



OUR LADY OF AFRICA

PARISH BULLETIN

Sunday, April 28, 2024



Served by the Society of the Divine Word



REMAIN IN ME.

— JOHN 15:4 —

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

©LPi

Mass Schedule

Saturday Vigil: 4:00 p.m.
Sunday: 9:00 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. (Livestream)
1:30 p.m.—Ghanaian Community (1st Sunday)
2:30 p.m.—Igbo Community (*last two Sundays*)
6:00 p.m.—French (*1st Sunday*)
Tuesday, Thursday, Friday: 10:30 a.m.
Wednesday: 6:30 p.m.

Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)

Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday: 10 a.m.
Wednesday: 6 p.m.
Saturday: 3:00 - 3:45 p.m.
Or by appointment (773)624-5375

Parish Administrator

Father Carl Gales, SVD

Contact Us

Phone: 773-624-5375
Email: ourladyofafricachicago@gmail.com
Mail: 615 East Oakwood Boulevard
Chicago, IL 60653

Church Address

607 East Oakwood Boulevard
Chicago, IL 60653

Office Hours

Monday - Friday: 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Website

www.ourladyofafricachicago.com



This Week at OLA

Sunday, April 28

- Sunday School | 11:30 a.m.
| Sunday School Room

Tuesday, April 30

- **Daily Mass | 10:30 a.m.**
- Phone-In Bible Study | 6 p.m.
| (267) 807-9601 | Code: 340-355-967

Wednesday, May 1

- Bible Study | 11 a.m. | Parish Hall
- **Daily Mass | 6:30 p.m.**

Thursday, May 2

- Angels on Air Phone Prayer Line | 9 a.m.
| (267) 807-9601 | Code: 340-355-967
- **Daily Mass | 10:30 a.m.**
- Food Pantry | 10 a.m. to Noon
| Tolton Center
- CHI Community & Resource Meal
| 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. | Parish Hall

Friday, May 3

- **Daily Mass | 10:30 a.m.**
- **Adoration | 6:30 p.m.**

Saturday, May 4

- Choir Rehearsal | 12:30 p.m. | Church
- Altar Server Training | 2 p.m. | Church

Sunday, May 5

- First Communion Class | 10 a.m.
| Tolton Center
- Blessed Sacrament Society Meeting
| 10 a.m. | Parish Hall
- Sunday School | 11:30 a.m.
| Sunday School Room
- Confirmation Class | 1:30 p.m.
| Tolton Center



Jesus, I Trust in You

Ministry List for Upcoming Liturgies

Saturday 4 p.m. May 4

- Priest: Fr. Carl Gales, SVD
- Lectors: Dr. Dorothy Williams
Theresa Rhea

Sunday 9 a.m. May 5

- Priest: Fr. Carl Gales, SVD
- Lectors: Sr. Joanne Delehanty, OP
Eileen Foggie
- Eucharistic Ministers:
Miriam Hunter
Gladys St. Leger

Sunday 11:30 a.m. May 5

- Priest: Fr. Carl Gales, SVD
- Lectors: Vanessa Owusu-Ansah
Taleah Cage
- Eucharistic Ministers:
Earlene Hodges
Regina Cook

Attendance April 20-21

4 p.m. Vigil Mass	19
9 a.m. Mass	75
11:30 a.m. Mass	194
TOTAL	288

Stewardship

Offertory - April 20-21, 2024

\$ 6,551.00
\$ 2,670.00 - online offertory
\$ 9,221.00

Offertory - April 22-23, 2023

\$ 5,867.50
\$ 1,232.00 - online offertory
\$ 7,099.50

Average Weekly Operating Costs

\$ (14,423.08)
\$ 9,221.00 - Total Offertory
\$ **(5,202.08)**

Thank you for your generosity!



As evangelists of the gospel message, some of us fail to understand what true evangelization is. While our intentions are good, we fail to understand that evangelization is not just telling someone who God is. It is not just reciting scripture to someone. And it is definitely not condemning every single person that disagrees with your faith. There is a thin line that lies between evangelization and indoctrination. As ministers of the faith, we do not force people to Christ. We are only there to show them how much God has changed our lives in love and how he can change all of us if we are willing to accept his grace.

