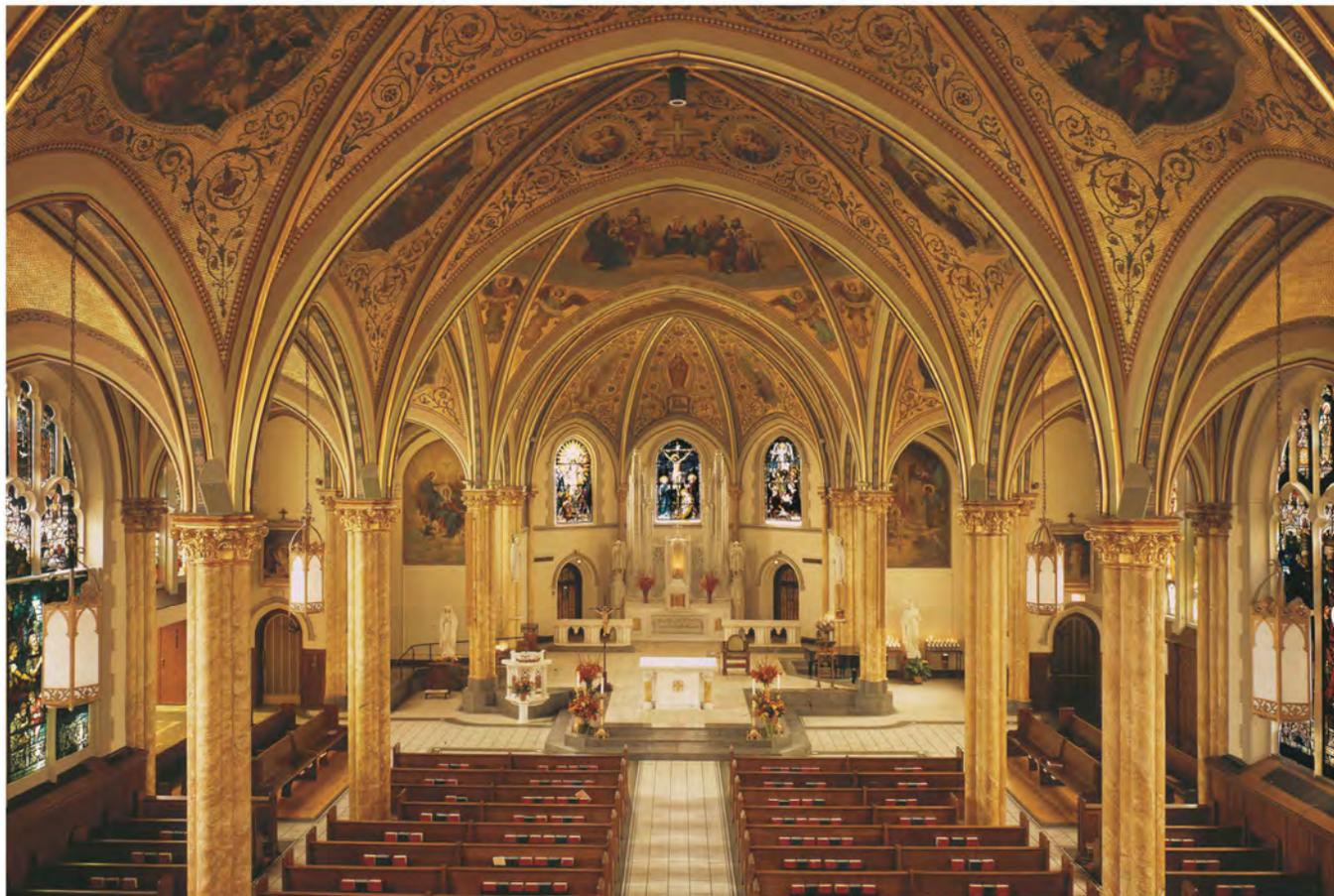


Saint Edmund Parish *Echoes*

Reaching out from the heart of Oak Park

January 9, 2022



Parish Office

188 S. Oak Park Avenue Oak Park, Illinois 60302; Telephone: 708-848-4417

Parish Center Office Hours during COVID-19: Monday - Saturday: 10am - 3pm

Sunday: closed

Visit the parish web-site at 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

