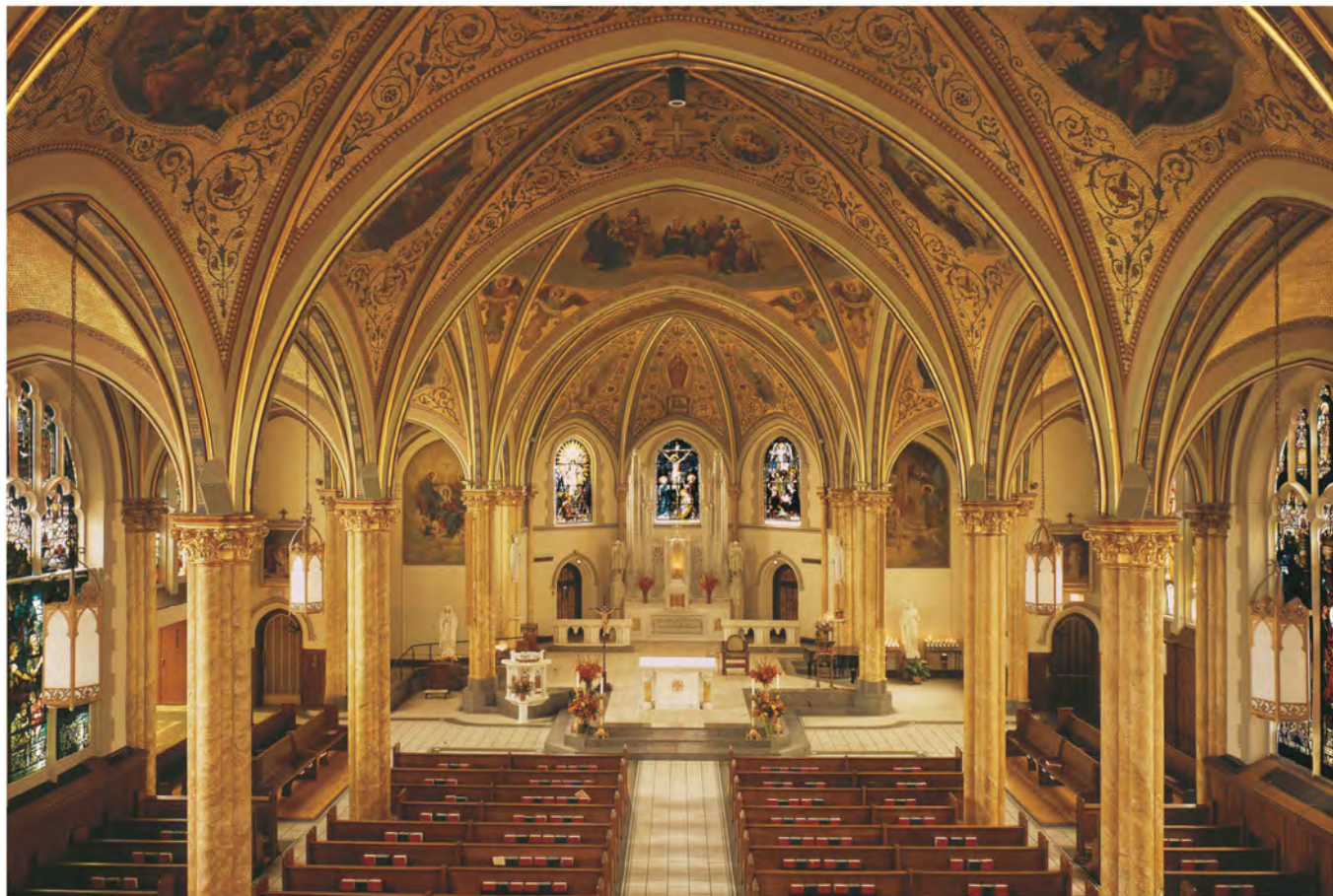


# Saint Edmund Parish *Echoes*

*Reaching out from the heart of Oak Park*

January 7, 2018




## **Parish Office**

188 S. Oak Park Avenue Oak Park, Illinois 60302; Telephone: 708-848-4417; Fax Line: 708-848-0049

Parish Center Office Hours: Monday - Thursday, 9am - 8:00pm, 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

Every year I enjoy listening to my favorite Christmas song. *The Little Drummer Boy* draws me deeply into the story of Jesus' birth. The simple lyrics spark my imagination as they paint a picture of a poor boy's encounter with a lowly newborn king and his loving mother.

The young musician seeks out Jesus and offers his most valuable gift—himself. He presents Jesus with a song played on his drum. He plays his best for the baby while the ox and lamb keep time. When the boy finishes playing, Jesus smiles at him and his drum!

The scene is so serene and holy. Its beauty is its simplicity and authenticity. The genuine, pure love exchanged between two poor boys brings me to my knees. I marvel at both the drummer boy's courage and his wisdom to wholeheartedly welcome and receive God into his life and to respond gratefully by giving his most precious gift to Jesus.

I also marvel at both the courage and wisdom of three others, who bring gifts to the newborn king. This Sunday's Gospel (Matthew 2:1-12) tells the very familiar story of the Magi, royalty from the east who follow a star to find the baby Jesus, so that they may pay him homage. The three kings pay close attention to the star that signals a world-changing event. They allow the star to invite them to act and to lead them to the source of that change. They make it their priority to leave their familiar, comfortable world and to venture forth into the unknown.

