
Bake Sale– December 17th & 18th  
Comedy Night with Pat Tomasulo- Feb 3

## Women's Club News

Our Christmas Bake Sale will be held  
**December 17 & 18th**  
after all the Masses.

### "Luscious Creations"

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Please place your order before **December 12th**



**Thank you!**  
To the 7th & 8th graders for hosting Breakfast with Santa, to the Knights of Columbus for the delicious breakfast and the Men's Club for flying Santa here to visit all the families. This event collected toys for all the needy families in the parish.

Merry Christmas!



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## SNOWBIRDS

If you are away for an extended period of time, please be sure to send a note with your envelopes, or email the following info to:

[jstazak@archchicago.org](mailto:jstazak@archchicago.org)

Name, address, Winter address, Email, Date leaving and Date returning. Thank you for helping us keep our records up to date.

## PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

### Help Needed

**We are looking for anyone who would be interested in crocheting baby Christening Blankets and assisting in special projects moving forward. The yarn is provided for you. If you would be interested in helping, please contact Eleanor at 708-422-3643**

Many blessings are crocheted and knit into what we make through the prayers we say for every shawl. We have come to realize that there are endless possibilities for the use of Prayer Shawls. Whether there is a serious need or a special celebration the one common factor is that the comfort and healing power of prayer is sent with every shawl. Stop in the Parish Center or call 636-5060 to request one.





**They will meet  
with joy and gladness  
Isaiah 35:10**



## O ANTIPHONS

We continue to make our Advent chain. Read one strip each day and talk about the questions with your family. Color the strips, cut them out, and add them to your chain.



### December 15

Jesus' birth begins God's kingdom on earth. Which of Isaiah's images (Isaiah 35:1-6a) most appeals to you?



### December 16

Las Posadas begins tonight. Will Mary and Joseph find room in your family's home? Set your Nativity scene on your dinner table.



### December 17

The O Antiphons begin, prayers of titles for Jesus. Today we invoke "O Wisdom." What does it mean to be wise?



### December 18

"O Lord." Jesus is Lord, truly God. "Emmanuel" means "God with us." Where do you know "God with you" in your life?



### December 19

"O Flower of Jesse." Jesse was an ancestor of Jesus. Who are your family's ancestors in faith? Name them in prayer tonight.



### December 20

"O Key of David." David was a shepherd and a great king. Jesus is called the Good Shepherd. Why is this a good name for him?



### December 21

"O Dawn." Jesus is our Light. In these dark days of winter Jesus brings his light of love, peace, and joy. How is Jesus like the sun?



## God's Word for Children

The prophet Isaiah talks about flowers blooming in the desert and dry land someday (Isaiah 35:1-2). Look at the different flowers shown. Count how many of each type there are. Write the numbers inside the boxes.

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**Third Sunday of Advent**

John the Baptist prepared the way for Jesus. Some people thought John was the Messiah, but he was not. To find out what John was, read the word on each envelope and notice which letter appears twice. Circle that letter below the envelope and then write the circled letters in order on the lines below.

|                 |                |                |
|-----------------|----------------|----------------|
| hammer<br>a m s | tree<br>e q t  | dress<br>d k s |
| stars<br>s a z  | green<br>u g e | nine<br>e f n  |
| foggy<br>g v y  | even<br>n e x  | berry<br>r b c |

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## OUR LADY AT ST. GERMAINE PARISH

### ST. GERMAINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

9711 S. Kolin Avenue Oak Lawn Illinois

Parish Office: 708-636-5060 Fax: 708-636-8007

School Office: 708-425-6063

Parish Center Hours:

Monday—Friday 9:00am ~ 2:30pm

Website: [ourladyatstgermaine.org](http://ourladyatstgermaine.org)

#### WEEKDAY MASS:

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday: 8:30AM Mass  
Wednesday: 7:00AM Mass, 8:30AM Communion Service

#### WEEKEND MASSES:

Saturday: 4:00 PM; Sunday: 7:30 AM, 9:30 AM, 11:30 AM

**RECONCILIATION:** Saturday from 2:45-3:30 PM

#### ADORATION CHAPEL:

Tuesdays 9-6pm, Wednesdays 9-8pm, Thursdays 9-6pm

#### Welcome to Our Lady at St. Germaine Parish!

To register in the parish, or for information about any of our organizations, ministries, services, or educational opportunities, please call the Parish Center at 636-5060.

**BAPTISMS—** Call Parish Center to schedule.

Fr. Thomas S. Cabala

Jack Malone

Joe Gonzalez

Frank Mamolella

Amy Condon

Phillip O'Rourke

Marianne Powers

Sr. Regina DeVitto CND

Dan Arens

Casey Wiedenski (636-6647)

Nancy Dunne

Molly O'Grady (636-8001)

Jen Stazak

Bulletin Editor

Pastor

Senior Deacon, Prison Ministry

Permanent Deacon

Permanent Deacon

Operations Director

School Principal

Director of Children's Faith Formation

Liturgy & Worship

Liturgy & Music

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