Mr. Michael Silhavy, Director of Music

Mrs. Christine A. Rousakis, Manager, Parish Office

Rev. Gene Gratkowski, *Weekend Presider*

Rev. John Lucas, *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

Visit the parish web-site at 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 Friends,

With today's celebration of the Baptism of the Lord, we bring to a close the Season of Christmas. In the short span of roughly 2 weeks, we have considered his virgin birth in a manger (a feeding trough) for a bed. We have pondered his universal appeal as both shepherds and wise men from afar came to bow before him. We have recalled that Herod forced the Holy Family to flee to Egypt, that even at his birth, others sought to kill him. Finally, we were asked to fathom that the wood of the cradle and the wood of the cross were somehow inextricably linked.

Now the season is complete as the public ministry of our Lord Jesus begins after he is baptized in the Jordan River by John. Today, we heard the words of Peter being proclaimed in the Acts of the Apostles. He stated: "I begin to see how true it is that God shows no partiality. Rather, the individual from any nation who fears God and acts uprightly is acceptable to God... This is... 'the good news of peace' proclaimed through Jesus Christ who is Lord of all..." The Gospel reading which follows depicts the baptism of Jesus. The Lord's baptism, in so much as he was God's perfect gift to us, is an event of incredible humility. We learn time and again in the Gospels, that it is precisely in Jesus' humility that his divinity is most clearly revealed.

Recall how we encountered him over the past 2 weeks: as an infant, without a home, lying in a feeding trough for a stable of animals. Nonetheless, shepherds sought him and kings from far away journeyed to him. Now recall that from those humble beginnings, his life led to death on a cross—a criminal's death. From such an utterly humiliating death, the chasm between heav-

en and earth was forever filled. In other words, from the beginning to the end of his earthly existence, Jesus demonstrated his divinity to us in all the ways that mattered most: how he loved, how he forgave, how he welcomed the sinner, how he accepted the lowly, how he conferred the gift of peace. These are not activities of a privileged king. No, all these things that demonstrated his divinity to us most clearly of all, are all the things that you and I have access to today.

Reflecting, then, upon the baptism of Jesus, are we not likewise humbled to see the author of life submerged in complete supplication to the will of his Father? When we attempt to make sense out of this unfathomable truth, are we, too, not brought to our knees? In learning of our Lord's own humility and selfless desire to do the Father's will, do we not desire to do the same?

The Baptism of Jesus inaugurated his public ministry. It subsequently led to his suffering and death. If you and I allowed ourselves to experience something of the impact of his baptism as it is retold to us in our Sacred Scriptures, perhaps we, like Jesus, would also come to know and experience the greatest truth of all—that we are also God's sons and daughters and that already we are so fully and freely given his wonderful love. Should this sublime truth permeate our hearts and minds, imagine how differently we would live and act and even carry ourselves. In such a world, the God who shows no partiality would find a home among all people, and all people, in response, would humble themselves, thereby truly reflecting the beauty, the dignity and the divinity that we see in Jesus.

M. John McGowan

Mass Schedule

Saturday: 5:30pm (*Sunday Anticipatory*);

Sunday: 11:00am

Monday & Friday: 8:30am

(Tue. & Wed. 8:30am at St. Catherine/St. Lucy Parish)

Sacrament of Reconciliation: 4:30pm, Saturday

Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick: By appointment.

Sacrament of Baptism for Infants

Parents must complete a preparation class before scheduling. Contact Peggy Leddy at pleddy@stedmund.org.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)

If you are an adult seeking information about receiving the sacraments of Baptism, First Eucharist and Confirmation, please contact Peggy Leddy at pleddy@stedmund.org.

Parish Staff Sends Holiday Gratitude



Many thanks to all of those who sent cards, baked treats, sent gifts and shared the joy of the season with us! Your thoughtfulness and generosity are greatly appreciated.

Special thanks to all of our liturgical ministers too! Our parish Art & Environment Committee adorned our worship space with such beauty. Our ushers/greeters, as always, did a terrific job. Our St. Edmund Parish cantors sang so beautifully throughout the Season of Advent and at our Christmas celebrations! Thank you to our cantors, instrumentalists and, of course, our music director, Michael Silhavey.

