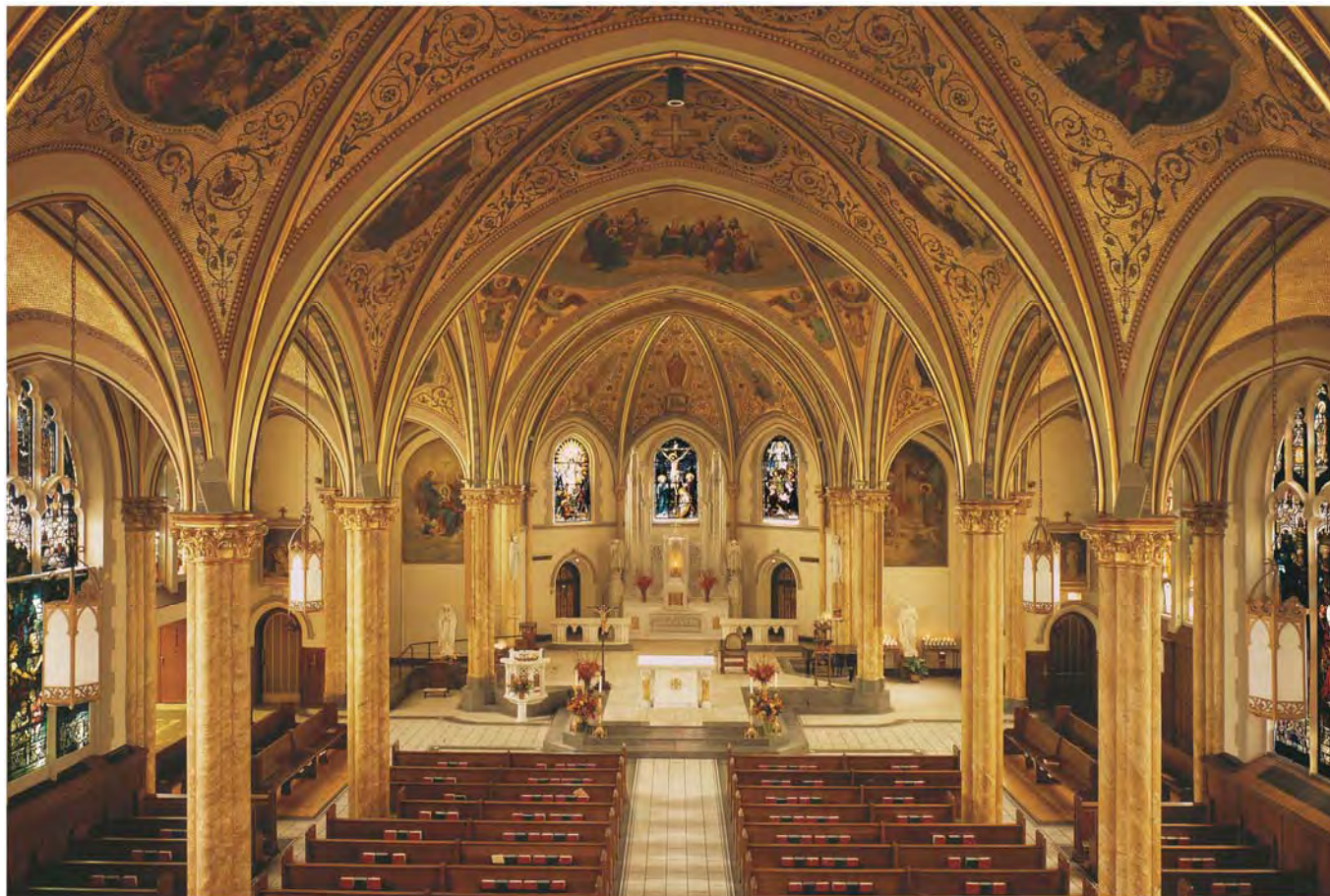


# Saint Edmund Parish *Echoes*

*Reaching out from the heart of Oak Park*


**August 5, 2018**



## **Parish Office**

188 S. Oak Park Avenue Oak Park, Illinois 60302; Telephone: 708-848-4417; Fax Line: 708-848-0049  
Parish Center Summer Office Hours: Monday, 9am - 8:00pm., Tuesday - Thursday, 9am - 4:30pm, Friday, 9am - 4pm  
Saturday 9am - 3pm; Sunday 9:00am - 1pm

Visit the parish web-site at [stedmund.org](http://stedmund.org). You may also e-mail us from the web-site.

