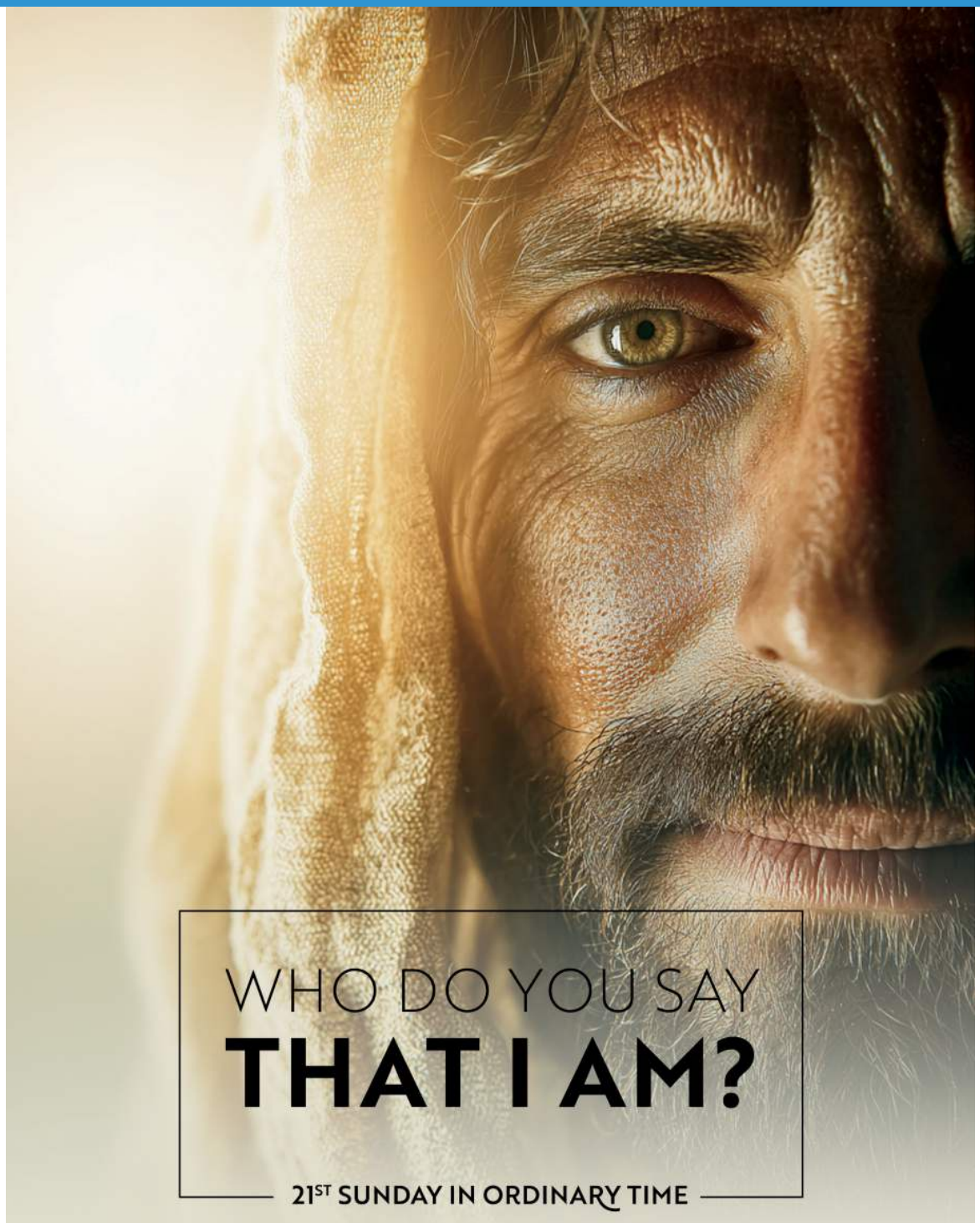
Our Lady at St. Germaine

9711 S Kolin Ave Oak Lawn, IL 60453

www.ourladyatstgermaine.org • (708)636-5060
ourladyatstgermaine@archchicago.org



August 23, 2026 • Twenty First Sunday in Ordinary Time

A Letter from Fr. Ritchie

Dear Parish Family,

As we begin this new school year, I want to take a moment to express my gratitude for the warm welcome I have received during my first month here at Our Lady at St. Germaine. Although I have only been with you for a short time, I have already seen the wonderful spirit, faith, generosity, and love that make this parish and school community so special.