In our first reading from the Acts of the Apostles, we find Saul (who later becomes Paul) dealing with this quandary of evangelization and indoctrination. The reading picks up with Saul in Jerusalem. Before his entry in Jerusalem, Saul had just converted into a follower of Jesus

when he had an encounter on his way to Damascus. His conversion was harsh where he was blinded for three days and did not eat or drink during that time. Saul was still trying to figure things out with this new enlightenment. He arrives in Jerusalem where he attempts to join the apostles in that town. The apostles that already knew him before his conversion recognize him as the one who puts followers of Jesus to death. They were suspicious of him but Barnabas vouched for him to the disciples. Saul gave his testimony about his conversion to the apostles and they allowed him to spread the gospel in Jerusalem. However, Saul had issues. While he proclaimed boldly about his faith, he got himself in trouble when attempting to debate with Greek speaking Jews. Saul was already run out

Reflection continued on page 6

Sacrament of Matrimony

Our Lady of Africa is THE place to have your Wedding!!



For all young couples discerning their future together, there is a lot of planning involved. Along with the preparations for your wedding day, you should plan to meet with the priest and have wedding prep which should be about 3 months. The couple and priest would meet several times, either in person or on Zoom to talk about their plans, their commitment to one another, what the Sacrament of Marriage truly means, and complete the necessary steps to get married. To discuss your future wedding plans, please contact Father Carl at the Parish Office: (773)624-5375

God Loves a Cheerful Giver - 2 Corinthians 9:6-8



GIVE TO OUR CHURCH
NO MATTER WHERE
YOU ARE

zelle



You can send your offertory through Zelle:

ourladyofafricachicago@gmail.com

April/May Birthdays

4/27 Jean Parkham-Jacques
4/28 Alan Emerson Hicks
4/30 Edith Smith

May

5/01 Beverly Sims
5/02 Michael Hill
5/05 Dcn. Zachary Smith, SVD
5/06 Joanne McClure
5/06 Mattie Slate

5/08 Katie Jordan
5/09 Edwin Hill
5/10 Dorothy Dunbar
5/11 Brenda Inis
5/14 Flora Smith
5/15 Keith Wilson
5/17 Jean Porter
5/18 Patricia Brown
5/21 Nazaree Fuller

5/22 Fred Hail III
5/22 Anthony Williams
5/23 Donna Perisee-McFarlane
5/23 Phyliss Shackelford
5/24 Parris Washington
5/24 Sharon Crossley- Neal
5/24 Karen Perisee-Woodson
5/26 Ladell Johnson

Mass Schedule

Sunday, April 28

5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Readings: Acts 9: 26-31/ Ps 22: 26-27. 28. 30. 31-32 (26a)/ 1 Jn 3: 18-24/ Jn 15: 1-8

Mass Intentions:

4 p.m. | Divine Word College Benefactors
9 a.m. | OLA Church Family
11:30 a.m. | ✠ Edith O. Higginbotham - requested by William Higginbotham

OLA Book of Prayer: Dorla Allen, David Berry, Roscoe Burns, Naiya Williams

Monday, April 29

SAINT CATHERINE OF SIENA, VIRGIN, DOCTOR

Readings: Acts 14: 5-18/ Ps 115: 1-2. 3-4. 15-16/ Jn 14: 21-26

OLA Book of Prayer: Rosemary Gardner, Barbara Golden, Kelly Robin Hill, Leslie Jackson

Tuesday, April 30

TUESDAY OF THE 5TH WEEK OF EASTERTIDE

Readings: Acts 14: 19-28/ Ps 145: 10-11. 12-13ab. 21/ Jn 14: 27-31a

Mass Intentions:

10:30 a.m. | Poor Souls in Purgatory
OLA Book of Prayer: Jessie Andrews, Helen Brooms, Dean Brazier, Lydia Clark

Wednesday, May 1

SAINT JOSEPH THE WORKER

Readings: Acts 15: 1-6/ Ps 122: 1-2. 3-4ab. 4cd-5/ Jn 15: 1-8. Proper Gospel for Joseph: Mt 13: 54-58

Mass Intentions:

6:30 p.m. | Poor Souls in Purgatory
OLA Book of Prayer: James Barker, Christine Brown, James Brazier, Willie B. Clay

Thursday, May 2

SAINT ATHANASIUS, BISHOP, DOCTOR

Readings: Acts 15: 7-21/ Ps 96: 1-2a. 2b-3. 10/ Jn 15: 9-11

Mass Intentions:

10:30 a.m. | Poor Souls in Purgatory
OLA Book of Prayer: Curtis Albright, Myra Baugh, Patricia Brown, James Burgess, Russell Carter