 Follow us on Twitter at: St. Edmunds-Oak Park or @edmunds\_oakpark

## **Parish Administration and Staff**

Rev. John McGivern, Pastor  
Ms. Peggy Leddy, Pastoral Associate  
Mrs. Maria Allori, Development Director  
Deacon Thomas Dwyer, Parish Business Manager  
Mr. Donald Giannetti, Parish Assistant  
Mrs. Kathleen Halfpenny, Director of Music

Mrs. Christine A. Rousakis, Manager, Parish Office  
Mr. Al Vargas, Facilities Manager

Rev. John Lucas, *Weekend Presider*  
Rev. Gene Gratkowski, *Weekend Presider*  
Rev. John O'Callaghan, S.J., *Weekend Presider*

## **School of Religious Education**

200 S. Oak Park Avenue Oak Park, Illinois 60302

School of Religious Education Telephone: 708-848-7220 · RE/Fax Line: 708-386-5616

Visit the parish web-site at [stedmund.org](http://stedmund.org). You may also e-mail us from the web-site.

## **Religious Education Program Administration and Staff**

Mrs. Janet Bennick, Coordinator of Religious Education · Ms. Kaydee Sproat, Program Secretary



All are welcome. An entrance ramp and push-bar automatic door is located at the eastern entrance of the church.

## Staff Notes

Dear Parishioners,

Do you recall back in March when we were still bristling against the cold, complaining that winter in Chicago will never end? Or perhaps you recall thinking that Spring is such a beautiful time of year, but here in our part of the world, it seems to come and go in an instant. More recently, some of us may have grumbled that it is too hot and humid at this time of year, and have noticed that the long days of summer have already begun to shorten. Autumn is just around the corner, and here we go again.

This kind of thinking is epitomized in the lyrics of the Beatles song "Yesterday, which state that "Yesterday all my troubles seemed so far away. Now it looks as though they're here to stay. Oh I believe in yesterday." In the face of a current challenge, yesterday's problems may seem like nothing, or much smaller in comparison, but of course, our memories are fickle and our desire for immediate relief so strong.

In the reading from the book of Exodus today, the Israelites are grumbling before God because their lives in the desert wilderness were not easy. In light of their current experience, their recollection of the debauchery and slavery in Egypt, from which they were now free, seems preferable. At least then, they cried, they had their "fill of bread."

St. Paul, in his letter to the Ephesians, reminds them that they must put away their old corrupted selves and former ways of life and cloak themselves anew in "righteousness and holiness of truth."

Even Jesus, in today's Gospel passage explains to his followers that they seek him for the wrong reason. They had been mesmerized by his miraculous feeding, never realizing that what their hearts truly hungered for was Jesus himself, the true Bread from Heaven.

In every instance, we learn that God fully provides for his people. His loving care is accessible in every age. God did not leave the Israelites without food and drink in the desert. The people of Ephesus, having now "learned Christ," were people with a new hope and a new purpose.

Jesus reminds us to "work for the food that endures for eternal life, which [he himself] will give you." How do we engage in such work? Jesus tells us: "This is the work of God, that you believe in the one he sent."

Believing in God's fidelity at every moment of our lives requires that we are present to our lives at every moment. Oh, we may have fond memories of a simpler, seemingly easier time, and, of course, we maintain the ultimate hope of a bright and beautiful eternal tomorrow, but that remembered past and that beautiful future is lived in every present moment when we believe in Jesus and trust in his enduring presence among us.

### Rectory Renovation Update...

As you know, we have been working for many years now to raise the funds to rebuild the parish rectory into a safe place where our priests can live and our parish staffs can minister to the needs of the parish. We have been traveling a very long road and sometimes, I must admit, it feels like we, too, are in the desert wilderness with no real promised land (that is, project completion) in sight.

Here's where we are: We have raised approximately \$920,000 for the project which it is estimated will cost a total of just over \$1.3 million. The Archdiocese requires that we have 70% of the cash on hand before a project can begin. If you do the math, you will see that we have to reach that level. Unfortunately, however, the Archdiocese also requires that we also have the cash on hand of an additional 10% of the total project as a contingency cost. In total, we are short \$98,000 to begin the project and short a total of \$380,000 for the completion of the project.

In the coming months, we will be beginning a new capital campaign and asking you to make a financial gift in support of the project. We also have monthly income from the new school tenants. Between these 2 sources of income, it is my hope and my belief that we will finally be able to bring this important project to fruition.