In this Sunday's Gospel, Matthew 16:13-20, Jesus asks His disciples, **"Who do you say that I am?"** Peter recognizes Jesus as the Christ, the Son of the living God. This question is also one that we are invited to ask ourselves. Who is Jesus for us? And how does our relationship with Him shape the way we welcome others, serve our community, and care for one another?

As we begin this school year, I hope we can continue to grow together as one parish and school family. Our faith is not something we practice only inside the church; it is something we live in our classrooms, our homes, our ministries, and in the way we treat one another.

There is so much to look forward to in the coming months: our **Parish Picnic, Wednesday School Masses, the Courage Program Golf Outing, the Dinner Dance in November, and many exciting parish and school events.** These are more than activities on a calendar—they are opportunities to come together, build relationships, celebrate our faith, and strengthen our community.

Thank you for the warm welcome you have given me during this first month. I am excited to walk with you, our students, families, teachers, staff, and parishioners, as we begin this new chapter together.

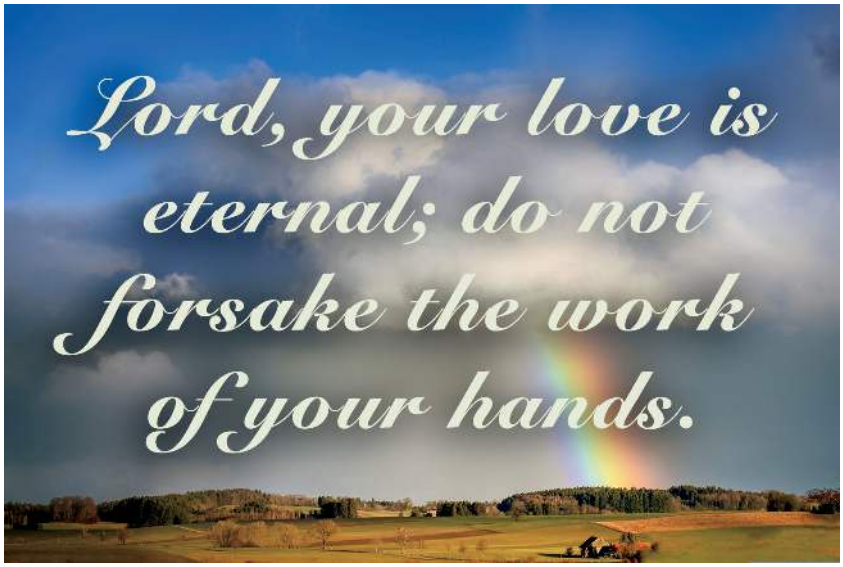
May God bless our new school year and help us always remember who Jesus is and the difference His love can make in our lives and in our community.

Here's to a wonderful year ahead!

Sincerely,

Reminder:

School children will be attending 8:30 morning mass on Wednesdays beginning this week.



Mass Intentions

Monday, August 24• St. Bartholomew
8:30AM Barb Ryan, Frank Kita, Steve Rolenc, James E. Bowes

Tuesday, August 25• Weekday
8:30AM Special Intentions

Wednesday, August 26 • Weekday
8:30AM Earl Stazak

Thursday, August 27 • St. Monica
8:30AM William & Eileen Grady

Friday, August 28• St. Augustine
8:30AM Communion Service:

Sat, August 29 • Passion of St. John the Baptist
8:30AM Meaghan BA. Bowes
4:00PM Raymond Cooley, James Link

Sunday, Aug 30 •
Twenty-Second Sun. in Ord. Time
7:30AM Helen & Joseph Burke
9:30AM Ken Superczynski
11:30AM Dan McDermott, John McGinty

