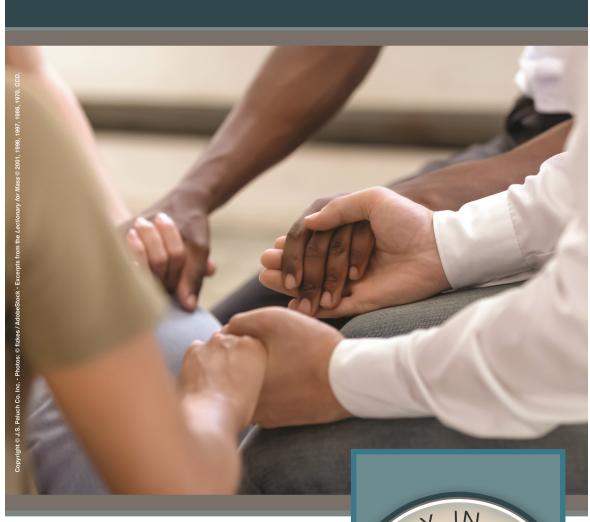


## St. John XXIII Parish

The Unified Parish of St. Mary, 1012 Lake Street & St. Nicholas, 806 Ridge, Evanston IL





"But I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you."

Matthew 5:44



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United Catholic Youth Ministries / Ministerio de Jovenes

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St. José Sanchez del Rio UCYM Center (St. Theresa Building - Second Floor)

www.ucym.org

#### This Week at St. Mary's Church

#### **RE Classes This Sunday**

#### Women's PreLent Retreat

Monday at 7:00 p.m. in the Gathering Space Men's PreLent Retreat

Monday at 7:30 p.m. in Oldershaw Hall at St. Nicholas

#### **SPRED** (Special Religious Development)

Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m. in St. Mary's Church

#### Ash Wednesday: Masses with Distribution of Ashes

Wednesday, February 22 at 8:00 a.m., Noon, & 7:00 p.m. in St. Mary's Church

#### St. Mary's Black Catholics Discussion Group

Wednesdays at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom

Contact Shannon Ambroise: <u>stmaryevanstonbc@gmail.com</u> for upcoming topics and the link to this week's meeting.

#### St. Mary's Quilting Ministry

Thursdays at 10:00 a.m., in the Gathering Space

#### St. Mary's Choir Rehearsal

Thursdays at 7:00 p.m. in the Music Rehearsal Room

#### **Movie Night for Lent**

Fridays during Lent at 6:30 p.m. in the Parish Center

### **Esprit d'Amour Charismatice Prayer Group (French) Stations of the Cross**

Fridays at 7:30 p.m. in St. Mary's Church

**Stations of the Cross** 

Saturdays after the 8:00 a.m. Mass

#### Weekly Prayer & Worship

#### **Sacrament of Reconciliation**

Saturdays, 4:-4:30 p.m. at St. Mary Saturdays, 3:30 p.m. at St. Nicholas

#### Weekday Mass Schedule

Mondays-Saturdays 8:00 a.m. in St. Mary Church Monday, Wednesday-Saturday 8:00 a.m., St. Nick's Chapel Tuesdays, at 8:15 a.m. in St. Nicholas Church Friday's 8:00 a.m. Mass is Bilingual in St. Nick's Chapel

#### Weekly Rosary

Saturdays at 7:30 a.m. in St Mary Church

#### **Sunday Mass Schedule**

At St. Mary: Saturday, 5:00 p.m. Sunday, 8:00, 9:30, 11:00 a.m. First Sunday of the month, Haitian Mass, 12:30 p.m. (French)

At St. Nicholas: Saturday, 4:30 p.m. (English), Sunday, 8:30 a.m. (Spanish) 10:15 a.m. (English) & 1:00 p.m. (Spanish)

#### **Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament**

Sunday afternoons, 3:00-6:00 p.m. at St. Mary Church Friday mornings, after the 8:00 a.m. Mass until 10:00 a.m Saturdays at 7:30 a.m. at St. Nicholas Church



Dear parishioners of St. John XXIII Parish,

May the peace of our Lord be with you. We are once again invited to celebrate the fundamentals of our faith, that is the Passion, death, and the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. This is the foretaste of own resurrection as well, anticipated by the pascal mystery of Christ in whom we have been configured through our baptism. St. Paul wrote so clearly,

"Aren't you aware that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? We were therefore buried with Him through baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may walk in newness of life. For if we have been united with Him like this in His death, we will certainly also be united with Him in His resurrection" Romans 6: 4-5

Therefore, the Church is inviting us to prepare ourselves spiritually during this Lenten season to celebrate this pascal mystery with faith, love, and hope. We know that our celebration is in heaven when our earthly pilgrimage is done. This Lent is a new opportunity for us to renew ourselves. This Lent is a time to return to God with a contrite heart knowing that we have a forgiving and merciful God who is always waiting to embrace and kiss us, throw his arms around us, and rejoice with us:

"Let's have a feast and celebrate. For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found." Luke 15: 23-24.