### Parish Finances Update...

The fiscal year ended June 30th and, with a bit a scraping and a lot of challenge, we were able to close the year having covered all of our expenses without needing to take a loan out from the Archdiocese. This may seem hardly something to celebrate as it is simply what we should always be doing. Nonetheless, it is a good thing. We read in the newspaper that our economy is stronger than it has been in years. Be that as it may, times are tough for a lot of us. This is evident in so many ways, one of them being with our diminishing Sunday collection.

I know that you are pulled in many directions and are also simply trying to make ends meet, but I ask that you remember your weekly support to St. Edmund's. Our expenses have remained the same although our collections are down—even more so in the summer months as parishioners take their summer vacations. Perhaps you would consider automatic giving? It is safe, convenient, and an obvious help to us. However you may choose to give, please remember to do so even while you are away.

In the meantime, I will take my own words to heart and trust that the Lord indeed provides for us at every moment of our lives. Yes, it has been a challenging journey to make our rectory fully safe and functional again, and it remains a challenge to keep St. Edmund's in a fiscally healthy position, and as we strive to better our parish buildings and finances, let us all appreciate the journey and how Jesus is with us along this and in every way.

*Fr. John McSwain*

## Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

### The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) Registration Open

The RCIA comprises sacramental preparation and faith formation for any adult who is either:

- not baptized and considering becoming Catholic,
- baptized in another denomination and considering becoming Catholic,
- baptized Catholic, but has not received Eucharist and Confirmation.

If you are interested in the RCIA, please contact Peggy Leddy, Pastoral Associate, at [pleddy@stedmund.org](mailto:pleddy@stedmund.org) or 708-848-4417, x202.

### The Adult Confirmation Program Registration Open

The Chicago Archdiocese's Adult Confirmation Program is for those who are:

- 18-years-old or older,
- baptized Catholic and received First Holy Communion.

For more Adult Confirmation information, contact Peggy Leddy, Pastoral Associate, at [pleddy@stedmund.org](mailto:pleddy@stedmund.org) or 708-848-4417, x202.

### Give Central Link on Parish Web-Site Available

Tired of remembering to write a check for your Sunday offertory? Forget to call the parish office with your credit card information? There is an easy solution to these questions!



Simply log on to the parish web-site at: [www.stedmund.org](http://www.stedmund.org). Scroll down about 1/2 page and you will see a section called, "Miscellany". Click for the *Give*

*Central* link and follow the easy and user-friendly steps. You may give a one-time donation, an on-going donation (either weekly or monthly) through your bank or credit card.

Please consider this painless and simple, secure way to help support your parish. Thank you.

### Bulletin Submission Deadlines Reminder

Anyone interested in having an article considered for publication in the *Echoes* must have their submissions in the Parish office no later than Friday at 4pm, nine days prior to the publication date.

You may email your submission in a Microsoft Word attachment (Times New Roman, 11pt.) to [bulletineditor@stedmund.org](mailto:bulletineditor@stedmund.org) or you may drop it off.

### Anniversary Sunday this Weekend

St. Edmund Parish wishes to support our married couples. To that end, every first weekend of each month, we remember all couples married in that given month.



If you were married in the month of August, please stand at the end of the mass this weekend when we invite you to do so. A special anniversary blessing will be offered. This is a simple but very important way for your marriages to be recognized and for your community to support your vocation of marriage.

### Golden Wedding Anniversary Mass

**Sunday, September 16 at Holy Name Cathedral**

Couples married in 1968 that are interested in attending this celebration may register on-line at: [pvm.archchicago.org](http://pvm.archchicago.org)

### Saint Edmund Parish The Baby and Toddler-Friendly Parish

You can't be a parishioner of St. Edmund Parish without realizing that a large part of our community is made up of beautiful infants and toddlers. They bring special joy to our worship services. Their joyful noises are welcome as they are a part of our community and we want our children to worship with us!



We know, however, that sometimes it can be a struggle to worship on and give full attention to your children too. Sometimes you just have to get up and move around. Maybe we can help.

#### ♦ The North Transept may be a useful spot.

We want our parents to feel welcome to get up at any point during the mass when their children may need a little extra attention. At times, a parent and child may only need to take a short walk-about. Taking a quick



stroll into the north transept of the church may be just what is needed. You'll be able to see everything, hear everything and at the same time give your child a bit more unrestricted space to move a bout.

#### ♦ Did you know that there are speakers in the Murphy Hall corridor?

On those occasions when the children need a bit more distance from the worship area, please give consideration to using the Murphy Hall corridor. The speakers allow our parents to walk about with their children and not miss hearing any of the mass, and it gives the children a time to let out the occasional spirited shout without fear of interrupting the service.





