

# *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

*Opening Windows...*



## *Second Sunday of Advent*

December 5, 2021

Up, Jerusalem! stand upon the heights;  
look to the east and see your children gathered  
from the east and the west at the word of the Holy One,  
rejoicing that they are remembered by God.

Baruch 5:5



## A Letter from the Pastor

Dear Parish Family of Our Lady at St. Germaine,

On this Second Sunday of Advent, our attention is turned to the great figure of John the Baptist. John calls us out to the desert, proclaiming a time of repentance and renewal, for the day of the Lord is at hand.

While there is no literal desert around us; there are countless other deserts. That is to say people, maybe even ourselves, who feel parched, exhausted, and anxious over health issues or financial matters. And, whether we live in a small suburb or the large city, we may feel isolated, alone, and deserted.

During this season of Advent, the Church reminds us, through the prophets such as Isaiah and John the Baptist that we are not alone, that God is with us. This is what we celebrate come Christmas morning; the angels announce that Emmanuel-Christ our Savior is indeed with us. By his birth Christ took upon himself our human nature, our pains, and sufferings; through his humanity he shows us the path toward overcoming the darkness.

By being gift to one another, as Christ is a gift to us, we can overcome the dark and find the true light. To be a gift to others means opening our hearts to others. It means giving of ourselves as Christ gave of himself to bring the light of God's peace and love into the world.

John the Baptist was never afraid to speak out for what was right and just. He was never afraid to point out the darkness of society. He courageously proclaimed Christ as the Light, as the Lamb of God. He prepared the way of the Lord for others and as a result he himself recognized Jesus as his Lord and savior.

Let us also open a way for the Lord for others that they and us may also recognize the Lord's presence in our lives this Advent and Christmas.

Sincerely,

*Fr. Tom Cabala*

## Save the dates....

*Wed., December 8th-  
Immaculate Conception  
Masses 8:30am, 10:00am &  
7:00pm*

*Sunday, December 12th -  
Advent Lessons & Carols  
3:00pm*

*Wed, December 15th-  
School Christmas Concert  
7:00pm*

*Monday, December 20th-  
Parish Reconciliation Service  
7:00pm*

*Christmas Eve Masses  
3:00pm(Family Mass)  
4:30pm and 9:00pm*

*Christmas Day Masses  
7:30am & 10:30am*

*Sunday, December 26th-  
7:30am & 10:30am*

*New Years Eve Mass-  
Mass at 4:00pm*

*New Years Day Mass-  
7:30am & 10:30am*

*Sunday, January 2nd-  
7:30am & 10:30am*

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Is 35:1-10; Ps 85:9-14; Lk 5:17-26

Tuesday: Is 40:1-11; Ps 96:1-3, 10ac, 11-13; Mt 18:12-14

Wednesday: Gn 3:9-15, 20; Ps 98:1-4; Eph 1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1:26-38

Thursday: Is 41:13-20; Ps 145:1, 9-13ab; Mt 11:11-15

Friday: Is 48:17-19; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Mt 11:16-19

Sat: Sir 48:1-4, 9-11; Ps 80:2ac, 3b, 15-16, 18-19; Mt 17:9a, 10-13

Sunday: Zep 3:14-18a; Is 12:2-3, 4, 5-6; Phil 4:4-7; Lk 3:10-18

*Due to holidays, early bulletin  
deadlines are follows;*

*December 19th bulletin is due 12/8  
December 26th bulletin is due 12/15  
January 2 bulletin is due 12/22*

**MASS INTENTIONS****Monday, December 6– St. Nicholas**

8:30 AM Mass:  
Margaret Gaba

**Tuesday, December 7– Saint Ambrose**

8:30 AM Mass:  
Paul Early

**Wed., December 8– Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

8:30 AM, 10:00 AM & 7:00PM Masses:  
Eileen Grady, Alfred Cueller

**Thursday, December 9– St. Juan Diego**

8:30 AM Mass :  
Patrick Murphy, Lucille Finn, Steven Robin

**Friday, December 10–Our Lady of Loreto**

8:30 AM Mass:  
John Kristofick, Mary Bridgeman

**Sat, December 11– St. Damasus I, Pope**

8:30AM– Ann Manion  
4:00PM–Josephine Konczal, Nolan Cannon Family,  
Dr. William Revethis

**Sun, December 12– Third Sunday of Advent**

7:30AM– Louis D'Amore  
9:30AM– Irene Nykiel, Anna Marie Kane,  
Mary Kay Delaplane  
11:30AM–Bernice Dlugopolski, Bernice Rybka,  
Gene Randich, Cecilia Ebokam

**REMEMBER OUR BELOVED DEAD**

Jose "Cesar" Vazquez

Helen "Marie" Fadden

Mary Culbertson

Eric Zwick

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

Charles Akai Jr., Brian Bednarski, Virginia Bovilsky, Elaine Bridgeman, Baby Nolan Burby, Gerry Campanio, Pat Cesak, Geri Chaput, Taylor Collard, Mary Connolly, Alexandra Connor, Matthew Connor, Ann Contorno, Elizabeth Czajka, Jericho Jeffrey DeVivo, Dolores Dorman, Yvonne (Wepner) Enselman, Karen Finn, Walter Furtner, Patsy Galecki, Giblin Family, Lynn Groebe, Gerardo Gonzalez, Pearl Goworowski, Peg Hansen, Sue Heda, Debbie Heitz, Cathy Hinz, Betty Hedderman, Kaitlyn Hedderman, Gina Jakelski, Robert "Mitch" Jones, Liz Kapovich, Dennis Kelsch, Garry Keller, Alvina Kita, Richard Kita, Frank Klutcharch, Joe Kress, Judith Lasky, 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, Matt Pender, Maggie Powers, Colleen Ritter, Nicolas Rossio, Frank Roti, Guadalupe Martin Ruvalcaba, Marty Safstrom, Sharon Safstrom, Norma Salas, Audrey Schmitz, Mary Schwappach, Phillip Scropp, Jayme Shipman, Ellie Smith, Ryan Smith, Joe Smyth, Joseph Smyth, Kayla Smyth, Carol Spero, Michael Stupay, Rita Daniels Suchor, Jay Szewczyk, Patty Tapia, Kimberly Thielen, Dorothy Trop, Mary Ann Trop, Ethan Trusk, Zach Trusk, Pat Walker, Timothy Watt, Casey Wiedenski, Susan Zak, Gussie Zawaski

**Oplatki Christmas Tradition**

The tradition of the [Oplatki](#) originated in Poland during Early Christian Times. This Christmas custom began with a simple white wafer, baked from flour and water. The wafers are wonderfully designed to display Christmas images, such as the Nativity. The Oplatki are enjoyed by families, typically right before the Christmas Eve meal. The entire family will gather around the table with the Oplatki. Generally the eldest member of the family will begin the ritual by breaking off a piece of the wafer and passing it to another family member with a blessing. This blessing can simply consist of what you desire for your loved one in the upcoming year – whether it be good health, success, or happiness. The purpose of this act is primarily to express one's unconditional love and forgiveness for each member of his or her family. The significance of the Oplatki Christmas wafer is that it shadows the Eucharistic meal that Catholics participate in at each Mass. Just as we share in the Eucharist as one family in Christ and receive Christ's love through the Eucharist, the Oplatki allows for one's immediate family to come together and share love for one another. Although this tradition is primarily enjoyed by the human members of the family, even the family pets can partake in this meal. Whereas the wafers are generally white in color, there are colored Oplatki made especially for pets although both colors are edible by people. Traditionally, this symbolizes the animals that were present at Christ's birth. However, in current times, this can also represent the important role that pets play in the family. The Oplatki tradition is one that is easy and fun to introduce to the family at Christmas time. All it requires is a simple wafer paired with love and affection, and the willingness to share it. This is a heartwarming tradition that will complete your family's time together during the Christmas season.



***Christmas wafers are available for purchase. See an usher while our supply lasts.***



# ALL WELCOME!

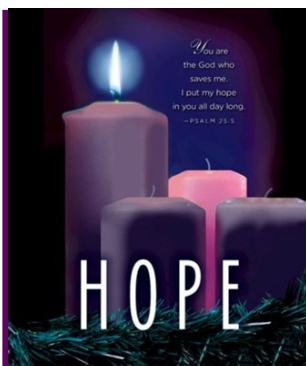
A PRAYER SERVICE WITH SCRIPTURE & CAROLS  
TO PREPARE US FOR THE COMING OF CHRIST,  
THE REAL MEANING OF CHRISTMAS

\*\*\*\*\*

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 12TH @ 3PM IN CHURCH  
ST. GERMAINE SCHOOL & PARISH CHOIR

## THANK YOU!!!

The Women's Club's Delicious Creations would like to put a BIG THANK YOU to those who purchased goodies at our last bake sale. Your generosity helped us to raise \$720.00 for the Raise the Roof Project. Our next bake sale will be the week-end of December 18/19th after all the masses. We will have a huge variety of cookie platters and other Christmas goodies that make great little gifts for someone special. Orders can be taken for 20 dozen or more kolockys by calling Elaine at 708-334-9724. Thanks again!



## Advent 2021

Many of us remember Advent waiting and anticipation from our childhoods. The Advent waiting for holidays, free from school and filled with new toys and new experiences, brought us an excitement that the rest of the year did not possess. Many families marked the waiting with an Advent Calendar. Each day was marked by a treat or a suggested action—all directed to make Christmas a special time. Each day was a surprise!

Our parish Advent theme this year helps us to recall that youthful anticipation. But the theme also underscores a deeper meaning. This Advent we encourage you not only to “open windows” to mark the passage of the days but also to “open windows” to deepen your relationships—to God, to family, and to the wider world.