Remember Our Beloved Dead

Deceased members of our Parish Family

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

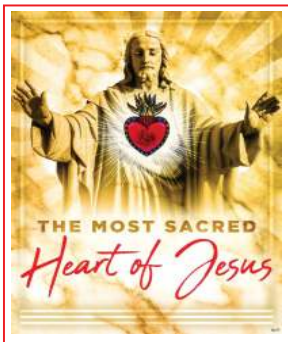
Richard Albert, Patricia Aruldoss, Brian Bednarski, Chris Benjamin, Virginia Bovilsky, Donna Burica, Maryann Burke, Diane Cernivivo, Declan Coyle, Mary Connolly, Ann Contorno, Eileen Cooney, Janine Coughlin, Chris Cristofaro, Elizabeth Czajka, Sue Daniels, Paul Dedericks, Emily DiPierro, Ron Ditzler, Mary Duggan, Adriana Elgas, Paige Epstein, Patty Fadden, Walter Furtner, Patsy Galecki, Gerardo Gonzalez, Greg Grochowski, Lynn Groebe, Kaitlyn Hedderman, Debbie Heitz, Gina Jakelski, Liz Kapovich, Dennis Kelsch, Garry Keller, Alvina Kita, Joe Kress, Charles Lee, Robert Litz, Eileen Carroll Lynch, Stas Maciasz, Rita Martin, Eugene Martyn, Michael Mattaliano, Sandra Mietz, Raimonda Miknius, Jonas Navarskas, Barb Nykaza, Dean Ojeda, Francine Opasm, Raul Osornio, Katherine Pape, Kath Rimac, Nicolas Rossio, Frank Roti, Martin Ruvalcaba, Julie Ryan, Baby DelilaSharon Safstrom, Devin Sanchez, Jose C. Sanchez, Monica (Ranalli) Schuberth, Mary Schwappach, Phillip Scropp, Ellie Smith, Ryan Smith, Kayla Smyth, Carol Spero, Michael Stupay, Rita Daniels Suchor, Jay Szewczyk, Kimberly Thielen, Charlene Thomson, Mary Ann Trop, Barbara Vaitiekonis, Geri Walker, James Welsh, Casey Wiedenski, Matthew Wilson, Susan Zak, Gussie Zawaski

Readings for the Week

Monday: Rv 21:9b-14/Ps 145:10-11, 12-13, 17-18/Jn 1:45-51
Tuesday: 2 Thes 2:1-3a, 14-17/Ps 96:10, 11-12, 13/Mt 23:23-26
Wednesday: 2 Thes 3:6-10, 16-18/Ps 128:1-2, 4-5/Mt 23:27-32
Thursday: 1 Cor 1:1-9/Ps 145:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/Mt 24:42-51
Friday: 1 Cor 1:17-25/Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 10-11/Mt 25:1-13
Saturday: 1 Cor 1:26-31/Ps 33:12-13, 18-19, 20-21/Mk 6:17-29
Next Sunday: Jer 20:7-9/Ps 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9/Rom 12:1-2/Mt 16:21-27

Ministers Schedule for August 29-30, 2026

	Saturday 4:00 PM	Sunday 7:30 AM	Sunday 9:30 AM	Sunday 11:30 AM
Celebrant	Fr. Cabala	Fr. Ortiz	Fr. Ortiz	Fr. Noga
Proclaimer	B. Brejcha	B. Jordan	K. Kleczkowski	J. O'Shea
Eucharistic Ministers	M. Cody B. Lavelle	S. Rosenbaum M. Scott	J. Baker M. Maslanka	J. O'Shea M. Powers
Altar Servers	A. Godinez R. Fonseca	K. Dang K. Gilmartin L. Friel	C. Nercado C. Mercado	L. Funk L. Funk B. Moore



Please join us for the Rosary all summer!

Starting June 8th, we will gather together Monday through Friday at 7pm by the Blessed Mother Statue on 98th St, just east of Kolin. Please feel free to bring a lawn chair. Everyone is welcome!