Lent is our chance to deepen our relationship with Christ by listening and responding more fully to God's Word to us. It is a time to remember we are on the journey towards God. This spiritual journey will take us 40 days and beyond. It is a lifetime journey that ends only in God and with God when "God will be all in all." Corinthians 15:28.

My dear parishioners stand up and walk, even though the walk may be heavy, burdensome, and difficult. Stand up and walk even though situations of life may be pulling you backward whether sickness, family challenges, loss of a loved one, financial difficulties, sense of lost and doubt, despair, loneliness, or sins. Stand up and walk because God is waiting for you to embrace you. Jesus our Lord is walking with us. On this journey of 40 days, we are invited to participate in the penitential offerings of fasting, prayer, and almsgiving as a sign of our faith.

This Lent is a very special and unique time for us here in St John XXIII parish. It is the first time that we will be journeying and celebrating as one parish and as an evangelizing community serving God, humanity, and creation. Let us do it with sincere concern for one another holding each other's hands, leaving no one behind. Therefore, let us not allow our prayers and Lenten sacrifice to be an inward self-gratification, but an outward endeavor that brings us all closer to the empty tomb. It is here where a new life regenerates and we can rightfully proclaim; Jesus is indeed risen!

I wish you all a prayerful Lenten season and happy Easter celebration!

Rev. Koudjo Jean-Philippe Lokpo, Pastor

## ReLent Groups

"Perhaps he will again relent and leave behind him a blessing ...'

(Joel 2:14)

Every year during Lent, we have the opportunity to share our faith in small groups. So far there are 12 options. Stop by the sign-up tables after all masses in both churches this weekend for full information on all the groups.

- ▼ Tom Lenz's Group, Sundays at 1:00 p.m., locations rotate through the group
- ▼ Deacon Jaime & Leonor Rojas, Sundays at 6:00-8:00 p.m. in the Social Hall;
- ♥ Ed & Mary Signatur, Tuesdays at 10:00 a.m. at Three Crowns / Yvonne Smith, Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m. in Zoom
- Mike Borman, Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. at St. Mary's Parish Center
- ▼ Lent through the Lens of Creation, Thursdays at 6:30 p.m. in St. Mary's Conference Room
- ♥ Vespers/Lectio Divina, Thursdays at 7:00 p.m. in St. Nicholas Church
- ♥ Movie Nights for Lent, Fridays at 6:00 p.m. at St. Mary's Parish Center
- ♥ Sister Christina's Group / Sue Kamp's Group / Kathy Benn's Group / Marie Sagaille's Group



### St. John XXIII Parish Lent 2023

#### **Burning of Palms at St. Nicholas Church**

Sunday, February 19, - 11:30 in Courtyard

#### Pre-Lent Men's Retreat with Father Jim Halstead OSA

Monday, February 20, at 7:30 p.m. in Oldershaw Hall at St. Nicholas

#### Pre-Lent Women's Retreat with Karie Ferrell, Director of Lifelong Faith Formation

Monday, February 20, at 7:00 p.m. in the Gathering Space at St. Mary

#### Ash Wednesday, February 22, 2023 - Masses with Distribution of Ashes:

St Mary at 8:00 a.m., Noon & 7:00 p.m.

St Nicholas at 8:15 a.m. with school, 7:00 p.m. Bilingual

#### **Weekday Masses**

Monday-Saturday 8:00 a.m. at St. Mary Church

Monday, Wednesday-Saturday 8:00 a.m., St. Nick's Chapel

Tuesdays, at 8:15 a.m. in St. Nicholas Church

Friday's 8:00 a.m. Mass is Bilingual in St. Nick's Chapel

#### **Sacrament of Reconciliation**

Saturdays 4:00-4:30 p.m. in St. Mary Church before the 5:00 p.m. Mass

Saturdays 3:30 p.m. in St. Nicholas Church before the 4:30 Mass

#### **Praying the Rosary**

Saturday Mornings at 7:30 a.m. before the 8:00 a.m. Mass at St. Mary

#### **Eucharistic Adoration**

Saturday Mornings at 7:30 a.m. before the 8:00 a.m. Mass at St. Nicholas

Friday Mornings at St. Mary, after the 8:00 a.m. Mass —10:00 a.m. in the church

Sundays at St. Mary, 3:00-6:00 p.m. in the Church

#### **Stations of the Cross**

Fridays at Noon at St Nicholas

Friday Evenings at 7:30 p.m. at St. Mary Church (in French)