**School of Religious Education**

Registration is open for the 2018/19 classes. Forms may be found by clicking on the Religious Education link on the parish website: stedmund.org. You may also contact the RE office at 708-848-7220, or e-mail program coordinator, Janet Bennick at [jbennickstedmund@gmail.com](mailto:jbennickstedmund@gmail.com). Save the Date! Book Day, Sunday August 26.

**Have You considered Organ or Tissue Donation?**

Catholics view organ and tissue donation as an act of charity and love. St. John Paul II said: “The gift of organ donation is a sincere gift that expresses our calling of love and communion. Transplants are inseparable from the human act of donation. For Christians, the offering that Jesus made of Himself is the essential point of reference and inspiration of the love that motivates to donate organs.” For more information, call the Regional Organ Bank of Illinois at 312-431-3600.

**The Catholics for Nonviolence Pledge**

Faithful to the transforming vision of Jesus Christ and no longer willing to accept violence in our homes, on our streets, or in our global community,

**I pledge** to practice Gospel Nonviolence to heal the violence and conflict in our lives, our families, our parishes, our communities, ad throughout all of God's creation;

**I pledge** to cultivate peace by proclaiming the Christian message of healing and hope, of renewal and reconciliation, of life and love to all people;

**I pledge** to address the root causes of violence that continues to affect people throughout the Archdiocese of Chicago so that we can end the cycle of violence and create a more just and peaceful city and world.

**St. Dominic Feast Day, August 8**

What can be said about a man who lived so long ago, who continues to inspire so many? Did you know that Dominic was a strong leader who attracted many friars to his work, but did not covet the power that comes with leadership?

Dominic had a vision of government that has withstood the test of time, and today’s Dominican governing body, the Chapter, continues to convene periodically, electing leaders and setting directions for the work of the communion.

Dominic suffered failure and long delays in his attempt to found the Order of Preachers. So well did he inspire his brothers and sisters that within two-hundred years of his death, the saying, “What touches the lives of all must be decided by all”, became their motto. Today, tens of thousands of friars, brothers, religious sisters, nuns, and associates call him “Father Dominic.” His legacy lives on.

**Birthday Blessings**

Wishing Fr. John McGivern  
a world of joy  
on his birthday, August 8!

*Your parish family  
is most grateful for you  
and for all that you do.*



**Why am I Still a Catholic?  
How am I Rooted in the Faith?**



Walter Burghardt, S.J., in *Tell the Next Generation*, (1980, Paulist Press) shared a heartfelt explanation of why he loves the Catholic Church and why he feels so deeply rooted within it. In times when we question our faith, or its practice as Roman Catholics, perhaps Fr. Burghardt’s words will offer peace. He wrote:

“In the course of half a century, I have seen more Catholic corruption than you have read of. I have tasted it. I have been reasonably corrupt myself. And yet I find joy in this Church—this living, pulsing, sinning people of God, [and] love it with a crucifying passion. Why?”

For all the Catholic hate, I experience here a community of *love*. For all the institutional idiocy, I find here a tradition of *reason*. For all the individual repressions, I breathe here an air of *freedom*. For all the fear of sex, I discover here the redemption of my *body*. In an age so inhuman, I touch here the tears of *compassion*. In a world so grim and humorless, I share here rich *joy* and *laughter*. In the midst of death, I hear an incomparable stress on life. For all the apparent absence of God, I sense here the real presence of *Christ*.”

**Offertory for Weekend of July 28/29**

Budgeted.....	\$14,350.00
Weekend collection.....	\$ 8,410.99
Deficit-to-date.....	-\$21,852.79

**Week at a Glance**

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>August 5</b>	
9am, 11am 12:15pm	Masses Baptism Class	Church Murphy Hall
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>August 8</b>	
7:00pm	Bridge	Murphy Hall
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>August 11</b>	
9:30am 11:00am	Centering Prayer Knitting/Crocheting	N. Transept Murphy Hall
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>August 12</b>	
9am, 11am 9am	Masses <i>Coffee and...</i>	Church Murphy Hall

## Spiritual Week at St. Edmund Parish

### We Pray for our Sick

Clara Ballard	Mary Evans	Jim Plimmer
Susan Becker	Bill Garcia	Vera Schenone
Dolores Benedict	Donald Hackett	Rachael Schopp
Susan Benedict	Clint Hight	Mike Scully
Carol Bonus	Pat Michalski	Sue Splinter
Susan Chicola	George Nedved	Ethel Thomas
Shawn Cornell	Mary Ellen Nedved	Sadie Thomson
Florence Dalessandro	Edith Ogden	Orfelinda Vera
Annyce Dunbar	Hannah Paist	