On June 11th, as part of the celebration of the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence, the U.S. bishops will consecrate the United States of America to the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

We invite all parishioners to come and spend some time with Our Lord in Adoration!
Tuesdays 9-6pm, Wednesday and Thursday 9 -7pm

Through the Sacrament of Baptism, the community of Our Lady of St. Germaine Parish welcomed the following children into the Catholic faith.

Elaina Lizbeth Gonzalez

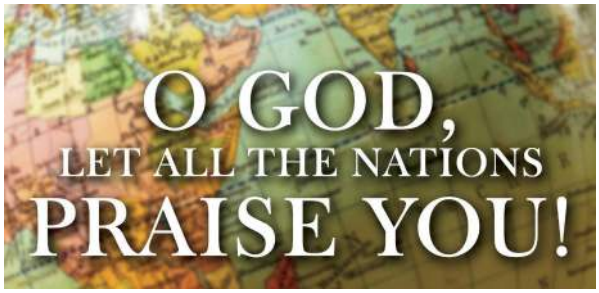
Nathan Tyler Walsh

2026 Mass book *is open and has plenty of availability. Call or stop by the Parish Center. We also have mass cards for birthdays, anniversaries, healing and special intentions.*

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Whether there is a serious need, or 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 708-636-5060 to request a Prayer Shawl.

Donations of yarn, and new members are always welcome! If you have any questions, interested in helping, or have any yarn needs, please contact Eleanor at 708-422-3643.



PARISH OFFICE: (708) 636-5060

Stewardship Reports

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

August 16, 2026

Sunday	$6,136.00
Sunday (Give Central)	$2,818.00
Sunday Total	**$8,954.00**
Food Pantry	$60.00
Aid to Education:	$15.00
Assumption:	$626.00

***Give Central & ACH are in addition to regular collection.**

Food Pantry Needs

Please help to restock our pantry, some things needed this month are …

Coffee (no k-cups), rice-a-roni, pasta roni, **cereal**, spaghettios or raviolis, pasta & sauce, pop tarts, oatmeal, breakfast/granola bars, beef stew, chili, soup, canned fruit, canned tomatoes, **jelly, peanut butter**, ramen, instant potatoes, mac & cheese, pudding or jello, cookies, crackers, canned meats, tuna, meals in a box, rice, **canned veggies,** shampoo, toothpaste, toilet paper, paper towels, dish soap, laundry detergent.

Please refrain from donating Soda/Pop.

Gift cards are always appreciated to help buy meats & other perishables.

Thank you for helping us help others!

SPLIT THE POT DRAWING

Last week envelope **#185** was drawn and did not participate in the drawing. The amount of **$2,895.00 w**ill be added to this weeks pot.

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

Religious Education and Formation

Registration is now open for the 2026-2027 school year.

If you would like to register for your child entering Preschool through 8th grade, call 708-636-5060 or stop in the Parish Center Monday-Thursday 9am-2pm.

Classes are held
Sunday 9:45am –11:15am

Fees are;
$25 for Preschool/Kindergarten (if not part of family)
$300 per family, $25 per child book fees

If you are interested in volunteering as a Catechist or teacher's aide, email jenstazak@yahoo.com

(aides get service hour credits for high school)

JOIN US FOR A

PARISH PICNIC

Sunday, September 13th, 2026

MASS UNDER THE TENT

11:30 AM

PARKING LOT

BYOB

JOEY'S RED HOT
FOOD TRUCK WILL BE
SELLING FOOD

- Live Music
- Games
- Fellowship
- Fun

Bring your enthusiasm, and let's celebrate the new school year ogether!

View this bulletin online at www.DiscoverMass.com

Childrens Choir

Coming soon

Stay tuned for more info!

If you would like to receive the weekly Church bulletin via email, please sacn the QR code below to sign up..

Soccer Sign Ups
Preschool 4 year old ~ 8th Grade
Boys and Girls

Hey everyone,

I hope you had a great summer. We are excited to get this fall soccer season started. prek-4th grade soccer with MHR League will run from after Labor day through the week after Columbus Day weekend. Teams should expect 2-3 games per week depending on weather and make-up games.