As you look at our parish Advent calendar, you will find suggestions for windows in your life that might need to be opened. May our “opening” bring about the peace and joy of the season.



## THE MARION GIVING TREE

Last year was a wonderful year for many families because of YOU.

The Giving Trees and Tags are now with cards to help those in the parish and area who are in need. We put up 2 tags per family, in order to make sure we have something for all families. Sometimes cards get misplaced and we wouldn't get them all back. We also help the homeless in the area with hats, gloves, toiletries, laundry change and gift cards for food.

**If you were unable to take a card, some needs are, Gift cards for gas, food, groceries and clothes.**

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)



### Adoration at Our Lady at St Germaine Parish

#### **Jesus is waiting for us in this Sacrament of Love**

*"In the sacred Host, He is present, the true treasure, always waiting for us. Only by adoring this Presence do we learn how to receive Him properly."*



#### **Adoration Chapel Hours**

Tuesday- 9am -3pm  
Wednesday 9am-8pm  
Thursday 9am-6pm

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*We need scheduled adorers for these times:*

*Tuesday 3-4 and 4-5pm*

*Wednesday 4-5pm*

*Thursday 2-3pm*

Please call Fran Barba at 708-567-6119 if you would like to volunteer for an hour.



**Tuesday  
December**

**7**

**3:00 PM – 7:00 PM**

**Helpful tip:  
Make sure to eat a healthy  
meal and drink plenty of  
water before donating.**

#### **Our Lady at St. Germaine Parish & Community Blood Drive**

98th & Kolin Ave, Oak Lawn, IL 60453  
(Enter from East Parking Lot)

To make an appointment, visit [www.versiti.org](http://www.versiti.org), call 1-800-7TO-GIVE or scan the QR Code with your smart phone's camera below.



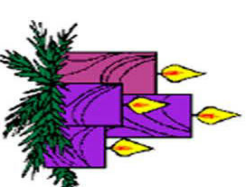
Donors may give blood 48 hours after receiving the covid-19 vaccination.



# Celebrating Advent, 2021

## "Opening Windows"

Our Lady at St. Germaine Parish



Our Advent calendar has some suggestions for areas in your life where you might "open windows" of friendship, understanding and love. We're sure you can add many more on your own.

<p><b>December 5</b></p> <p>Second Sunday of Advent</p> <p>"Prepare the way of the Lord; make straight his paths."</p> <p>Make plans now to join us next Sunday for our parish "Lessons and Carols" Concert at 3:00pm.</p>	<p><b>December 6</b></p> <p>Feast of St. Nicholas</p> <p>"What window do you need to open to make this Advent more about 'presence' than 'presents'?"</p> 	<p><b>December 7</b></p> <p>"What window do you need to open to bring peace to your home and community?"</p> <p>Spend some time doing an "extra" chore in addition to your regular ones. Helping others is not a burden, but a way to show love.</p>	<p><b>December 8</b></p> <p>Feast of the Immaculate Conception</p> <p>Attend Mass and pray to be open to God's plans for you.</p> 	<p><b>December 9</b></p> <p>"What window do you need to open to show your gratitude to another?"</p> <p>Take cookies to the staff at the fire or police department.</p>	<p><b>December 10</b></p> <p>"What window do you need to open to help the poor and the vulnerable?"</p> <p>Make a dessert for the people at a homeless shelter or drop off your favorite snack to our Food pantry</p> 	<p><b>December 11</b></p> <p>"What window do you need to open to begin a Christ centered holiday tradition with your family?"</p> <p>Set up your family's Nativity crèche and say a blessing prayer before dinner.</p>
<p><b>December 12</b></p> <p>Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe</p> <p>Remember St Juan Diego and say a prayer for all newcomers and immigrants.</p> 	<p><b>December 13</b></p> <p>"What window do you need to open to make time for rest and reflection?"</p> <p>Find out about the "O Antiphons" and pray the Canticle of Mary (Magnificat) (Luke 1: 46-55) together at dinner.</p>	<p><b>December 14</b></p> <p>"What window do you need to open to let go of past hurts and grudges?"</p> <p>Make a thank you card for someone who volunteers around the school or church.</p>	<p><b>December 15</b></p> <p>What window do you need to open to make amends to someone you hurt?"</p> <p>Make a visit to the St. Germaine Adoration Chapel with your family.</p>	<p><b>December 16</b></p> <p>"Blessed are you who believed that what was spoken to you by the Lord would be fulfilled."</p> <p>Actions speak louder than words. Remember to keep your promises.</p> 	<p><b>December 17</b></p> <p>"What window do you need to open to help protect God's creation?"</p> <p>Make popcorn and enjoy a family Christmas movie/video together.</p>	<p><b>December 18</b></p> <p>"What window do you need to open to celebrate our rights and freedoms?"</p> <p>In the final days before Christmas, say a prayer at your family Christmas tree. Pray for all those who do not have the things you do.</p>
<p><b>December 19</b></p> <p>Fourth Sunday of Advent</p> <p>"The Lord is with you!"</p> <p>Say a special prayer for each person who will receive one of the gifts under your Christmas tree.</p>	<p><b>December 20</b></p> <p>Today's Gospel re-tells the story of the Annunciation. "What window do you need to open to bring good news to someone?"</p> 	<p><b>December 21</b></p> <p>Be sure to write "thank you" notes for the gifts you received.</p> 	<p><b>December 22</b></p> <p>"It's not how much we give, but how much love we put into giving"</p> <p>Mother Theresa of Calcutta</p> 	<p><b>December 23</b></p> <p>You can receive daily meditation emails and video clips from <i>Dynamic Catholic</i>, by Matthew Kelly. For more information check out <a href="http://www.DynamicCatholic.com">http://www.DynamicCatholic.com</a> (under "Free Resources" tab) Best Advent Ever <a href="http://www.BestAdventEver.com">http://www.BestAdventEver.com</a> Parish</p>	<p><b>December 24</b></p> <p>Come let us adore Him</p> 	<p><b>December 25</b></p> <p>First Christmas</p> 



## STEWARDSHIP REPORT

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

**November 28, 2021**

Sunday:	\$7,043.00
Sunday (GIVE CENTRAL):	\$2,028.00
<b>SUNDAY TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$9,071.00</b>
*AID ED(GIVE CENTRAL):	\$30.00
Sharing:	\$10.00
Food Baskets:	\$140.00
Christmas Flowers:	\$20.00
Thanksgiving:	\$515.00
Immaculate Conception:	\$10.00
Catholic Camp. Human Dev:	\$140.00

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

## STEWARDSHIP REPORT

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

**November 21, 2021**

Sunday:	\$8,290.00
Sunday (GIVE CENTRAL):	\$1,995.00
<b>SUNDAY TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$10,285.00</b>
*AID ED(GIVE CENTRAL):	\$30.00
Sharing:	\$15.00
Propagation of Faith:	\$10.00
Aid to Education:	\$31.00
All Saints:	\$60.00
Thanksgiving:	\$482.00
Catholic Camp. Human Dev:	\$587.00

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

**Thank you for all of the donations!!**

**Monetary Donations and gift cards** are welcomed so we can purchase some perishable items to hand out this month. Checks payable to OLSG Pantry please. Thank You!!



## Split The Pot Drawing



On Nov. 21st envelope #1349 was drawn and did not participate in the drawing. On Nov. 28th envelope #2023 was drawn and did not participate in the drawing. The amount of **\$1,427.50** will be added to next weeks pot. Good Luck!

## Queen of Hearts



Get your tickets today!!

Follow us on Facebook!!

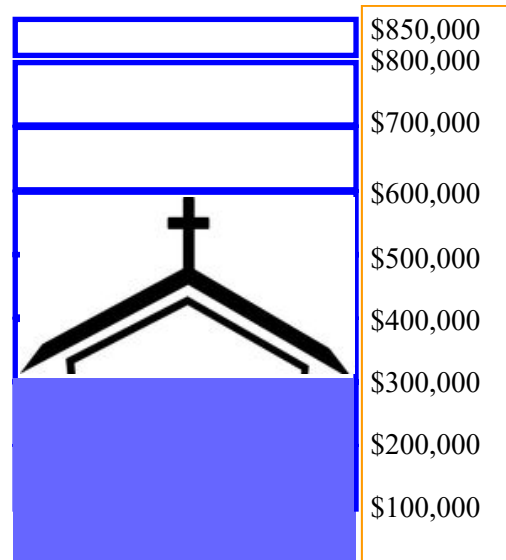
Drawings are held om Thursdays!  
Pot is over \$9,000.00



Thank you to the **180** donors who have started off our ***Raise the Roof*** campaign pledging **\$302,350.00!**

We continue to receive pledge cards in the mail daily and will keep you updated on how s uccessful this campaign is. Thank you for your sacrifice and generosity.

Can you help us raise the roof?





## Knights of Columbus Council #14553

**Needs help supporting our bedridden military patients of all branches of service being cared for at Hines VA Hospital.**

**Items will be placed in containers for that purpose at the church doors.**

**Collection for Veterans at Hines will be the until the weekend Dec 11/12**



The following items are accepted throughout the year. Individual/Travel sizes of toiletry items are preferred. Please call Voluntary Service (708-202-2523) prior to bringing any items not on this list.

Alcohol free aftershave  
Alcohol free mouthwash  
Chapstick or lip balm  
Combs  
Crossword puzzle/game books  
Denture adhesive  
Denture cleaner (tablets)  
Deodorant

Disposable razors  
Word-find books  
Hand & body lotion  
Nail clippers  
New undershirts (all sizes)  
New underwear (all sizes)  
Playing cards  
Shampoo

Shaving cream  
New sweatpants (all sizes)  
New sweatshirts (all sizes)  
Toothbrush  
Toothpaste  
New winter gloves  
New winter hats

***Thank You For Your Generosity***



### HELP WANTED

The Athletic Association is looking for high school students to be down refs for volleyball. Games are hosted on Sunday and Tuesday evenings and Saturday mornings. Season begins on Saturday, December 4th and ends beginning of March. Volleyball scoring, set up and take down courts.

