

Third Sunday of Advent | December 14, 2025

Under Mary's mantle, and with the guidance of the Holy Trinity, Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament seeks to share God's love by celebrating the sacraments, proclaiming the gospel, and serving the needs of all His children.

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

As we share our Parish Annual Report this weekend, I want to begin with a simple sentiment that comes straight from my heart: thank you. Though I have only been blessed to serve here for five months, I continue to be inspired by the faith, generosity, and resilience that make Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament Parish home.

Because this report covers the previous fiscal year, I am learning about much of our recent history right alongside you. In recent years, many parishes have experienced a dip in attendance and engagement, and we felt that here as well. Whether from Renew My Church, the pandemic or other concerns there has been hurt, uncertainty, and the shared challenge of rebuilding after a season of distancing.

Yet what amazes me is how faithfully Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament Parish responded. You chose to invest in mission. You chose to invest in community. And you chose to invest in hope.

Part of that investment included strengthening our staff with positions that support our long-term growth—a dedicated Operations Director, a full-time Music Director, a focused Communications Director, and most recently a Lifelong Faith Formation Coordinator working to strengthen both our parish and our Queen of the Rosary School. These roles weren't added as luxuries, but as essential tools for renewal. And now, we're beginning to see the fruits of that vision: attendance slowly rising, ministries coming to life, and increased enrollment in both Religious Education and the Order of Christian Initiation of Adults. These are signs of a parish rediscovering its vitality.

Like me, you may notice that our deficit appears to have grown this year, but it's important to understand why. Maintaining two worship sites—each more than 50 years old—comes with necessary costs. As Fr. Dan shared previously, our To Teach Who Christ Is campaign funds were intentionally re-designated for capital repairs. This past year, those funds covered major projects: replacing the heating and cooling system at Queen of the Rosary Church, resealing and restriping the parking lots, fixing a damaged concrete walk at St. Julian Eymard Church, and importantly the installation of security cameras at each worship site. These were significant but essential improvements—investments in safety, stewardship, and the future.

At the same time, I want you to know that I am working closely with parish staff, our leadership team, including the Finance Council, to ensure that we care well for the treasure entrusted to us. Good stewardship happens not only in major decisions, but sometimes in small, simple choices—turning off unused lights, reducing energy costs, or switching to more economical supplies. Everything adds up, and everything matters.

I encourage you to pick up your copy of the FY25 Giving Impact Statement in the vestibule or download it from our weekly eNewsletter. As you read through it, I hope you'll look beyond the financial columns to see the stories—the ways your generosity has touched lives, strengthened faith, and helped neighbors in need. It is a testament to what God is doing through you.

Next Sunday, members of our Finance Council will be available after Mass to answer questions or offer further explanation. And as always, I welcome your thoughts, your concerns, and your hopes. You'll find my email address at the end of this letter—I'm always grateful to hear from you.

Thank you for your presence. Thank you for your faith. And thank you for the warm welcome you have given me since July. I am truly proud of the work I see God accomplishing in you and through you. May we continue building His Kingdom together, as Companions on the Journey.

—Fr. Arthur arbautista@archchicago.org

Curious about how our generosity is changing lives? Our Annual Giving Impact Report (7/1/24 - 6/30/25) is here! Inside, you'll find not only the numbers, but also heartwarming stories of transformation. See how our ministries brought our pastoral theme to life in powerful ways! Pick up your copy today and celebrate the difference we are making together!

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE



MASS INTENTIONS

Monday 8:15am (SJE)	December 15
Tuesday 8:15am (QR)	December 16
1:40pm (QR)	School Mass
Wednesday 8:15am (SJE)	December 17 + Joel Santos
Thursday 8:15am (QR)	December 18 + Peter & Dorothy Shianna, + Dcn Joel Casey, + Waclow Modzelewski
Friday 8:15am (SJE)	December 19 + Bonnie Costa
Saturday	December 20
8:15am (QR)	December 20
•	Simbang Gabi Mass + Nick Spaniak, + Mom Bryak and Mary & Charles Vicksta, Deceased members of the Stomper family, + Jerry Russell, + Diane Schuldt, + Ralph & Beatrice Ellison, + Marge & George Stoddart, + Mrs. Cherney
8:15am (QR) 5:00pm (SJE) Sunday	Simbang Gabi Mass + Nick Spaniak, + Mom Bryak and Mary & Charles Vicksta, Deceased members of the Stomper family, + Jerry Russell, + Diane Schuldt, + Ralph & Beatrice Ellison, + Marge & George Stoddart, + Mrs. Cherney December 21
8:15am (QR) 5:00pm (SJE)	Simbang Gabi Mass + Nick Spaniak, + Mom Bryak and Mary & Charles Vicksta, Deceased members of the Stomper family, + Jerry Russell, + Diane Schuldt, + Ralph & Beatrice Ellison, + Marge & George Stoddart, + Mrs. Cherney December 21 For the people of the parish
8:15am (QR) 5:00pm (SJE) Sunday	Simbang Gabi Mass + Nick Spaniak, + Mom Bryak and Mary & Charles Vicksta, Deceased members of the Stomper family, + Jerry Russell, + Diane Schuldt, + Ralph & Beatrice Ellison, + Marge & George Stoddart, + Mrs. Cherney December 21