Typical game days will be Wednesday / Friday evenings, Saturday mornings and Mondays if needed for prek-2nd. Tuesday / Thursday evenings, Saturday mornings and Mondays if needed for 3rd/4th.

Coed Jr Varsity and Varsity (5th-8th) with SWCSA will start as early as September 10 and ending late October to early November. Minimum of 3 girls must be on the roster and playing at all times.

We will need coaches for all teams as well, you can send me an email or text me if you are interested. If we don't have coaches then we can't have a team so please put some thought into it, Grandparents and adult siblings are welcome to coach also!

Please scan QR code to register.

Thank You,
Michael Bekic, St. Germaine Soccer
(708)250-4352

Archdiocese of Chicago

Requirements for Volunteers

Are you ready to volunteer this year??

For all Parents or Parishioners who would like to volunteer within the Church, School or Parish ***(this means anyone who volunteers)*** in the upcoming year, please contact the Site Administrator, Melissa Barba by email mbarba@archchicago.org

Please use subject : **COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENTS**
Please provide your name, phone number or email, and what position you are hoping to do as a volunteer within our school or parish.

Any questions or concerns please email
mbarba@archchicago.org or call the Parish Center at 708-636-5060
Melissa Barba, Site Administrator

The Adult Confirmation Process of the Archdiocese of Chicago is a pre-sacramental program for adults (18 and older) who have already received the Catholic sacrament of Baptism and First Holy Communion and are seeking to receive the sacrament of Confirmation.

Adults who have not received the Catholic sacraments of Baptism and First Holy Communion should contact their local parish to join the OCIA process.

The Adult Confirmation sessions are offered on Zoom in English and Spanish (**Flyer**).

Preparation Class Dates

Wednesdays: September 23, 30, October 7, 14, 21, 28, November 4, 11, 18. | 7 – 9 p.m.

English Adult Confirmation Mass

Thursday, November 12, 2026 | 7 p.m.
Queen of All Saints Basilica
6280 North Sauganash Avenue, Chicago IL 60646

Registration Process

1. Registration opens on August 24, 2026
2. **Register here** or by scanning the **QR code**
3. Pay $150 fee (due at the time of registration)
4. Registration closes September 11, 2026 at 6 p.m.
5. You will receive the Zoom meeting link the week classes start.

For more information, please **visit our website.**
For questions, please email
adultconfirmation@archchicago.org, or call **312.534.8351**.

Here is the contact info for anyone who would like to stay in contact.

Sr. Regina DeVitto CND
Sr. Darleen Mayo CND

1 Smith Street

Building A #402

Norwalk, Connecticut 06851

The 24th Annual COURAGE Golf Outing

Saturday, October 3, 2026
Old Oak Country Club
143rd & Parker Road, Homer Glen, IL
Golf, Cart, Beverage Cart, Lunch and Dinner: $150.00
Dinner Only: $50.00
All proceeds to benefit The COURAGE Program