Interested or any questions, please contact

Kathy Mikutis at [talbertmikutis@sbcglobal.net](mailto:talbertmikutis@sbcglobal.net).

**Quack, quack. Splish, splash.  
Vroom, ZOOM!**

**don't worry-- not THAT kind of zoom!**

Looking for a fun distraction and a chance to win some cool prizes

Join the GERMAZING DUCKS group on Facebook! LIVE Weekly MIGHTY DUCK races will take place with the "Winning Duck" taking home gift certificates, summer fun items, and MORE!

Hope to "see" you there!

St. Germaine Family School Association

Search for the group on Facebook using this key phrase:



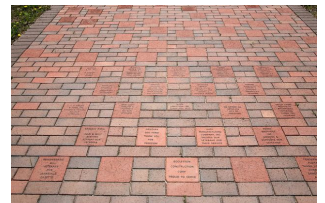
**Germazing Mighty Ducks Races**

...and while you are there don't forget to follow our page @StGermaineFSA



### **Our Lady of Loretto Pavers**

Now that the church roof construction has been completed, we can move on to setting the pavers from OLL campus next to the SG pavers at the Kolin entrance. If you would rather have your paver back before we install it, please call the parish center with your name and we will make sure to set it aside for you.



# GET YOUR HOLIDAY SHOPPING STARTED ...

**LAST DAY TO SUBMIT A SPECIAL ORDER IS MONDAY, DECEMBER 6th!**

Our "Special Manna Order Form" is online.. We are hoping to get the holiday shopping started here – please fill it out and return to the office with payment. Should you need a regular Manna order form, please feel free to call the office and we will send you one. **Thank you and let the 2021 Holiday Shopping begin!**

Clothing & Accessories			
Product	%	QTY	Total
adidas \$25.00	13%		\$
Aeropostale \$25.00	10%		\$
Athleta \$25.00	14%		\$
Banana Republic \$100.00	14%		\$
Banana Republic \$25.00	14%		\$
Buckle \$25.00	8%		\$
Carter's \$25.00	10%		\$
Champs Sports \$25.00	8%		\$
Children's Place \$25.00	12%		\$
Claire's \$10.00	9%		\$
DSW (Designer Shoe Warehouse) \$25.00	8%		\$
Express \$25.00	10%		\$
Famous Footwear \$25.00	8%		\$
Foot Locker \$25.00	8%		\$
H&M \$25.00	7%		\$
Icing \$10.00	9%		\$
J. Crew \$25.00	13%		\$
Jos. A. Bank \$25.00	10%		\$
Journeys \$25.00	10%		\$
L.L.Bean \$100.00	16%		\$
L.L.Bean \$25.00	16%		\$
Lady Foot Locker \$25.00	8%		\$
Lands' End \$100.00	15%		\$
Lands' End \$25.00	15%		\$
Men's Wearhouse \$25.00	8%		\$
Ross Dress for Less \$25.00	8%		\$
Shoe Carnival \$25.00	5%		\$
Talbots \$25.00	13%		\$
Under Armour \$25.00	11%		\$

Department Store			
Product	%	QTY	Total
JCPenney \$100.00	5%		\$
JCPenney \$25.00	5%		\$
Neiman Marcus \$50.00	12%		\$
Nordstrom \$100.00	4%		\$
Nordstrom \$25.00	4%		\$

Dining - Casual			
Product	%	QTY	Total
Applebee's \$25.00	8%		\$
Bob Evans Restaurants® \$25.00	10%		\$
Bonefish Grill \$25.00	10%		\$
Boston Market \$10.00	12%		\$
Bubba Gump Shrimp Co. \$25.00	9%		\$
Buca di Beppo \$25.00	8%		\$
Buffalo Wild Wings® \$10.00	8%		\$
Buffalo Wild Wings® \$25.00	8%		\$
California Pizza Kitchen \$25.00	8%		\$
Cheesecake Factory \$25.00	5%		\$
Cracker Barrel \$25.00	8%		\$
Denny's \$10.00	7%		\$
IHOP \$25.00	8%		\$
Joe's Crab Shack \$25.00	9%		\$
Landry's, Inc. \$100.00	9%		\$
LongHorn Steakhouse \$100.00	8%		\$
LongHorn Steakhouse \$25.00	8%		\$
Maggiano's Little Italy \$25.00	11%		\$
Maggiano's Little Italy \$50.00	11%		\$
Morton's Steakhouse \$25.00	9%		\$
Noodles & Company \$10.00	8%		\$
Olive Garden \$25.00	8%		\$
Outback Steakhouse \$25.00	10%		\$
Red Lobster \$25.00	8%		\$

Dining - Fine			
Product	%	QTY	Total
MBurger \$25.00	12%		\$
Ruth's Chris Steak House \$50.00	10%		\$
Shaw's Crab House \$25.00	12%		\$

Discount Store & Outlets			
Product	%	QTY	Total
Burlington \$25.00	8%		\$
Five Below \$25.00	2.5%		\$

Electronics & Office			
Product	%	QTY	Total
Best Buy \$100.00	4%		\$
Best Buy \$25.00	4%		\$
GameStop \$25.00	3%		\$
Office Depot / Office Max \$25.00	5%		\$
Staples \$25.00	5%		\$

Entertainment			
Product	%	QTY	Total
AMC Theatres Single Ticket \$12.00	10%		\$
Barnes & Noble \$100.00	8%		\$
Barnes & Noble \$25.00	8%		\$
Dave & Buster's \$25.00	13%		\$
Fandango \$25.00	4%		\$
Marcus Theatres \$25.00	8%		\$
Topgolf \$50.00	8%		\$

Fast Food			
Product	%	QTY	Total
Arby's \$10.00	8%		\$
Arby's \$25.00	8%		\$
Auntie Anne's \$25.00	6%		\$
Cinnabon \$25.00	6%		\$
Domino's \$10.00	8%		\$
Domino's \$25.00	8%		\$

Department Store			
Product	%	QTY	Total
Bloomingdale's \$100.00	12%		\$
Bloomingdale's \$25.00	12%		\$

Make Checks Payable To: *St. Germaine School*

Total Due All Columns:

\$

# Family Order Form

Created: 9/27/2021 11:37:36 AM

## St Germaine School - Oaklawn ,IL

Please note that the last day to place a special order is Monday, December 6th, 2021.

### SPECIAL ORDER FORM

Name	Customer #
Check #	Order Date

Fast Food				Home Decor				Specialty Retailer			
Product	%	QTY	Total	Product	%	QTY	Total	Product	%	QTY	Total
Krispy Kreme® Doughnut Corporation \$10.00	8%		\$	Pottery Barn \$25.00	8%		\$	Jo-Ann Fabric and Craft Stores \$25.00	6%		\$
Little Caesars Pizza \$20.00	8%		\$	West Elm \$100.00	8%		\$	Michaels \$25.00	4%		\$
Long John Silver's \$10.00	8%		\$	West Elm \$25.00	8%		\$	PetSmart \$25.00	5%		\$
Qdoba Mexican Grill \$25.00	7%		\$	Williams Sonoma \$100.00	8%		\$	Vera Bradley \$50.00	7%		\$
Smashburger \$10.00	10%		\$	Williams Sonoma \$25.00	8%		\$	Sporting Goods & Outdoors			
Steak 'n Shake \$10.00	8%		\$	Home Improvement				Product	%	QTY	Total
Taco Bell \$10.00	5%		\$	Product	%	QTY	Total	Bass Pro Shops \$100.00	10%		\$
Taco Bell \$25.00	5%		\$	Ace Hardware \$100.00	4%		\$	Bass Pro Shops \$25.00	10%		\$
Wendy's \$10.00	6.5%		\$	Ace Hardware \$25.00	4%		\$	Cabela's \$100.00	10%		\$
Gas & Auto				Lowe's \$100.00	4%		\$	Cabela's \$25.00	10%		\$
Product	%	QTY	Total	Lowe's \$25.00	4%		\$	Dick's Sporting Goods \$100.00	8%		\$
Circle K \$25.00	1.5%		\$	Online Shopping				Dick's Sporting Goods \$25.00	8%		\$
Exxon \$50.00	1%		\$	Product	%	QTY	Total	Golf Galaxy \$100.00	8%		\$
Kwik Trip \$100.00	4%		\$	1-800-Baskets \$50.00	12%		\$	Golf Galaxy \$25.00	8%		\$
Kwik Trip \$25.00	4%		\$	1-800-Flowers \$50.00	12%		\$	REI \$25.00	8%		\$
Grocery				Cheryl's Cookies \$50.00	12%		\$	Travel			
Product	%	QTY	Total	Groupon.com \$25.00	7%		\$	Product	%	QTY	Total
Berkot's Super Foods \$100.00	4%		\$	Harry & David \$50.00	12%		\$	Disney \$100.00	3%		\$
Berkot's Super Foods \$25.00	4%		\$	Nike \$25.00	12%		\$	Disney \$25.00	3%		\$
Gordon Food Service Store \$100.00	4%		\$	Omaha Steaks \$25.00	11%		\$	Hilton \$100.00	2%		\$
Gordon Food Service Store \$25.00	4%		\$	Overstock.com \$25.00	8%		\$	Universal Prepaid Cards			
Peapod Online Grocery \$25.00	4%		\$	Popcorn Factory \$50.00	12%		\$	Product	%	QTY	Total
Peapod Online Grocery \$50.00	4%		\$	Shutterfly \$25.00	9%		\$	Discover Gift Card - No Activation Fee \$100.00	1.25%		\$
Health & Beauty				Wayfair \$100.00	6%		\$	Discover Gift Card - No Activation Fee \$250.00	1.25%		\$
Product	%	QTY	Total	Specialty Retailer				Discover Gift Card - No Activation Fee \$50.00	1.25%		\$
Great Clips \$25.00	8%		\$	Product	%	QTY	Total	Visa Gift Card - No Activation Fee \$100.00	1.25%		\$
Mario Tricool \$100.00	7%		\$	American Girl \$100.00	9%		\$	Visa Gift Card - No Activation Fee \$250.00	1.25%		\$
Mario Tricool \$25.00	7%		\$	American Girl \$25.00	9%		\$	Visa Gift Card - No Activation Fee \$50.00	1.25%		\$
Sally Beauty \$25.00	12%		\$	Build-A-Bear Workshop® \$25.00	8%		\$				
Supercuts \$25.00	8%		\$	Container Store \$25.00	9%		\$				
ULTA \$25.00	6%		\$	Fannie May Candies \$10.00	25%		\$				
				Hallmark \$25.00	4%		\$				
				HoneyBaked Ham \$25.00	12%		\$				