MINISTRY & EVENTS



7:45am 8:00am 8:45am 2-5:00pm	Mon-Sat: Morning Prayer (Tele or App) Mon-Sat: Divine Mercy Prior to Mass Mon-Sat: Rosary Follows Mass Tue-Fri: Teen Center Hours
Monday 9:00am 6:30pm	December 15 Cougar Cubs (QRS) Youth Ministry (Victory Centre) Baptism Preparation (SJE Shea Hall) Parish Council Exec Comm (SJE Rms 11/12)
Tuesday 7:00pm	December 16 Rosary (SJE)
Wednesday 8:15am 9:30am 3:00pm 7:00pm	December 17 Cougar Day! Adoration begins with daily Mass (SJE) Bible Study (SJE Shea Hall) Divine Mercy Prayer (SJE) Reconciliation (SJE) Bell Choir Practice (QR) Parent Club (QRS Rm K) AA (SJE Ministry Center)
Thursday 5:30pm 6:30pm 7:00pm	December 18 Advent Food Sorting (SJE Ministry Center) QR School Christmas Show (QR) Choir Rehearsal (SJE)
Friday 7:30pm	December 19 AA/Al Anon (SJE Ministry Center)
Saturday 8:15am Noon	December 20 Adoration begins w/Mass (QR) Reconciliation (QR)
Sunday 9:15am 2:00pm 6:00pm	December 21 CLW (SJE) Families of Christ Jesus (SJE Rms 11/12) Youth Ministry Christmas Party (SJE)

LITURGICAL MINISTERS



December 20/21

Mass Time	Lector	Extraordinary Ministers
5:00pm Fr. Art	Simbang Gabi Team	Deacon Jerry Lynette Lee Kathy Casterton
8:00am Fr. Art	Mary Ellen O'Shea	Ray Bauer Larry Zabinski Judi Necek
9:15am	Don Kauffold	VickiLynn Gilman Vicky Lucki Patricia Childress
10:30am Fr. Art	Charles Glomski	Dan Schiffer Chris Schiffer Diana Ambrose

SICK RELATIVES AND FRIENDS

Rosemary Beatty, Richard Conrad, Johnny Cogill, Than Van Faughn, Haley & Marilyn Foss, Eileen & Fran Gascon, Sandy Gran, Michael Grear, Victoria Grzesiakowski, Mayor Craig Johnson, Edward Lang, Eileen Meyer, Amy Norbot, Debby Novoryta, Randy Olsen, Gail Quick, John Schneider, William Seiwert, Eileen Showalter, Thomas Smith, Tilla Tillnon, Mary Beth Tomaso, Luis Alfredo Villacress, Jackie Vrtis, Marge Yackem, Ben's Sister

Please contact the parish office at (847) 979-0901 to continue to have sick relatives or friends included here.

GRANT UNTO THEM ETERNAL REST

May God bless them and keep them...

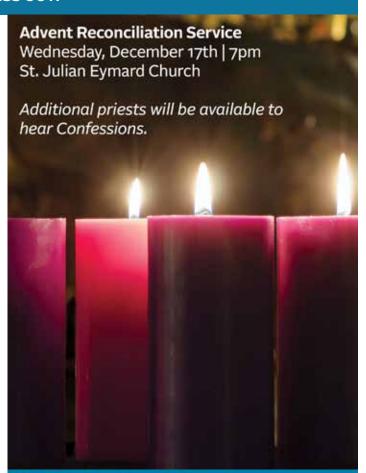
Marianne Laga, Lee Fioretto

Please pray for lives lost to violence and natural disasters.