Friday, May 3

SAINTS PHILLIP & JAMES, APOSTLES—FEAST ●

Readings: 1 Cor 15: 1-8/ Ps 19: 2-3. 4-5/ Jn 14: 6-14

Mass Intentions:

10:30 a.m. | Poor Souls in Purgatory
OLA Book of Prayer: Donald Barner, Barbara McGee-Berry, Marilyn Campbell, Catherine Crosby

Saturday, May 4

SATURDAY OF THE 5TH WEEK OF EASTERTIDE

Readings: Acts 16: 1-10/ Ps 100: 1b-2. 3. 5/ Jn 15: 18-21

OLA Book of Prayer: Ophelia Adams, Louise Bates, Arthur Brooks, Esperanza Carr

For those who would like to remember a loved one (living or deceased), a special occasion or a specific concern, Masses can be offered for those intentions. Mass stipends during the weekends (\$20 is the recommended donation per intention) and during the weekdays (\$10 recommended per intention) are available.

Please submit a Mass Intention request by filling out an Mass Intention Envelope and calling the Parish Office to confirm the scheduled time: 773-624-5375.

Homeless and Migrants

If you have men's clothing that you would like to donate, there is a great need at the homeless shelter we are partnering with.

Thank you for your continued support of the homeless.

A Thank You Letter to the Men's Coalition—From J.A. West-Williams



April 21, 2024

Dear Our Lady of Africa Parishioners,

I am writing to express my heartfelt appreciation for the incredible support you and the church have provided me with by helping me attend the Illinois Math and Science Academy Winter Promise Program. This was a Gifted program for 180 7th-grade scholars across the state. I was one of four (4) Black youth in my group.

I cannot thank you enough for all that you have done to help me pursue my dreams and achieve my educational goals. In particular, I would like to extend my gratitude to Mr. Michael Covington, Mr. Jackson Lucas, and (My very own Uncle) Mr. Authur Reliford for their selfless dedication and commitment in transporting me to the Illinois Math and Science Academy in Aurora, IL. You all know that my grandmother is 100% disabled and can not drive that far or that fast, but these men put their foot on the pedal and I arrived every Saturday ON TIME!

I have been attending school six days a week for three and a half months, so now I get to concentrate on track and field and tennis. Yes, I still have straight A's and my lowest A is 90% in social studies. I had an early dismissal to watch the Alvin Ailey Dance Theater and I am going to do extra credit on that! I have extracted DNA from the strawberries and worked on protein synthesis, Mitosis, and Meiosis. I also had an English class and other special classes. It was extremely fun and I learned so many new things about science! In math, we did algebra expressions and equations and computer science for the last three weeks.

Your generosity has made an enormous difference in my life and has enabled me to pursue my passion for mathematics and science. I am truly grateful for the opportunity to attend such a prestigious institution and to receive an education that will help me achieve my full potential.

Thanks to your unwavering support, I am confident that I will be able to make a positive impact in the world and contribute to society as an astronaut for NASA. I also want to thank Mr. Covington for the two books that I have to read by June. My grandma has five copies of The Pact, so I have read parts of that already. I am excited about reading the new book about the late Dr. Robert McNair. The last time I did a book report on Dr. McNair was when I was in second grade at Saint Sabina Academy. So thank you Mr. Covington for giving me an upgrade on a high school level book on my hero.

I also have to thank my Uncle Arthur for bringing in those big boxes of new books and letting me take as many books as I wanted to read in the second, third, fourth, and fifth grades. You need to pass out books with the toys at the Breakfast with Santa because the toys get old fast. Or gift cards to a bookstore, so every child can read over our Christmas break.

Once again, please accept my sincerest thanks for everything you have done for me. I hope to make you proud as I enter 8th grade. I was sad to leave IMSA this Saturday. I hope to earn an opportunity to return and represent my school again in 2025.

In Jesus' Love,

Jordan-Amman West-Williams
Age 12

7th Grade
Wendell E. Green Elementary - Chicago Public School (CPS)



of Damascus trying to argue with the Jews there (Acts 9:23-25) and it looks like he found himself in the same situation in Jerusalem. When the disciples learned that Saul was about to be killed by the Greek speaking Jews, they sneaked him out of town where he went off to his hometown of Tarsus.