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Total Due All Columns:

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# *Our Lady at St. Germaine*

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9711 S. Kolin Avenue  
Oak Lawn, Illinois 60453  
St. Germaine School: 708-425-6063



## *Third Sunday of Advent*

December 12, 2021

I am baptizing you with water,  
but one mightier than I is coming.  
I am not worthy to loosen the thongs of his sandals.  
Luke 3:16





## A Letter from the Pastor

Dear Parish Family of Our Lady at St. Germaine,

*"I am the voice of one crying out in the desert, make straight the way of the Lord."*

These are the words of the prophet, John the Baptist. As Christ's messenger and prophet John touched the hearts and minds of people, because his encounter with them was a personal, face to face encounter. His message was well received by the people because they saw his care and concern for their wellbeing as they looked into his eyes.

We have lost to a great extent that kind of communications with one another in which we can look into someone's eyes, experience their emotions through the tone of their voice. We rely too much on e-mail, text messaging, things like face book or twitter, blogging.

These forms of communication as I see them are very self-centered with the sender of the messages more interested in your knowing what he or she is doing than sharing communications and friendship.

But, many of us are clueless to these forms of communicating. And, in our naivety of such things, we are the hope of reestablishing good and proper communications and relationships.

But, true communication, true dialogue, and friendships are formed through mutual dialogue and listening to one another's voices and by looking each other in the eye.

Just as Christ, "the Word Made Flesh among us," reestablished God's good and life giving relationship with us; we who believe in Christ as our Savior must help reestablish good and life giving communications and relationships with each other.

To be true messengers for Christ, we can do no less than listen to his words, even as we ask him to listen to our words and bring us his peace, light, and joy. To be his messengers we must also listen to one another's voices as we cry out for true and lasting friendships with each other in Christ our Savior.

Sincerely,

*Fr. Tom Cabala*

### *Save the dates....*

*Sunday, December 12th -  
Advent Lessons & Carols  
3:00pm*

*Wed, December 15th-  
School Christmas Concert  
7:00pm*

*Monday, December 20th-  
Parish Reconciliation Service  
7:00pm*

*Christmas Eve Masses  
3:00pm(Family Mass)  
4:30pm and 9:00pm*

*Christmas Day Masses  
7:30am & 10:30am*

*Sunday, December 26th-  
7:30am & 10:30am*

*New Years Eve Mass-  
Mass at 4:00pm*

*New Years Day Mass-  
7:30am & 10:30am*

*Sunday, January 2nd-  
7:30am & 10:30am*

*Due to holidays, early  
bulletin deadlines are as  
follows;*

*December 26 bulletin is due  
12/15*

*January 2 bulletin is due 12/22*

**MASS INTENTIONS****Monday, December 13– St. Lucy**

8:30 AM Mass:

Poor Souls in purgatory, Rose Stachovic,  
James Cesak, Lorraine Flanagan**Tuesday, December 14– St. John of the Cross**

8:30 AM Mass:

Anthony Knight, Victoria Barone, Linda's husband

**Wed., December 15– Advent Weekday**

8:30 AM Mass :

Deceased members of our parish

**Thursday, December 16– Advent Weekday**

8:30 AM Mass :

Louis D'Amore

**Friday, December 17–Late Advent Weekday**

8:30 AM Mass:

Menzie Hojilla(Birthday)

**Sat, December 18– Late Advent Weekday**

8:30AM– Virginia &amp; Tim Burns

4:00PM–Carmella Coyle, Edward, Alex, Bill, Bessie &  
Stanley Linkowski**Sun, December 19– Fourth Sunday of Advent**

7:30AM– Loretta Barry, Kevin Gory

9:30AM— Mary Eleanor Scannell-Zunic, Bob Schuld,  
Patricia Griffin, James Houlihan11:30AM–Marge & Nick Randich, Cecilia Ebokam,  
Jean Nelson, Stephen Walsh,  
Maria DeRosa Corrado**REMEMBER OUR BELOVED DEAD**

Timothy J. Watt

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

Charles Akai Jr., Brian Bednarski, Virginia Bovilsky, Elaine Bridgeman, Baby Nolan Burby, Gerry Campanio, Pat Cesak, Geri Chaput, Taylor Collard, Mary Connolly, Alexandra Connor, Matthew Connor, Ann Contorno, Elizabeth Czajka, Jericho Jeffrey DeVivo, Dolores Dorman, Yvonne (Wepner) Enselman, Karen Finn, Walter Furtner, Patsy Galecki, Giblin Family, Lynn Groebe, Gerardo Gonzalez, Pearl Goworowski, Peg Hansen, Sue Heda, Debbie Heitz, Cathy Hinz, Betty Hedderman, Kaitlyn Hedderman, Gina Jakelski, Robert "Mitch" Jones, Liz Kapovich, Dennis Kelsch, Garry Keller, Alvina Kita, Richard Kita, Frank Klutcharch, Joe Kress, Judith Lasky, 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, Matt Pender, Maggie Powers, Colleen Ritter, Nicolas Rossio, Frank Roti, Guadalupe Martin Ruvalcaba, Marty Safstrom, Sharon Safstrom, Norma Salas, Audrey Schmitz, Mary Schwappach, Phillip Scropp, Jayme Shipman, Ellie Smith, Ryan Smith, Joe Smyth, Joseph Smyth, Kayla Smyth, Carol Spero, Michael Stupay, Rita Daniels Suchor, Jay Szewczyk, Patty Tapia, Kimberly Thielen, Dorothy Trop, Mary Ann Trop, Ethan Trusk, Zach Trusk, Pat Walker, Casey Wiedenski, Susan Zak, Gussie Zawaski

**Oplatki Christmas Tradition**

The tradition of the [Oplatki](#) originated in Poland during Early Christian Times. This Christmas custom began with a simple white wafer, baked from flour and water. The wafers are wonderfully designed to display Christmas images, such as the Nativity. The Oplatki are enjoyed by families, typically right before the Christmas Eve meal. The entire family will gather around the table with the Oplatki. Generally the eldest member of the family will begin the ritual by breaking off a piece of the wafer and passing it to another family member with a blessing. This blessing can simply consist of what you desire for your loved one in the upcoming year – whether it be good health, success, or happiness. The purpose of this act is primarily to express one's unconditional love and forgiveness for each member of his or her family. The significance of the Oplatki Christmas wafer is that it shadows the Eucharistic meal that Catholics participate in at each Mass. Just as we share in the Eucharist as one family in Christ and receive Christ's love through the Eucharist, the Oplatki allows for one's immediate family to come together and share love for one another. Although this tradition is primarily enjoyed by the human members of the family, even the family pets can partake in this meal. Whereas the wafers are generally white in color, there are colored Oplatki made especially for pets although both colors are edible by people. Traditionally, this symbolizes the animals that were present at Christ's birth. However, in current times, this can also represent the important role that pets play in the family. The Oplatki tradition is one that is easy and fun to introduce to the family at Christmas time. All it requires is a simple wafer paired with love and affection, and the willingness to share it. This is a heartwarming tradition that will complete your family's time together during the Christmas season.



***Christmas wafers are available for purchase. See an usher while our supply lasts.***

# ALL WELCOME!

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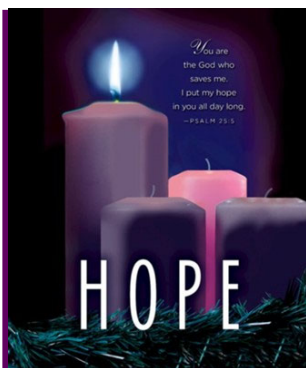
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SUNDAY, DECEMBER 12TH @ 3PM IN CHURCH  
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## BAKE SALE NEXT WEEKEND

*Stop by and grab a tray as a gift or preorder today!*

Our next bake sale will be the weekend of December 18/19th after all the masses. We will have a huge variety of cookie platters and other Christmas goodies that make great little gifts for someone special. **Orders can be taken for 2 dozen or more kolockys by calling Elaine at 708-334-9724.** Thanks again!



## *Advent 2021– OPENING WINDOWS*

Many of us remember Advent waiting and anticipation from our childhoods. The Advent waiting for holidays, free from school and filled with new toys and new experiences, brought us an excitement that the rest of the year did not possess. Many families marked the waiting with an Advent Calendar. Each day was marked by a treat or a suggested action—all directed to make Christmas a special time. Each day was a surprise!

Our parish Advent theme this year helps us to recall that youthful anticipation. But the theme also underscores a deeper meaning. This Advent we encourage you not only to “open windows” to mark the passage of the days but also to “open windows” to deepen your relationships—to God, to family, and to the wider world.