DON'T MISS OUT!







Let's Do Lunch...and Learn!

OLBS Prayer Shawl Ministry is excited to treat our 65+ community to a free, fun, and delicious Luncheon coming sometime after Easter 2026! Before we set the date, we're gauging interest so if you'd love to join us for great food and even better company, let us know!

Scan the code or visit <u>signupgenius.com/go/</u> 904054DADAC2CA7F49-60942127-lunchand#/



FAMILY RESOURCES & EVENTS

Gospel in Focus: December 21, 2025 God speaks to Joseph in a dream, telling him that Mary has conceived Emmanuel through the Holy Spirit. "Behold, the virgin shall be with child and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel.' which means 'God with us.'" -Matthew 1:23 **Discussion Questions** How might Joseph have felt when the angel told him about Mary? Why is it hard to trust that God will com through for us? Share a time when God asked you to do something hard? 52 Week Mass Guide for Families: olbsegv.org/prayer-life/#MassGuide

Let's light up for a cause! Join the Good Samaritan Ministry's "Oh, SNAP!" Food Drive: Advent Edition

Grab a wish list and drop donations in the wicker baskets in the vestibules at both churches. Suggested items include canned meats and vegetables, soup, boxed cereal, stuffing mix, and other pantry favorites to support Catholic Charities.

Let's light up more than trees this Advent let's fill hearts with gratitude and hope!







QUEEN OF THE ROSARY CATHOLIC SCHOOL

OUR LADY OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT PARISH

Where faith and learning feel like home.

Our halls are full of Christmas spirit as we continue preparing our hearts for the coming of Christ. This joyful season marks the start of our annual Holiday Food Drive, where students place donations beneath the Christmas trees in our lobby to support the local food pantry.

We also had a wonderful time hosting Pictures with Santa and the Grinch. It was such a gift to see so many familiar faces and share in the joy of the season together.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support of our parish school. If you or someone you know would like more information about Queen of the Rosary School, please reach out!

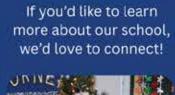
















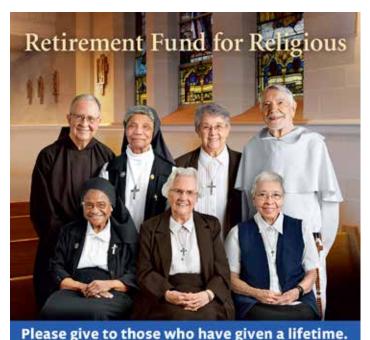
STEWARDSHIP REPORT

Your Stewardship Treasure returned to God for the support of our Parish ministries and His Church.

Thank you for your generosity.

Weekly Offertory Goal	\$14,000
In-pew/Mail-in Offertory Dec 7, 2025 (Sunday Attendance: 828, more snow!)	\$10, 410.00
Queen of the Rosary School Support	\$415.00
Votive Candles	\$161.00
Christmas Flowers	\$250.00
2025 Annual Catholic Appeal Pledges (<i>Projected Rebate</i> \$35,000)	\$97,745.00





Please donate at your local parish on December 14, 2025 or by mail at: National Religious Retirement Office

National Rengious Retirement Office 3211 Fourth Street NE Washington DC 20017-1194 Make check payable to Retirement Fund For Religious

retiredreligious.org

Visit retiredreligious.org/2022photos to meet the religious pictured.

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PARISH DIRECTORY

Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament Parish Fr. Arthur Bautista, Pastor x1013; arbautista@archchicago.org

Fr. Paul Àdajà, Associate Pastor x1009; padaja@archchicago.org

Mr. Jerry Szostak, Permanent Deacon x1008; jszostak@archchicago.org

Worship Sites

Queen of the Rosary Church (QR) 750 W. Elk Grove Blvd, Elk Grove Village

St. Julian Eymard Church (SJE)601 Biesterfield Road, Elk Grove Village *Office Hours*M/W 9am-5pm; Tu/Th 10am-6pm; F 9am-Noon