Saturday Mornings after the 8:00 a.m. Mass in St. Mary Church (in English)

#### Sunday Masses

Saturdays at St. Mary: 5:00 p.m.; Sunday, 8:00 a.m., 9:30 a.m., & 11:00 a.m. (English);

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month-Haitian Mass at 12:30 p.m. (French)

Saturdays at St. Nicholas: 4:30 p.m. (English); Sunday, 8:30 a.m., (Spanish)

10:15 a.m. (English), 1:00 p.m. (Spanish)

#### Vespers/Lectio Divina

Thursdays at 7:00 p.m. in St. Nicholas Church, March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

#### Tiny Lenten Retreat on March 4, 9:00 a.m. - Noon. at St. Nicholas

Reflections from the Women Doctors of the Church—Sts. Teresa of Avila, Catherine of Siena, Therese the Little Flower, and Hildegard of Bingen at St Nicholas

#### A Morning of Reflection & Renewal

Saturday, March 11, 10 a.m. to Noon at Saint Mary's Church Gathering Space Facilitator, Karie Ferrell, Director of Lifelong Faith Formation

#### **Parish Communal Reconciliation Service**

Tuesday, March 28 at 7:00 pm at St. Mary Church

### Renew My Church: Unification

"Throw open the windows of the church and let the fresh air of the Spirit blow through."

St. John XXIII

Update from the Unification Communications Team
Disciple Maker Index
Shelley Benson, author

Dear St. John XXIII Parishioners,

As we approach Ash Wednesday and enter into the period of Lent, we are reminded of Jesus' journey into the desert. We accompany Jesus in this penitential time and prayerfully reflect on our walk with Him, calling upon the Lord for strength during times of temptation, and remembering God's faithfulness to us.

As mentioned last week, St John XXIII Parish is participating in a survey conducted by Catholic Leadership Institute. The Disciple Maker Index (DMI) survey allows parishioners to reflect on their own spiritual growth and discipleship and to identify the ways in which the parish effectively supports that growth.

The survey will be accessible online and in paper form from **Ash Wednesday**, **February 22 – March 31**. The survey will take 10-15 minutes to complete. A QR code will be provided on cards available in church, in the Feb. 26 digital newsletter and bulletin.

This survey offers us a unique opportunity to learn about issues of importance to parishioners in a confidential and professional way. At the completion of the survey, our parish will receive a summary report of the results. We will use these results to 1) look at opportunities to support parishioner growth in discipleship and 2) create goals and plans to achieve that growth.

Thank you in advance for your participation in the DMI survey. As we continue to build our unification efforts for St. John XXIII Parish, your voice is critical in developing the future. YOUR VOICE MATTERS!

With God's love and peace,

Fr. Jean-Philippe Lokpo and the Unification Team



## Society of St. Vincent de Paul Are You In Need?

Our St. Vincent de Paul Society is available to our parishioners and our neighbors in need. If you are in need, or know someone who is, please contact us: (847) 868-3796. Leave a message and one of our Vincentians will return your call.

All requests are confidential.

#### Attention: Business Owners & Generous Parishioners!

JS Paluch, our bulletin publisher, is working on setting up the advertising sponsorships for our bulletin. Advertisements can be purchased for a business, family or a sponsor ad. If you wish to receive information about participating in supporting the parish by sponsoring an ad, please call the church office and they will connect you with a sales rep that would be happy to answer questions for you.

Please support our sponsors! Their generosity helps us to enjoy our FREE bulletin publication every week throughout the year!

#### How to Nominate a Candidate for the Council

The new St. John XXIII Parish Finance Council will be made up of 7-9 individuals.

If you wish to *nominate yourself* for the Finance Council, send a letter or email to Fr. Jean-Philippe expressing your interest. The letter should be no more than one page in length and include your reasons for wanting to serve on the Council as well as your relevant qualifications and experience. Please include your contact information.

If you wish to recommend another parishioner for consideration, please send a letter or email to Fr. Jean-Philippe with the person's name and contact information, and why you feel the person would be a good candidate.