As you look at our parish Advent calendar, you will find suggestions for windows in your life that might need to be opened. May our “opening” bring about the peace and joy of the season.



Thank you for all who came out to Advent by Candlelight . Hopefully this helped start the Advent season off right for you.

### Adoration at Our Lady at St Germaine Parish

#### **Jesus is waiting for us in this Sacrament of Love**

*"In the sacred Host, He is present, the true treasure, always waiting for us. Only by adoring this Presence do we learn how to receive Him properly."*



#### Adoration Chapel Hours

Tuesday- 9am -3pm

Wednesday 9am-8pm

Thursday 9am-6pm

\*\*\*\*\*

*We need scheduled adorers for these times:*

*Tuesday 3-4 and 4-5pm*

*Wednesday 4-5pm*

*Thursday 2-3pm*

Please call Fran Barba at 708-567-6119 if you would like to volunteer for an hour.



### **PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY**

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.

To request a Prayer Shawl call 636-5060.



### **AN ADVENT PRAYER**

May the God of peace make us completely holy.  
May God keep us blameless in spirit, soul and body

for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.  
Forever faithful is the One who calls us—  
God our Father!

Expectant, let us live in joyful hope  
for the revelation of the glory  
of our God and Savior, Christ Jesus!  
To him be glory forever!

Come, Lord Jesus! Your grace be with us all.

**Reflection question:**

*How am I faithfully awaiting the  
Lord's Nativity?*

—From Come, Lord Jesus by Lucien Deiss, CSSp, copyright 1976, 1981, Lucien Deiss. Published by World Library Publications. p. 127





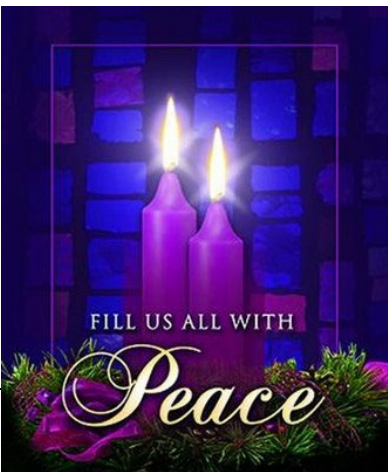



# Celebrating Advent, 2021

## "Opening Windows"

Our Lady at St. Germaine Parish



Our Advent calendar has some suggestions for areas in your life where you might "open windows" of friendship, understanding and love. We're sure you can add many more on your own.

<p><b>December 12</b></p> <p>Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe</p>  <p><b>Remember St Juan Diego and say a prayer for all newcomers and immigrants.</b></p>	<p><b>December 13</b></p> <p><i>"What window do you need to open to make time for rest and reflection?"</i></p> <p>Find out about the "O Antiphons" and pray the Cantic of Mary (Magnificat) (Luke 1: 46-55) together at dinner.</p>	<p><b>December 14</b></p> <p><i>"What window do you need to open to let go of past hurts and grudges?"</i></p> <p>Make a thank you card for someone who volunteers around the school or church.</p>	<p><b>December 15</b></p> <p><i>What window do you need to open to make amends to someone you hurt?"</i></p> <p>Make a visit to the St. Germaine Adoration Chapel with your family.</p>
<p><b>December 16</b></p> <p><i>"Blessed are you who believed that what was spoken to you by the Lord would be fulfilled."</i></p>  <p><b>Actions speak louder than words. Remember to keep your promises.</b></p>	<p><b>December 17</b></p> <p><i>"What window do you need to open to help protect God's creation?"</i></p> <p>Make popcorn and enjoy a family Christmas movie/video together.</p>	<p><b>December 18</b></p> <p><i>"What window do you need to open to celebrate our rights and freedoms?"</i></p> <p>In the final days before Christmas, say a prayer at your family Christmas tree. Pray for all those who do not have the things you do.</p>	
<p><b>December 19</b></p> <p>Fourth Sunday of Advent <i>"The Lord is with you!"</i></p> <p>Say a special prayer for each person who will receive one of the gifts under your Christmas tree.</p>	<p><b>December 20</b></p>  <p>Today's Gospel re-tells the story of the Annunciation. <i>"What window do you need to open to bring good news to someone?"</i></p>	<p><b>December 21</b></p> <p>Be sure to write "thank you" notes for the gifts you received.</p> 	<p><b>December 22</b></p> <p><i>"It's not how much we give, but how much love we put into giving"</i> Mother Theresa of Calcutta</p> 

<p><b>December 23</b></p> <p>You can receive daily meditation emails and video clips from <b>Dynamic Catholic</b>, by Matthew Kelly. For more information check out <a href="http://www.DynamicCatholic.com">http://www.DynamicCatholic.com</a> (under "Free Resources" tab) Best Advent Ever <a href="http://www.BestAdventEver.com/Parish">G:\www.BestAdventEver.com\Parish</a></p>	<p><b>December 24</b></p> <p>Come let us Adore Him</p> 	<p><b>December 25</b></p> 
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## STEWARDSHIP REPORT

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

### December 5, 2021

Sunday:	\$9,135.16
Sunday (GIVE CENTRAL):	\$1,870.50
<b>SUNDAY TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$11,005.66</b>
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Aid to Education:	\$414.00
Christmas:	\$601.00
Religious Retirement:	\$75.00
Food Baskets:	\$25.00
Christmas Flowers:	\$862.43
Thanksgiving:	\$65.00
Immaculate Conception:	\$314.00
Catholic Camp. Human Dev:	\$66.00

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

## Split The Pot Drawing



Last week, envelope #2271 was drawn and did not participate in the drawing. The amount of \$1,987.50 will be added to next weeks pot. Good Luck!

## Queen of Hearts



Get your tickets today!!

Follow us on Facebook!!

Drawings are held om Thursdays!  
Pot is over \$10,000.00

Thank you for all of the donations!!

**BIG thanks to all of you... we were able to provide 66 families with Thanksgiving meals!**

Some needs this week;

- Turkey or chicken gravy
- Instant potatoes
- canned meats
- Chips
- Cookies
- Ramen soups
- Kool-Aid mixes /Juices & Jucie boxes
- Granola bars
- Crackers
- Oatmeal (regular & packets)
- Hot chocolate
- Coffee or tes
- Microwave popcorn
- other non-perishable items.



Food Pantry  
Donations Needed

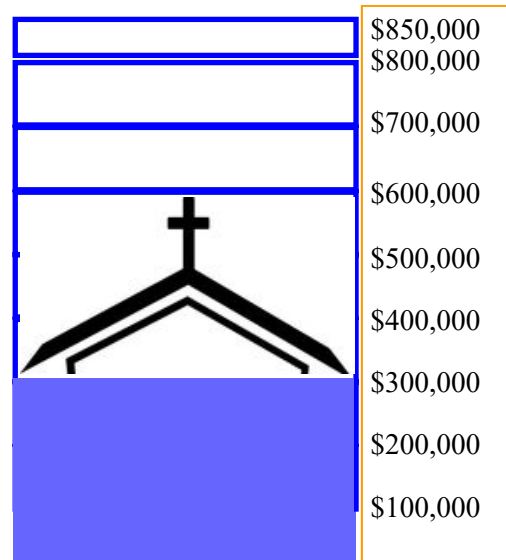
**Monetary Donations and gift cards** are also welcomed so we can purchase needed items to continue our Food Pantry. Checks payable to OLSG Pantry please. Thank You!!



Thank you to the **190** donors who have started off our **Raise the Roof** campaign pledging **\$305,950.00!**

We continue to receive pledge cards in the mail daily and will keep you updated on how s uccessful this campaign is. Thank you for your sacrifice and generosity.

Can you help us raise the roof?





## THE MARION GIVING TREE

**Can you still help?** This year, understandably, our in person attendance is down. Therefore, we had many cards left on trees. If you are able, we could still use:

- Socks (Children's, men & woman)
- Jewelry craft sets
- Women's size 4 wide shoes or boots
- Boys size 4 shoes or boots
- Men's size 7 gym shoes
- Little boys size 10 shoes
- Silverware
- Gas cards
- Grocery cards
- Clothing/toy cards

We also help the homeless in the area with hats, gloves, toiletries, laundry change and gift cards for food.

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)



## HELP WANTED



The Athletic Association is looking for high school students to be down refs for volleyball. Games are hosted on Sunday and Tuesday evenings and Saturday mornings. Season begins on Saturday, December 4th and ends beginning of March. Volleyball scoring, set up and take down courts.

Interested or any questions, please contact Kathy Mikutis at [talbertmikutis@sbcglobal.net](mailto:talbertmikutis@sbcglobal.net).

Quack, quack. Splish, splash.  
Vroom, ZOOM!

don't worry-- not THAT kind of zoom!

Looking for a fun distraction and a chance to win some cool prizes

Join the GERMAZING DUCKS group on Facebook! LIVE Weekly MIGHTY DUCK races will take place with the "Winning Duck" taking home gift certificates, summer fun items, and MORE!

Hope to "see" you there!

St. Germaine Family School Association

Search for the group on Facebook using this key phrase:



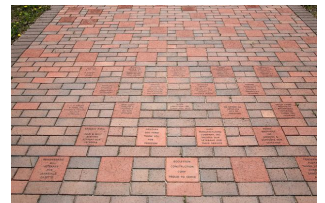
**Germazing Mighty Ducks Races**

...and while you are there don't forget to follow our page @StGermaineFSA



## Our Lady of Loretto Pavers

Now that the church roof construction has been completed, we can move on to setting the pavers from OLL campus next to the SG pavers at the Kolin entrance. If you would rather have your paver back before we install it, please call the parish center with your name and we will make sure to set it aside for you.







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# *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



## *Fourth Sunday of Advent*

December 19, 2021

Elizabeth, filled with the Holy Spirit,  
cried out in a loud voice and said,  
“Blessed are you among women,  
and blessed is the fruit of your womb.”