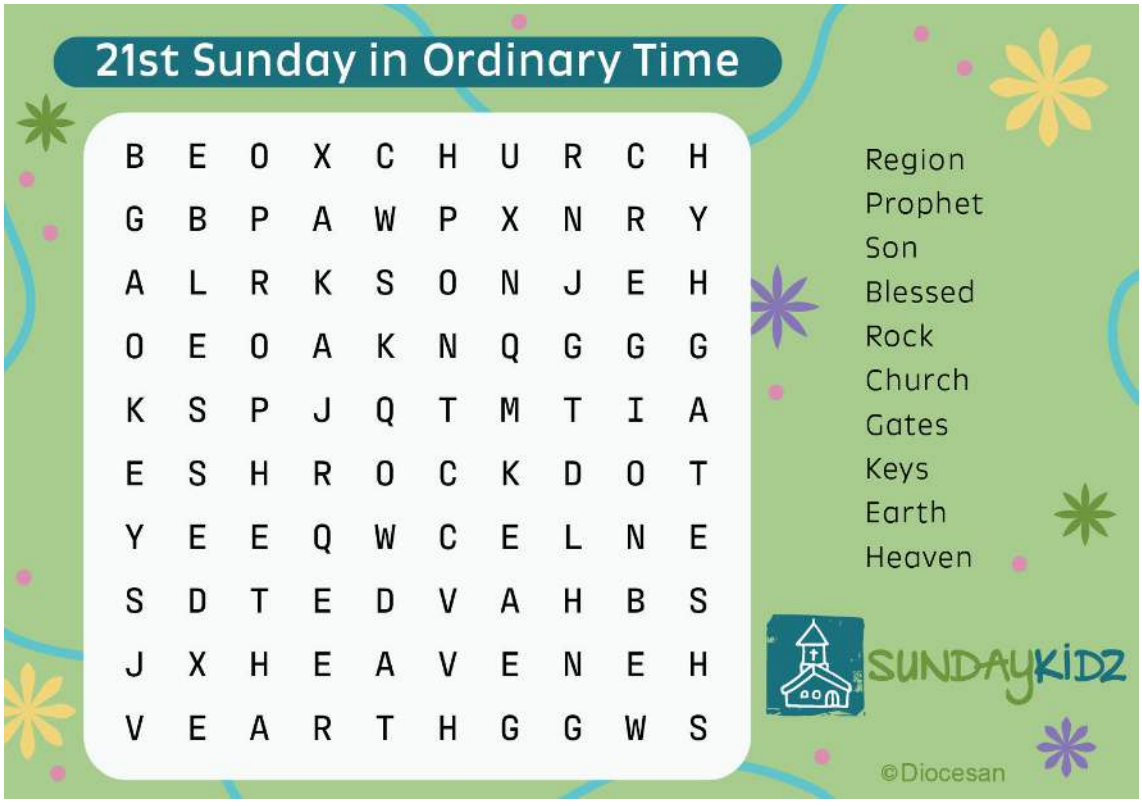
Please contact the COURAGE office for more information at (708) 636-8001
Or thecourageprogram@yahoo.com

AA Meetings in Our Lady at St. Germaine Basement

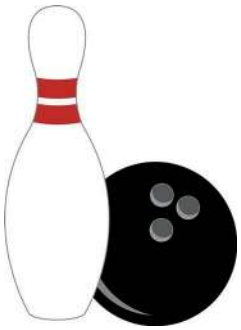
(For Location Follow OLBB Signage)

Sunday - 7:00 pm –
Closed Meeting (Alcoholics Only)

Thursday -7:30 pm –
Open Meeting
(all are welcome)

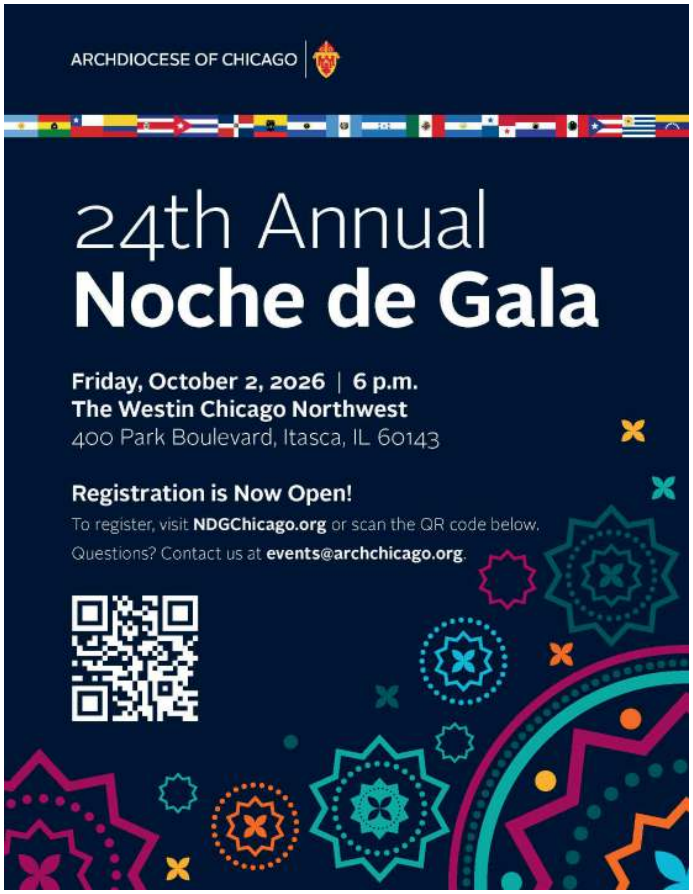


SOUTHSIDE LADIES' BOWLING LEAGUE



Southside Ladies' Bowling League is looking for new bowlers. Don't have to be a professional, it's all for fun.