### *One in Prayer with Loved Ones in the Military*

Ian Adams, US Navy  
 Staff Sgt. Jason L. Anderson, US Army  
 Capt. John Paul Andree, Pilot US Air Force  
 Sgt. Ramiro D. Banda, US Marine Corps  
 Gunnery Sgt. Boatman, US Marine Corps  
 Specialist Brown, US Army  
 Specialist Christopher Buscher, US Army, SPC  
 Cpt. Jason Caboot  
 Sgt. Thomas J. Dutton, 10th Mountain Division  
 William Edwards, US Army Reservist  
 Private Kristopher Ellis, US Marine Corps  
 First Sgt. Daniel S. Greider US Army  
 Sgt. Michael Hoover, Army Reserve Afghanistan  
 Major Roselita Labbe, US Air Force  
 Col. Matt Mangan, US Air Force  
 Jonathan McLean, US Marine Corps  
 Kristen Meyer, US Navy  
 Lance Cpl. Robert Miller, US Marine Corps  
 Cpt. Steven Nelson  
 Lt. Col. Edward Nevera, US Air Force  
 Lt. Col. Ken Schlorf, Army Reserve Iraq  
 Gian Franco Solari, US Air Force  
 Brian Walsh, First Lieutenant US Army  
 Kimyatta Wellington, US Navy



### Eternal Rest Grant unto These, O Lord

Marsha Robinet, daughter of Mac and Harriette Robinet

### Special Remembrances at Daily Eucharist

<b>Monday</b> 8:30am	<b>August 6 (Transfiguration of the Lord)</b> † Timothy J. Rogers
<b>Tuesday</b> 8:30am	<b>August 7 (Sixtus II, Cajetan)</b> † Frank Condon
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>August 8 (Dominic)</b> Fr. John McGivern (living intention)
<b>Thursday</b> 8:30am	<b>August 9 (Teresa Benedicta)</b> † Deceased parishioners
<b>Friday</b> 8:30am	<b>August 10 (Lawrence)</b> † Frank J. and Esther Breen Senicka
<b>Saturday</b> 5:30pm	<b>August 11 (Clare)</b> People of St. Edmund
<b>Sunday</b> 9:00am	<b>August 12 (19th Sunday in O.T.)</b> † Benedict Miccolis
	11:00am † Donald Patterson
	† Faye Menzies

### Readings for the Week

<b>Monday:</b>	Dn 7:9-14; Ps 97:1-9; 2; Pt 1:16-19; Mk 9:2-10
<b>Tuesday:</b>	Jer 30:1-22; Ps 102:16-29; Mt 14:22-36
<b>Wednesday:</b>	Jer 31:1-7; Jer 31:10-13; Mt 15:21-28
<b>Thursday:</b>	Jer 31:31-34; Ps 51:12-19; Mt 16:13-23
<b>Friday:</b>	2 Cor 9:6-10; Ps 112:1-9; Jn 12:24-26
<b>Saturday:</b>	Hb 1:12 — 2:4; Ps 9:8-13; Mt 17:14-20
<b>Sunday:</b>	1 Kgs 19:4-8; Ps 34:2-9; Eph 4:30 - 5:2; Jn 6:41-51

*We are always seeking individuals who are willing to serve as lector/commentator, extraordinary minister, altar server, usher/greeter and as choir member. If interested, contact Mary Lynn Dietsche at: [dietscheml@gmail.com](mailto:dietscheml@gmail.com).*

**Let us pray for one another!**

### Liturgical Ministers for the Weekend of August 11/12

	Altar Servers	Lectors	Commentator	Cantors	Extraordinary Ministers
<b>(Saturday) 5:30pm</b>	A. Noyszewski L. McNulty	B. Nelson M. Hans	D. Brown	W. Senger	K. Ballard, M. Bielawa, M. C. Creighton, D. Marks, M. A. Marks, J. Reese, M. J. Reese
<b>9:00am</b>	D. Foster	K. Masters T. Masters	M. Fedota	K. Corcos	
<b>11:00am</b>	M. Stroth	J. Angone G. Stepanek	D. Kane	S. Gay	J. Berggren, A. Dwyer, G. Johnson, A. Koors, M. Lee, L. Patterson