Luke 1:41-42



## A Letter from the Pastor

Dear Parish Family of Our Lady at St. Germaine,

“Believe in the true meaning of Christmas.” What is the true meaning of Christmas? Ask any child and he or she will tell you that it is waking up on Christmas morning to the surprises of mysterious and grandly wrapped gifts and presents under the Christmas tree next to the stable.

The most mysterious of gifts is the reason for all those other gifts we find next to the stable; it is the gift of the Christ Child, “the Word Made Flesh” living and dwelling among us. He is simply wrapped and is clothed in a simple swaddling cloth. Yet, as we unwrap this gift on Christmas morning by listening to the Scriptures of Christ’s birth, as we celebrate the Eucharist, as we sing the Carols of Christmas, as we exchange gifts; we are filled with wonder and awe at our God’s great gift of love for us individually and all humanity. From this gift of love, God taking on our human nature, we share in the divinity of our God; we share in His divine love.

It is from this gift that flows every other good gift, peace, joy, salvation, friendships, the blessings of our families, and the promise of enjoying these gifts in our Lord’s love and light with the choirs of angels gloriously signing the Lord’s praises for all eternity.

What gift can we give in return to the Christ Child? By being gifts of peace and secure, love and care, comfort and joy to all our children and grandchild, by bringing a warm smile to their faces; we truly gift the Christ Child.

How can we gloriously sing the Lord’s praises? We sing the Lord’s praises as we lovingly care for our families, friends, and neighbors. We gloriously sing the Lord’s praises as we especially show loving care to the poor and needy among us; gifting them with the same gifts that we have been blessed with by our Savior.

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 2022 keep us secure in the peace and love of the Lord.

Sincerely,

*Fr. Tom Cabala*

## Save the dates....

*Monday, December 20th-  
Parish Reconciliation Service  
7:00pm*

*Christmas Eve Masses  
3:00pm(Family Mass)  
4:30pm and 9:00pm*

*Christmas Day Masses  
7:30am & 10:30am*

*Sunday, December 26th-  
7:30am & 10:30am*

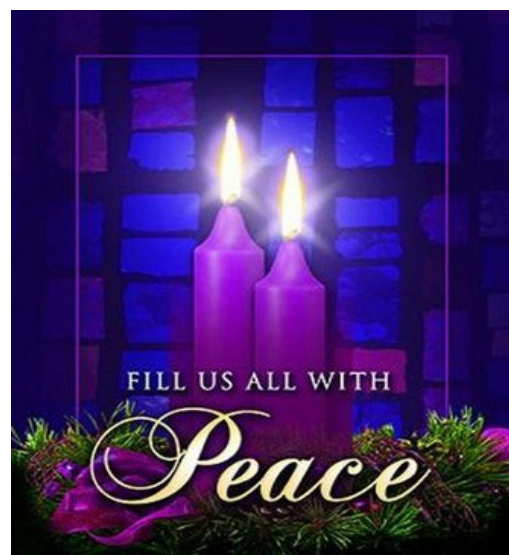
*New Years Eve Mass-  
Mass at 4:00pm*

*New Years Day Mass-  
7:30am & 10:30am*

*Sunday, January 2nd-  
7:30am & 10:30am*

*Due to holidays, early  
bulletin deadlines are as  
follows;*

*January 2 bulletin is due 12/22*



**MASS INTENTIONS****Mon, December 20– Late Advent Weekday**

8:30 AM Mass:  
Stephen Walsh, Joan Kulovitz (healing)

**Tuesday, December 21– St. Peter Canisius**

8:30 AM Mass:  
Mary Kay Delaplane, Beverly Pouliet

**Wed., December 22– Advent Weekday**

8:30 AM Mass :  
Lou D'Amore, Jim Miller, Mary O'Connell

**Thursday, December 23– St. John of Karity**

8:30 AM Mass :  
Ronald Alitto Jr., Michael Bannon, Bob Stevens,  
John O'Connell, Gerald O'Hare, Amy Belicki

**Friday, December 24–Late Advent Weekday**

8:30 AM Mass: Michael Bannon, Lorraine Caprio,  
Lyons & Murphy Families, Otto & Kateryna Sawzak,  
Frank Kita, Nolan & Cannon Family

**Friday, December 24– Christmas Eve**

3:00PM–Our Parish Family  
4:30PM–Our Parish Family  
9:00PM–Our Parish Family

**Saturday, December 25– Christmas Day**

7:30AM– Our Parish Family  
10:30AM–Our Parish Family

**Sun, December 26– Holy Family Sunday**

7:30AM & 10:30AM– Anna Marie Kane, Nancy Kane,  
Therese Kearney, Marge Ricker, Ellen Johnson Ronde,  
Joan Loftus, Cecilia Ebokam, Susan Unger (Healing),  
James Brown (Healing)

**REMEMBER OUR BELOVED DEAD**

Kathleen Coyne

Thomas Coyne

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

Charles Akai Jr., Brian Bednarski, Virginia Bovilsky, Elaine Bridgeman, Baby Nolan Burby, Gerry Campanio, Pat Cesak, Geri Chaput, Taylor Collard, Mary Connolly, Alexandra Connor, Matthew Connor, Ann Contorno, Elizabeth Czajka, Jericho Jeffrey DeVivo, Dolores Dorman, Yvonne (Wepner) Enselman, Karen Finn, Walter Furtner, Patsy Galecki, Giblin Family, Lynn Groebe, Gerardo Gonzalez, Pearl Goworowski, Peg Hansen, Sue Heda, Debbie Heitz, Cathy Hinz, Betty Hedderman, Kaitlyn Hedderman, Gina Jakelski, Robert "Mitch" Jones, Liz Kapovich, Dennis Kelsch, Garry Keller, Alvina Kita, Richard Kita, Frank Klutcharch, Joe Kress, Judith Lasky, 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, Matt Pender, Maggie Powers, Colleen Ritter, Nicolas Rossio, Frank Roti, Guadalupe Martin Ruvalcaba, Marty Safstrom, Sharon Safstrom, Norma Salas, Audrey Schmitz, Mary Schwappach, Phillip Scropp, Jayme Shipman, Ellie Smith, Ryan Smith, Joe Smyth, Joseph Smyth, Kayla Smyth, Carol Spero, Michael Stupay, Rita Daniels Suchor, Jay Szewczyk, Patty Tapia, Kimberly Thielen, Dorothy Trop, Mary Ann Trop, Ethan Trusk, Zach Trusk, Pat Walker, Casey Wiedenski, Susan Zak, Gussie Zawaski

For ourselves that our celebration of Christ's birth will draw us out of all darkness and into the light of the Lord and that we may share that light in the coming new year of 2022 and draw us closer to the Lord and one another in Lord's gift of love, Christ our Savior.

May the God of infinite goodness,  
By that glorious birth of Christ  
Fill your hearts with the light of faith, hope, and love.  
Fill your minds with gladness  
Keep you safe and in the Lord's favor and peace  
In this coming year of 2022

Our holiday schedule is as follows:

**Christmas Eve Masses: Friday, December 24 at 3:00 PM (Family Mass), 4:30 PM, and 9:00 PM**

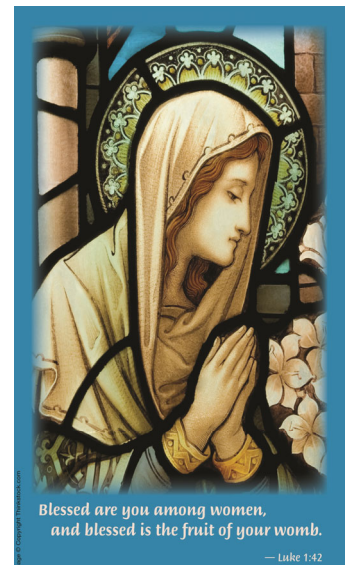
**Christmas Day Masses: Saturday, December 25 at 7:30 AM and 10:30 AM**

**Sunday, December 26<sup>th</sup> Masses: 7:30 AM and 10:30 AM**

**New Year's Eve Mass: Friday, December 31<sup>st</sup> at 4:00 PM**

**New Year's Day Masses: Saturday, January 1<sup>st</sup> at 8:30 AM and 4:00 PM**

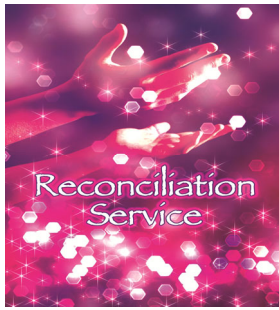
**Sunday, January 2 Masses: 7:30 AM and 10:30 AM**



Blessed are you among women,  
and blessed is the fruit of your womb.

— Luke 1:42





## Advent Reconciliation Service

Please join us for our  
Advent Penance  
Service Monday, December 20th  
at 7:00 p.m.

The Adoration Chapel will be  
closed Thursday,  
December 23rd through  
Monday, January 3rd.  
The chapel will reopen  
Tuesday, January 4, 2022.