The narrative of Saul is important because it reminds us of the difficult process of coming to spiritual enlightenment. His conversion process was not just at the one event in Damascus. Saul's difficulties interacting with Jews in these cities is emblematic of the long process of conversion. Saul had yet to come to grips with his own journey. A journey that saw him proclaiming the gospel boldly. But ironically, before his encounter with Jesus, he would have someone like him killed for doing what he was doing in Jerusalem. Saul attempted to carry over that zealous and boldness he had when he practiced a twisted form of Judaism. In his quest to be a true evangelist for Christ, he realized that his boldness lacked love, compassion and grace. This is why his first attempts at spreading the gospel had

failed. But as he started to engage people with more of the spiritual qualities of a disciple, Saul started to garner the attention of many people curious about the faith. As Saul started to shift away from his old life of persecution, Paul started to emerge as a true disciple in humility and love.

As we see the progressive transformation from Saul to Paul, we notice how he embraced Jesus' message in this week's gospel reading of letting Jesus remain in him. Paul was an example of what Jesus was metaphorically talking about in being pruned but bearing much fruit. Paul's pruning came with blindness, hunger and running for his life in several cities. But Paul also discovered that love does not just come in words and speech but also in deed and truth, as this week's second reading teaches us. Paul allowed the Holy Spirit to radically change his life in love and bear much fruit. If the Holy Spirit has power to turn Saul from a Christian killer into Paul, the great evangelist, the Holy Spirit can transform us as well.

Parish Directory

Baptisms

Tina Carter
tinalcarter71@gmail.com

Blessed Sacrament Society
Tasha McShan - President

Business Administrator
Shirley McKinney
773-624-5375

Confirmation
Tina Carter, Stephanie Gado
Theresa Rhea,
Tiffany Swann-Covington
Shawnece Wilson

Clergy
Fr. Carl Gales, SVD
Fr. Tracy O'Sullivan, OCarm
Dcn. Michael Foggie
Dcn. Merv Johnson

Events Committee
Keisha Chavers - Chairperson

First Communion
Barbara Edwards-Hill
Lisa Littleton

Food Pantry
Ladell Johnson

Funerals
Katie Jordan
kwcluwpresident@gmail.com

HIV/AIDS Ministry
Rosemary Sykes

IT Crew
Gloria Dean - Lead

Knights of Peter Claver
Thomas Rich - Grand Knight

Knights of Peter Claver
Lady's Auxiliary
Lena Young - Grand Lady

Maintenance
Tyrone Smith

Medical Ministry
Dr. James Hunter

Men's Coalition
Michael Morman - President

Music Ministry
Maestro Tyrone Pittman

OCIA
Kimberly Brooks

Social Justice and Peace
Byron Diggs -Co-Chair
Parris Washington -Co-Chair

School and Church Liaison
LaTanya Berry-Johnson

Sunday School
Eileen Foggie

Tolton Ambassador
Jennifer Iwuchukwu

Tolton Heritage Center
Regina Cook
773-268-1518

Ushers and Greeters
Jackson Lucas

Youth Ministry
Taleah Cage
Silmon Reed



Come and join us!

OLA BOOK CLUB

- **Sunday, May 5, 2024**
- **Time: After 11:30 am Mass**
- **Book: Furious Hours**
- **Author: Casey Cep**



Ice Cream Social—May 19, 2024

OLA Knights of Peter Claver + Youth Ministry Presents

ICE CREAM SOCIAL

Indulge in a delightful experience of flavors, fun, and frozen treats at our Ice Cream Social event!

Sunday, 19 May 2024

**FOLLOWING IMMEDIATELY AFTER
11:30 MASS**



Non-Dairy options will be available as well !



ENTRANCE HYMN: IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS



Come let us wor-ship the Lord in the beau-ty of



ho - li - ness. Come let us wor-ship the Lord



in the beau-ty of ho - li-ness. Give him the hon-



or. Give him the praise.



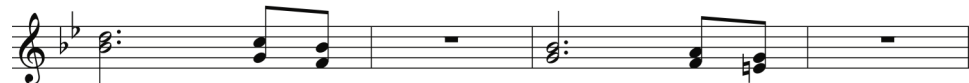
Come let us wor-ship the Lord; Let's give him the praise.



Wor - ship him. Wor - ship him. Give my God the glo-



ry. Give my God the praise.



Wor - ship him. Wor - ship him.



Come let us wor-ship the Lord; Let's give him the praise.

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