OLBSEGV.org | (847) 979-0901 | olbsegv@archchicago.org

School

Queen of the Rosary School 690 Elk Grove Blvd, Elk Grove Village

Mr. Ryan Andersen, Principal randersen@grcougars.org

QRSchool.org | (847) 437-3322

Parish Staff

Matt Ellefson, Maintenance mellefson@qrcougars.org

Jennifer Frazzini, Operations Director jfrazzini@archchicago.org

Scott Kennelly, Maintenance x1005; sckennelly@archchicago.org

Mary McKenzie, Office Manager x1001; mmckenzie@archchicago.org

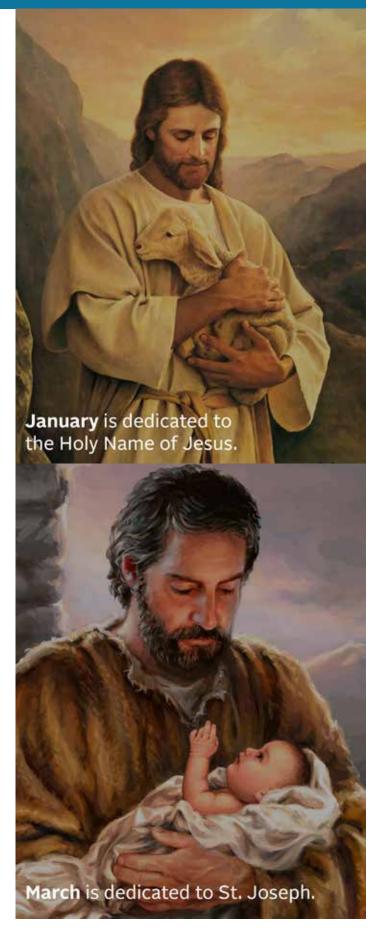
Christine Nagle, Lifelong Faith Formation Coordinator x1004; cnagle@archchicago.org

Mary Ellen Ottenstein, Communications x1007; mottenstein@archchicago.org

Paul Van Lysebettens (Mr. Van), Music Director & Youth Minister; x1006; pvanlysebettens@archchicago.org

BONUS FEATURE: LOOKING AHEAD





BONUS FEATURE: MINISTRY SPOTLIGHT



Young Adult Ministry

If you're 18-39, find faith, friendship and fun through community events and spiritual growth!

Scan the code or contact the parish office to discover more. (847) 979-0901 or info@olbsegv.org.





Book Club

Dive into engaging discussions on faithfilled and inspiring reads-let's share stories that uplift!

Scan the code or contact the parish office to discover more. (847) 979-0901 or info@olbsegv.org.





Grounds & Environment

Help Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament shine. Let's create an inviting, prayerful space—from the parking lot to the altar.

Scan the code or contact the parish office to discover more, (847) 979-0901 or info@olbsegv.org.





Women's & Men's Groups

Build friendships and community with fellow parishioners. Come as you are and make it your own!

Scan the code or contact the parish office to discover more. (847) 979-0901 or info@olbsegv.org.



BONUS FEATURE: MINISTRY SPOTLIGHT



Care Ministry

Bring Christ's presence through the Eucharist and compassionate visits to homebound parishioners.

Scan the code or contact the parish office to discover more. (847) 979-0901 or info@olbsegv.org.









Walk with grieving families, offering compassion and guidance while planning funeral liturgies.

Scan the code or contact the parish office to discover more. (847) 979-0901 or info@olbsegv.org.





Journey of the Heart

Be a beacon of hope for the bereaved, helping them discover God's love through their grief.

Scan the code or contact the parish office to discover more. (847) 979-0901 or info@olbsegv.org.





Respect Life

Pray, advocate and witness for the dignity of all human life, from conception to natural death.

Scan the code or contact the parish office to discover more. (847) 979-0901 or info@olbsegv.org.



BONUS FEATURE: MINISTRY SPOTLIGHT



Proclaim God's Word, distribute the Eucharist or assist at the altarserve with joy and purpose!

Scan the code or contact the parish office to discover more. (847) 979-0901 or info@olbsegv.org.









Prayer Shawl

Knit, crochet and craft comforting shawls, blankets and more wrapping others in warmth and prayer!

Scan the code or contact the parish office to discover more. (847) 979-0901 or info@olbsegv.org.





Grow deeper in faith through Bible studies, Scripture discussions and more spiritual learning opportunities!

Scan the code or contact the parish office to discover more, (847) 979-0901 or info@olbsegv.org.





God's Work, Our Hands

There's something for everyone! Don't see your calling? Let's talk and explore how we can invite others to Christ-together!

Scan the code or contact the parish office to discover more. (847) 979-0901 or info@olbsegv.org.



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