*May you celebrate the birth of Christ with joy  
and peace, renewed courage and a bright  
vision that makes the New Year truly happy.*



*The Parish Staff wishes you all a very  
Merry and Blessed Christmas!*

## Oplatki Christmas Tradition

The tradition of the [Oplatki](#) originated in Poland during Early Christian Times. This Christmas custom began with a simple white wafer, baked from flour and water. The wafers are wonderfully designed to display Christmas images, such as the Nativity. The Oplatki are enjoyed by families, typically right before the Christmas Eve meal. The entire family will gather around the table with the Oplatki. Generally the eldest member of the family will begin the ritual by breaking off a piece of the wafer and passing it to another family member with a blessing. This blessing can simply consist of what you desire for your loved one in the upcoming year – whether it be good health,, success, or happiness. The purpose of this act is primarily to express one's unconditional love and forgiveness for each member of his or her family. The significance of the Oplatki Christmas wafer is that it shadows the Eucharistic meal that Catholics participate in at each Mass. Just as we share in the Eucharist as one family in Christ and receive Christ's love through the Eucharist, the Oplatki allows for one's immediate family to come together and share love for one another. Although this tradition is primarily enjoyed by the human members of the family, even the family pets can partake in this meal. Whereas the wafers are generally white in color, there are colored Oplatki made especially for pets although both colors are edible by people. Traditionally, this symbolizes the animals that were present at Christ's birth. However, in current times, this can also represent the important role that pets play in the family. The Oplatki tradition is one that is easy and fun to introduce to the family at Christmas time. All it requires is a simple wafer paired with love and affection, and the willingness to share it. This is a heartwarming tradition that will complete your family's time together during the Christmas season.



***Christmas wafers are available for purchase. See an usher while our supply lasts.***

## STEWARDSHIP REPORT

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

### TBA

Sunday: TBA

Sunday (GIVE CENTRAL): TBA

**SUNDAY TOTAL: TBA**

\*AID ED(GIVE CENTRAL): TBA

Aid to Education: TBA

Christmas: TBA

Religious Retirement: TBA

Food Baskets: TBA

Christmas Flowers: TBA

Thanksgiving: TBA

Immaculate Conception: TBA

Catholic Camp. Human Dev: TBA

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

## Split The Pot Drawing



Last weeks results are not published due to the holiday deadline. Please continue to put in your orange envelope.  
GOOD LUCK!

## Queen of Hearts



Get your tickets today!!

Follow us on Facebook!!

Drawings are held on Thursdays!  
Pot is over \$10,260.00

**Thank you for all of the donations!!**

**BIG thanks to all of you... we were able to provide 66 families with Thanksgiving meals!**

Some needs this week;

- Turkey or chicken gravy
- Instant potatoes
- canned meats
- Chips
- Cookies
- Ramen soups
- Kool-Aid mixes /Juices & Juice boxes
- Granola bars
- Crackers
- Oatmeal (regular & packets)
- Hot chocolate
- Coffee or tea
- Microwave popcorn
- other non-perishable items.



Food Pantry  
Donations Needed

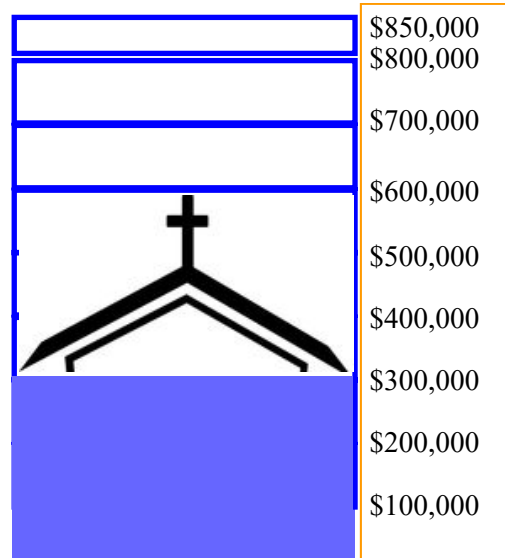
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Checks payable to OLSG Pantry please.  
Thank You!!



Thank you to the **190** donors who have started off our ***Raise the Roof*** campaign pledging **\$305,950.00!**

We continue to receive pledge cards in the mail daily and will keep you updated on how successful this campaign is.  
Thank you for your sacrifice and generosity.

Can you help us raise the roof?





## THE COURAGE PROGRAM THANKS YOU!!!

Christmas is that wonderful time of year when we have the opportunity to bridge the generosity of this parish with the needs of the women and children in the COURAGE Program.

Thank you for the baby care items, toys, clothes, hats, gloves, gifts for moms, gift cards, & monetary donations which bring joy to so many!  
We could not do this without your loving concern.

Please free to stop downstairs in the Parish Hall this weekend to see  
the beautiful decorations and  
know that we wish you and your families all the peace and joy of Christmas



### HELP WANTED

The Athletic Association is looking for high school students to be down refs for volleyball. Games are Sunday & Tuesday evenings and Saturday mornings. Season ends beginning of March. Volleyball scoring, set up and take down courts. Interested or any questions, contact Kathy Mikutis at [talbertmikutis@sbcglobal.net](mailto:talbertmikutis@sbcglobal.net)

Have  
you  
Joined  
yet?

There is still  
time to Join the  
St. Germaine  
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**Just \$10 a week!**

We are looking for 500 people to contribute \$500.00 annually for 5 years. If you cannot commit to \$500.00 annually for 5 years but can contribute a lesser amount and/or a shorter time frame, we still gladly welcome your generosity.

**We have several ways which you can help.**

- Donate by check with a pledge card or
- Give Central (automatic payments)

*Pledge cards are available in the church, school office or Parish Center.*



*It is very important that you understand that 100% of the donations to The St. Germaine 500 Club go directly to the educational ministries of St. Germaine. The Archdiocese of Chicago will not receive any of the proceeds from this campaign.*

Quack, quack. Splish, splash.  
Vroom, ZOOM!

don't worry-- not THAT kind of zoom!



Looking for a fun distraction and a chance to win some cool prizes

Join the GERMAZING DUCKS group on Facebook! LIVE Weekly MIGHTY DUCK races will take place with the "Winning Duck" taking home gift certificates, summer fun items, and MORE!

Hope to "see" you there!

St. Germaine Family School Association

Search for the group on Facebook using this key phrase:



**Germazing Mighty Ducks Races**

*...and while you are there don't forget to follow our page @StGermaineFSA*

[www.StGermaineSchool.com/500-club](http://www.StGermaineSchool.com/500-club)





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# 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

December 26, 2021



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## *The Holy Family* OF JESUS, MARY, AND JOSEPH

After three days Jesus' parents found him in the temple,  
sitting in the midst of the teachers,  
listening to them and asking them questions.

Luke 2:46



## A Letter from the Pastor

Dear Parish Family of Our Lady at St. Germaine,

How far back can you trace your family tree that is your genealogy? Are there any famous or infamous family members that are a part of your family tree? Can you brag that you are a direct descent of royalty?

We all are descendants of the Holy Family, whose feast we celebrate today. Not directly by blood, but, by the blood of Christ as he died on the Cross for us that we might be restored into God's family as his children, as brothers and sisters in Christ. Even as we continue to celebrate the birth of Christ our Savior, we are reminded that his birth took place that he might sacrifice his life for us on the Cross that we might live.

Family life demands great sacrifices of us, no matter the size, makeup or our definition of family. In our families we find security, we are able to be ourselves, we are nourished in mind, body, and spirit, we are loved and love in return. As we listen to the readings about the Holy Family, we begin to see Jesus grow and mature in wisdom and grace through the love of Mary and Joseph guided by the Spirit of the Lord.

As we begin this New Year of 2022 may we too be guided by the Holy Spirit that where there is anxiety, we may find peace, where there is pain and hurt, we may find healing. And, especially through our families whether we are born into them, adopted into them as we are adopted into Christ's family, through the waters of Baptism, and also welcomed and into being a part of many other families, we may find and share the love of God.

Sincerely,

*Fr. Tom Cabala*

*2022 Mass book is open and has plenty of availability. Please call the office at 636-5060 x200 to request a mass.*

### READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: 1 Jn 1:1-4; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12;  
Jn 20:1a, 2-8

Tuesday: 1 Jn 1:5 — 2:2; Ps 124:2-5, 7b-8;  
Mt 2:13-18

Wednesday: 1 Jn 2:3-11; Ps 96:1-3, 5b-6;  
Lk 2:22-35

Thursday: 1 Jn 2:12-17; Ps 96:7-10; Lk 2:36-40

Friday: 1 Jn 2:18-21; Ps 96:1-2, 11-13;  
Jn 1:1-18

Saturday: Nm 6:22-27; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8;  
Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21

Sunday: Is 60:1-6; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-13;  
Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12

### The Work of Christmas

(a poem by Howard Thurman)

*When the song of the angels is stilled,  
When the star in the sky is gone,  
When the kings and the princes are home,  
When the shepherds are back with their flock,  
The work of Christmas begins:*

*To find the lost,  
To heal the broken,  
To feed the hungry,  
To release the prisoner,  
To rebuild the nations,  
To bring peace among brothers,  
To make music in the heart!*

**MASS INTENTIONS****Mon, December 27– St. John the Apostle**

8:30 AM Mass:

William Meyering, Jan, Monica, & Teodor Lazuk,  
Leonard Lazuk, Genowefa & Antoni Giedrojc,  
Ann, Casimir & Matthew Wasko**Tuesday, December 28– Holy Innocents**

8:30 AM Mass:

William F. Gaynor

**Wed., December 29– St. Thomas Becket**

8:30 AM Mass :

Michael Pacetti, Harry Bealles, Sally Links(Anniv)

**Thur, Dec 30– Seventh Day in Octave of Nativity of the Lord**

8:30 AM Mass :

Mr. &amp; Mrs. John T. Barry

**Friday, December 31–St. Sylvester, Pope**

8:30AM-Our Parish Family

**Friday, December 31= New Years Eve**4:00PM-Alfreda, Joseph & Jadwiga Urnilowicz,  
Donna Lazuk, kids & grandkids, Leipold Family (Special  
Intention), Paulch Family(Special Intention)**Saturday, January 1 - Holy Family**