Our parish lectors/commentators read with great poise and ceremony, and our Eucharistic ministers, as always, served Holy Communion with great reverence and joy.

Thank you to all of you and to everyone who helped to make this time of year so beautiful! and meaningful!

Baptism of the Lord

School of Religious Education

Children in grades 3 and 4 and 5 will have a *Safe Touch* session on Jan. 16 and Jan. 30 as required by the Archdiocese. The Religious Education program is committed to always keeping children safe and is diligent in presenting programs each year for all grade levels to keep the information available to the children. It takes a village to raise and protect the children. The program is labeled 'Safe Touch'; however, the program addresses all areas where children need to be safe.

Children in grades 6, 7 and 8 will have an opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation on January 16th during the regular religious education session. All children in grades, enrolled in Religious Education here at St. Edmund Parish are given an opportunity to receive the sacrament each year.

January Reading for St. Edmund Book Club

The St. Edmund Book Club will meet on Tuesday, January 18 from 1pm-3pm at Belmont Village. We will be discussing the book *Stargazer* by Anne Hillerman. Read the book and join us! Questions? Contact Mari Hans at: 708-848-6208.



Church in Latin America Collection

Next Weekend, January 15-16

The collection for the Church in Latin American will take place next weekend, January 15-16. Your generosity will support the many pastoral projects that benefit the faithful in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Offertory for Weekend of December 25/26

Budgeted.....\$10,000.00
 Weekend collection.....\$ 8,141.50
 Christmas-to-date..... \$24,043.00

Please Remember Our Priests

Priests have dedicated their lives to the ministry of God's children serving our needs as Catholics without asking for anything in return. Now, it is our turn to show our love and care for their every-faithful support. Please consider including a legacy gift for Priests' Health and Retirement to support the healthcare needs of our active priests, as well as the medical and housing needs of our retire priests. For more information, please call Priests' Health and Retirement at 708-449-8026. If you would like to make a gift today, please visit :prmaa.org.

Week at a Glance

Sunday 12:30pm	January 9 Baptisms	Church
Monday 8:30am	January 10 Mass	Church
Friday 8:30am	January 14 Mass	Church
Saturday 5:30pm	January 15 Mass	Church
Sunday 11am	January 16 Mass	Church

Forgot to pick up your 2022 Parish calendar? The calendars are still available and may be found at the church entrances.

Spiritual Week at St. Edmund Parish

We Pray for our Sick

Susan Becker,	Dee LeFevour,
Maggie Bielawa,	Allison Manley,
Mary Bowman,	Joseph A. Norton,
Sr. Mary Ruth Broz,	Shelley Sandow,
Dudley Cuj,	Kelly Scott,
Kayla Dwyer,	Suzanne Sloma,
Fr. Jack Farley,	Paula Stumpe,
Kevin Galvin,	Maria Vera
Rex Hight,	

Eternal Rest Grant unto These, O Lord

Larry Andree, brother of Mary Darnall
Sally Aono, sister of Tessie Villafranca
David Clyne, brother-in-law of Lu Mendoza
Alice Sokolowski, parishioner
Victims of the Rowhouse fire in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Special Remembrances at Daily Eucharist

Monday January 10
 8:30am † Timothy J. Rogers
Friday January 14
 8:30am † Larry Andree, † Donald J. Powers, Jr.
Saturday January 15
 5:30pm † David Glanton, † Ossy Ginigeme
Sunday January 16 (Second Sunday in O.T.)
 11:00am † David Haennicke, † Donald Patterson

Readings for the Week

Monday: 1 Sm 1: 1-8, Mk 1: 14-20
Tuesday: 1 Sm 1: 9-20, Mk 1: 21-28
Wednesday: 1 Sm 3: 1-10, 19-20, Mk 1: 29-39
Thursday: 1 Sm 4: 1-11, Mk 1: 40-45
Friday: 1 Sm 8: 4-7, 10-25a, Mk 2: 1-12
Saturday: 1 Sm 9: 1-4, 17-19, 10:1, Mk 2: 13-17
Sunday: Is 62: 1-5, 1 Cor 12: 4-11, Jn 2: 1-11