Bring a friend or a whole team. Bowling starts Thursday, September 10, 2026, from 9:30am to 11:45am at Arena Lanes in Oak Lawn. For details, please call Denice Heeney at 773-802-2538 or Arena Lanes at 708-425-0900.



Happening at OLPL (August 2026)

More programming and details available at: www.olpl.org/calendar

Builders Club
All ages; *Friday, Aug. 7; 2-3 p.m.*
We supply the LEGOs, you supply the creativity!

Teen Terrarium in a Jar
Thursday, Aug. 13; 6-7 p.m.
Join us to create a self-contained little forest in a mason jar.

Alzheimer's & Dementia Support Group
Thursday, Aug. 13; 6:30-7:30 p.m.
Family members, friends and caregivers can share feelings and thoughts with people experiencing similar things. Facilitated by Mary Murphy, RN, BSN, CDP (Certified Dementia Practitioner) of Hibernian Home Care. Drop-ins welcome.

Oak Lawn's September 11 Memorial – Artist Reflections and Reception
Thursday, Aug. 20
Reception and Artist Talk at the Library; *6-7:30 p.m.*
Sculptor Erik Blome will reflect on creating the First Responders Memorial in Oak Lawn.
Artist Tour: Meet at the Memorial; *8-8:30 p.m.*
Erik Blome presents the artist's view of the sculpture on site. Transportation is not provided. Check our online calendar if the weather is inclement.

Online Shopping
Monday, Aug. 31; 11 a.m.-noon
Learn the basics of shopping safely on the internet.
(R) Registration is required, go to: www.olpl.org/calendar
(T) Admission tickets will be distributed at the Youth Services Desk 15 minutes before the start of the program.

OLPL Oak Lawn Public Library
9427 S. Raymond Ave.
Oak Lawn, IL 60453
708-422-4990
olpl.org

PLANNED GIVING

Gospel: Matthew 13:24-43
Reflection: Jesus teaches that the Kingdom is like a field with both wheat and weeds, growing together until God separates them at the harvest. This reminds us that good and evil coexist, but God is patient, giving time for growth and conversion. We are called to trust His timing rather than judge.
Takeaway of the Week: Let us continue to focus on growing the wheat in our lives with virtue, faith, and holiness. A gift of life insurance is a powerful and simple way to tend to the fields and provide future support for our parish.
For More Information Contact: Amy Condon, acondon@archchicago.org or 708-636-5060 x206 with any additional questions.

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 Summer Hours:
Monday—Friday 9:00am ~ 3:00pm
Website: ourladyatstgermaine.org

Mass Times

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 8:30 AM
Fridays.....8:30 AM Communion Service

Saturday..... 8:30 AM, 4:00 PM
Sunday ... 7:30 AM, 9:30 AM, 11:30 AM

Reconciliation

Saturday..... 2:45 PM-3:30 PM

Adoration Chapel

Tuesday 9:00 AM-6:00 PM, Wednesday & Thursday 9:00 AM-7:00 PM

Baptisms

Sundays- Call Parish Center to schedule.

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 708-636-5060.

Staff

Administrator: Fr. Ritchie Ortiz
Permanent Deacon: Joe Gonzalez
Operations Director: Amy Condon
School Principal: Stacy Kemps
Director of Children's Faith Formation: Eileen Akroush
Music Minister: Dan Arens
Ministers of Care: Casey Wiedenski and Nancy Dunne
COURAGE: Molly O'Grady **(708-636-8001)**
Office Manager : Jen Stazak
Bulletin Editor: Jen Stazak - jenstazak@yahoo.com

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