8:30AM-Louis D'Amore

4:00PM-The Shea Family, Anna Marie Kane,  
Carolyn Davis, Norbert E. Ciesla, Felicia Bealles & Anton**Sunday, January 2– Epiphany of the Lord**7:30AM & 10:30AM– Larry Johnson, Therese Kilroe,  
Louis D'Amore, John Zofkie, Cepek & Bednarski Families,  
Deacon John Flanagan, Jane Schlee**REMEMBER OUR BELOVED DEAD**Thomas McKevitt  
Genevieve Riccordinio**Please pray for those who are sick, their families & caregivers, including:**

Brian Bednarski, Virginia Bovilsky, Elaine Bridgeman,  
Baby Nolan Burby, Gerry Campanio, Pat Cesak,  
Geri Chaput, Taylor Collard, Mary Connolly,  
Alexandra Connor, Matthew Connor, Ann Contorno,  
Elizabeth Czajka, Jericho Jeffrey DeVivo,  
Dolores Dorman, Yvonne (Wepner) Enselman, Karen  
Finn, Walter Furtner, Patsy Galecki, Giblin Family,  
Lynn Groebe, Gerardo Gonzalez, Pearl Goworowski,  
Peg Hansen, Sue Heda, Debbie Heitz, Cathy Hinz,  
Betty Hedderman, Kaitlyn Hedderman, Gina Jakelski,  
Robert "Mitch" Jones, Liz Kapovich, Dennis Kelsch,  
Garry Keller, Alvina Kita, Richard Kita, Frank  
Klutcharch, Joe Kress, Judith Lasky, 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, Matt Pender, Maggie Powers,  
Colleen Ritter, Nicolas Rossio, Frank Roti, Guadalupe  
Martin Ruvalcaba, Marty Safstrom, Sharon Safstrom,  
Norma Salas, Audrey Schmitz, Mary Schwappach, Phillip  
Scropp, Jayme Shipman, Ellie Smith, Ryan Smith,  
Joe Smyth, Joseph Smyth, Kayla Smyth, Carol Spero,  
Michael Stupay, Rita Daniels Suchor, Jay Szewczyk,  
Patty Tapia, Kimberly Thielen, Dorothy Trop,  
Mary Ann Trop, Ethan Trusk, Zach Trusk, Pat Walker,  
Casey Wiedenski, Susan Zak, Gussie Zawaski



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**Pope Francis' Prayer for Peace (January 1, 2022)**

Lord God of peace, hear our prayer! We have tried so many times and over so many years to resolve our conflicts by our own powers and by the force of our arms. How many moments of hostility and darkness have we experienced; how much blood has been shed; how many lives have been shattered; how many hopes have been buried... But our efforts have been in vain. Now, Lord, come to our aid! Grant us peace, teach us peace; guide our steps in the way of peace. Open our eyes and our hearts, and give us the courage to say: "Never again war!"; "With war everything is lost". Instill in our hearts the courage to take concrete steps to achieve peace. Lord, God of Abraham, God of the Prophets, God of Love, you created us and you call us to live as brothers and sisters. Give us the strength daily to be instruments of peace; enable us to see everyone who crosses our path as our brother or sister. Make us sensitive to the plea of our citizens who entreat us to turn our weapons of war into implements of peace, our trepidation into confident trust, and our quarreling into forgiveness. Keep alive within us the flame of hope, so that with patience and perseverance we may opt for dialogue and reconciliation. In this way may peace triumph at last, and may the words "division", "hatred" and "war" be banished from the heart of every man and woman. Lord, defuse the violence of our tongues and our hands. Renew our hearts and minds, so that the word which always brings us together will be "brother", and our way of life will always be that of: Shalom, Peace, Salaam! Amen

***Holiday Mass Times..****New Years Eve Mass-  
Mass at 4:00pm**New Years Day Mass-  
7:30am & 10:30am**Sunday, January 2nd-  
7:30am & 10:30am*

***The Parish Staff  
wishes you all a safe,  
healthy and happy  
New Year!***

*The Adoration Chapel is closed.  
The chapel will reopen  
Tuesday, January 4, 2022.*

*May you celebrate the birth of Christ  
with joy and peace, renewed courage  
and a bright vision that makes the  
New Year truly happy.*

*The Adoration Committee*



---

## ***Do You Hear the Bells?***

The carillon bells from Our Lady of Loretto Church have been here at Our Lady of St. Germaine Parish for over a year now. They represent a lovely addition that reminds us of the history our two parishes and the promise of our future together.

Church bells for ages have been a way to call the faithful to worship and to mark the hours of prayer for the community. The Liturgy of the Hours, the official daily prayer of the Church, focuses on the recitations of scriptural psalms seven times throughout the day. In ages past, many of the faithful were not able to read or write. That made participation in the “Divine Office” nearly impossible for them.

To simplify the prayer times for the common people, Christians have traditionally prayed “The Angelus” at fixed hours of the day. Six o’clock in the morning, noon, and six o’clock in the evening have been the appointed times for this prayer. Church bells were rung to call the people to participate.

Artist Jean Francois Millet painted “The Angelus” (1857) as a tribute to simple people of prayer. The prayer itself reminds us of Gabriel’s ANNUNCIATION to Mary that she was to be the mother of Jesus.

When you hear the bells from Our Lady at St. Germaine, won’t you join us for this prayerful tradition?

### **The Angelus**



**VI.** The Angel of the Lord declared unto Mary,

**R/.** And she conceived of the Holy Spirit.

Hail Mary...

**VI.** Behold the handmaid of the Lord,

**R/.** Be it done unto me according to your Word.

Hail Mary...

**VI.** And the Word was made flesh,

**R/.** And dwelt among us.

Hail Mary...

**VI.** Pray for us, O holy Mother of God,

**R/.** That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

**Let us pray.** Pour forth, we beseech you, O Lord, your grace into our hearts: that we, to whom the Incarnation of Christ your Son was made known by the message of an Angel, may by his Passion and Cross be brought to the glory of his Resurrection. Through the same Christ our Lord. *Amen.*



## STEWARDSHIP REPORT

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

### December 12, 2021

Sunday:	\$8743.50
Sunday (GIVE CENTRAL):	\$2,794.50
<b>SUNDAY TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$11,538.00</b>
*AID ED(GIVE CENTRAL):	\$30.00
Aid to Education:	\$105.00
Christmas:	\$670.00
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Immaculate Conception:	\$745.00
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\*GIVE CENTRAL & ACH ARE IN ADDITION TO REGULAR COLLECTION

## Split The Pot Drawing



On December 12th envelope #480 was drawn and did not participate in the drawing. The amount of **\$2,432.50** was added to Dec. 19th pot!

Don't forget to put your regular Sunday envelope and your orange envelope in for your chance to win! Good Luck!

## Queen of Hearts



The Queen is on winter break... the next drawing will be Thursday, January 6th! Get your tickets today!!

Follow us on Facebook!!  
Drawings are held on Thursdays!

## Calling all alumni of St. Germaine and Our Lady of Loretto Schools!

St. Germaine is in the process of updating the Alumni database. With your help we can have an up-to-date and accurate database which will become an extremely useful tool for us. Our goal is to be able to reach out to our alumni and let them know of the wonderful things happening here at St. Germaine. The information we gather will be used by St. Germaine solely for the purpose of education, marketing and development and will not be shared with any other outside source. If you, your family members, friends, neighbors, etc. are alumni, we are asking that you **scan the QR code** and complete the survey. Feel free to share with others. Thank You for your help and consideration for this project.

Join The Alumni

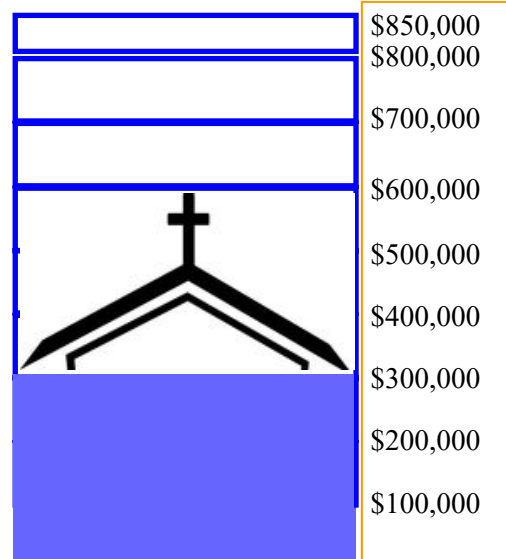


Thank you to the **197** donors who have started off our **Raise the Roof** campaign pledging **\$310,674.00!**

We continue to receive pledge cards in the mail daily and will keep you updated on how successful this campaign is.

Thank you for your sacrifice and generosity.

Can you help us raise the roof?





## THE COURAGE PROGRAM THANKS YOU!!!

Christmas is that wonderful time of year when we have the opportunity to bridge the generosity of this parish with the needs of the women and children in the COURAGE Program.

Thank you for the baby care items, toys, clothes, hats, gloves, gifts for moms, gift cards, & monetary donations which bring joy to so many!  
We could not do this without your loving concern.

**We wish you and your families all the peace and joy of Christmas throughout the New Year!**

### Thank you to the Messengers of Mercy!

The Earl Stazak Turkey Shoot raised over \$1,000 to help the food pantry here at Our Lady at St. Germaine!  
Thanks to all who participated!





## OUR LADY AT ST. GERMAINE PARISH

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

Parish Center Hours:

Monday—Friday 9:00am ~ Noon

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

#### WEEKDAY MASS:

Monday—Saturday: 8:30 AM Mass

#### WEEKEND MASSES:

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

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

Fr. George Velloorattil

Jack Malone

Joe Gonzalez

Frank Mamolella

Amy Condon

Kevin Reedy

Jeanne Lassandrello Director of Children's Faith Formation

Marianne Powers

Sr. Regina DeVitto CND

Dan Arens

Casey Wiedenski (636-6647)

Nancy Dunne

Molly O'Grady (636-8001)

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