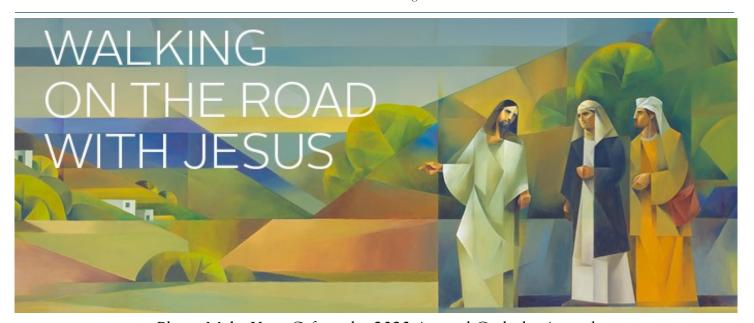
Fr. Jean-Philippe has asked Shelley Benson to assist him in collecting the nominations. Please send all letters of intent to Fr. Jean-Philippe (<a href="kklokpo@archchicago.org">kklokpo@archchicago.org</a>) with a copy to Shelley Benson (<a href="shelleybenson5@gmail.com">shelleybenson5@gmail.com</a>). The deadline to submit nominations is Monday, February 27. The names of the new Parish Finance Council members will be announced on March 3.



We invite you to contact the office if you have moved, changed telephone numbers, added a new member to your family, or a loved one left the family. If you keep in contact with a fellow parishioner who has moved out of town, ask if they have notified the parish to be removed.

For all who join us weekly but are not registered, we encourage you to please go online and register.

www.stmaryevanston.org www.nickchurch.org



Please Make Your Gift to the 2023 Annual Catholic Appeal Walking on the road with Jesus

Our parish is conducting our campaign for the Annual Catholic Appeal. Please remember that the Annual Catholic Appeal is much different than a one-time special collection. It is a pledge campaign where you can make a gift payable in installments.

The new Annual Catholic Appeal theme, "Walking on the road with Jesus," is an important theme as we prayerfully consider our support for the Appeal but also important for embracing the life that the Lord wants us to live. Each pledge makes a difference! All parish communities participate in the campaign and the gifts of many enable our parishes, schools and ministries to deliver needed services. Thank you for your prayerful consideration and generous response.

To make your gift, you can complete the mail-in giving envelope available at church or make a gift online at annualcatholicappeal.com.

## We Pray for One Another & the World

#### **Mass Intentions**

Every mass is offered for the needs and intentions of someone. You can request that we support you in your intentions and your needs.

Contact the Parish Office to request a mass be offered for someone you know that is in need of prayer, for your own intentions, or for the repose of someone's soul. The stipend is \$10.



#### Sunday, February 19: 7th Sunday Ordinary Time

. 5:00 For a deeper awareness of poverty and to be moved to help in whatever ways we can

8:00 Bob Pedro, in thanksgiving 9:30 Dominique Loriaux

11:00 Phillip Delmas

#### Monday, February 20

8:00 Bob Pedro, in thanksgiving

#### Tuesday, February 21

8:00 Pope's Intention for February:
That parishes, placing communion at the center, may increasingly become communities of faith, fraternity and welcome towards those most in need

#### Wednesday, February 22: Ash Wednesday

8:00 That our parish family will make this Noon Lent a time of personal and 7:00 communal transformation

#### Thursday, February 23: Thursday after Ash Wednesday

8:00 For a deeper awareness of poverty and to be moved to help in whatever ways we can

#### Friday, February 24: Friday after Ash Wednesday

8:00 For people living in war-torn areas

#### Saturday, February 25: Saturday after Ash Wednesday

8:00 For children living in violent home situations

#### Vigil Mass for Sunday, February 26: First Sunday of Lent

5:00 🕆 For a deeper awareness of our responsibility to be good stewards of God's creation



We pray for those who are sick, especially ...

Kelsey Wolfe Peter Kelly Janet Borman

We pray for those who have died, especially ...

If you have someone whose name you'd like added or removed, contact Dianne Fox, Director of Music dfox@archchicago.org



#### We Join Our Holy Father, Pope Francis, In Prayer

The Holy Father has designated February as a month to pray for parishes.

"We pray that parishes, placing communion at the center, may increasingly become communities of faith, fraternity and welcome towards those most in need."

Join the Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network: <u>popesprayerusa.net</u> which addresses the challenges facing humanity. We pray and work to meet the challenges of the world identified by the Pope, while walking a spiritual path called the "Way of the Heart."



### We pray for those who serve and for peace

- ♦ 1st Lieutenant Patrick Benn, U.S. Marine Corps, son of Kathy & Adrian Benn
- ♦ CDR Edward Carlton, U.S. Navy, son of Caroline & Frank Carlton
- ♦ 1st Lieutenant Henry L. Clark, U.S. Air Force, son of Gayle & Dan Clark
- ♦ Airman Lindsey Foley, U.S. Air Force, niece of Chris Foley
- ♦ Lt. Daniel Kozicki, U.S. Navy, nephew of Linda O'Dwyer





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