The Magi experience joy as they focus on the star and follow it with the hope of an extraordinary encounter. When they behold the child and Mary his mother, they respond humbly. They first prostrate themselves, and then open their treasures in gratitude for the precious gift of Jesus. The presents they offer to him are filled with meaning. Gold signifies the royalty of Jesus; frankincense reflects the full divine nature of Jesus, myrrh acknowledges the full human nature of Jesus and foreshadows his death.

The Magi story gifts each of us with a priceless present. The encounter between Jesus the Christ and the Gentile kings heralds marvelous news for all people. This epiphany story frees humankind as only love and truth can. God's love is so great, so boundless, and so inclusive that it simply cannot be contained, controlled or limited to a chosen group. The manifestation of God incarnate inherently invites each of us, personally and communally to not only recognize God's presence within and among us, but to also humbly receive God into our lives and respond in love and gratitude.

Like the Magi and the drummer boy, each of us has a choice to welcome God warmly, and with courage and wisdom offer the best of ourselves to God and each other.

Peggy Leddy  
Pastoral Associate

*SPONSORED BY THE CATHOLIC PARISHES OF OAK PARK*

## DAMIEN

A ONE MAN PLAY BY ALDYTH MORRIS

*"A must see for anyone who believes in heroes."*

*"Wayne Messmer brings Father Damien to life telling an unforgettable true story of love for*

*"A powerful story, brilliantly portrayed..."*

*"Damien is a hero for men and women for all ages. His character is a glowing example of what courage looks like."*

*"A touching account of a modern day saint that is told with truth and passion."*



*"The world needs more men of real conviction"*

*"This performance is highly recommended to anyone who believes in the power of the truth of one voice."*

*"A theatrical event I will never forget..."*

*"I feel as though that I actually met Father Damien... and I will always remember him"*

*"Wayne Messmer delivers a truly amazing portrayal of a truly remarkable man."*

**STARRING WAYNE MESSMER  
AS SAINT DAMIEN, "THE LEPER PRIEST OF MOLOKAI"**

PRODUCED BY: WPM Productions, Inc.

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2018  
7:00 PM  
ST. EDMUND CHURCH  
188 S. OAK PARK AVENUE, OAK PARK, IL**

# The Epiphany of the Lord

## Flu Season and Reception of Holy Communion

There are some simple common sense responses to legitimate worries about liturgical practices during flu season. We suggest the following:

**– If you are ill, stay home!**

Those exhibiting flu-like symptoms: fever, chills, headache, nausea, cough, sore throat, etc. should stay home! You may participate in the mass remotely, by viewing a televised liturgy. Staying home when feeling under the weather is *NOT* sinful behavior!

**– Sometimes a warm verbal greeting works fine too!**

At the Greeting of Peace, in addition to a handshake or a cordial embrace, a genuinely warm verbal exchange of peace is also an acceptable offering of peace.

**– We are one in faith whether we hold hands or not.**

Though some enjoy holding hands during the Lord's Prayer, it may be prudent during the flu season to refrain from this particular expression of unity.

**– Should I drink from the Cup?**

Please use common sense in deciding whether to drink from the shared Cup. If you have a sniffle, the beginning of a sore throat, the remaining vestiges of a cold, etc., we encourage you to receive only the Body of our Lord in Holy Communion.

**– I've never received Communion in the hand before.**

While we respect your preferred way of receiving the Lord Jesus in Holy Communion, we ask you to consider having the Eucharistic Minister reverently place the Blessed Sacrament into the palm of your hand.

**If you are a Eucharistic Minister...**

**– Before and after you perform your ministry,** you are asked to use the hand sanitizers now conveniently placed near both sides of the sanctuary steps.

**– Ministers of the Cup,**

are reminded to wipe it thoroughly after each person drinks, and continually to rotate the cup position. Of course, good hygiene is recommended for all. Remember always to cover your cough with the crook of your elbow or a tissue. Avoid the use of hands whenever possible.

These simple instructions will go a long way in keeping the Body of Christ healthy as we continue to receive the Body of Christ.

**Book Club Tuesday, February 20 at 7:30pm**  
**The Elephant Whisperer Author: Lawrence Anthony**  
 The St. Edmund Book Club will meet on Tuesday, February 20 at 7:30pm.



We will be discussing the book, *The Elephant Whisperer* by Lawrence Anthony.

Contact parishioner Mari Hans at: [marithans@comcast.net](mailto:marithans@comcast.net) for more information.

## Annual March for Life Chicago Sunday, January 14, 2018

Please join the St. Edmund Respect Life Committee for the 2018 March for Life, *Love Saves Lives in Chicago*, Sunday, January 14 at 2:00pm. A group will travel downtown from St. Edmund by car after the 11am mass on Sunday January 14. Be part of the Pro-life Movement in 2018!



People from varied ethnic, social and religious backgrounds will gather at Federal Plaza, 50 W. Adams, Chicago, to proclaim the sanctity of human life and call for an end to abortion as they march through the Loop.

One of the scheduled speakers is Cardinal Blasé Cupich, Roman Catholic Archbishop of Chicago. For more information, visit [MarchForLifeChicago.com](http://MarchForLifeChicago.com) or email: [marchforlifechicago@gmail.com](mailto:marchforlifechicago@gmail.com).

### Offertory for Weekend of December 16/17

Budgeted.....\$14,350.00  
 Weekend collection..... \$12,061.55  
 Deficit-to-date.....– 2,288.45

### Offertory for Weekend of December 23/24

Budgeted.....\$14,350.00  
 Weekend collection..... \$13,062.00  
 Deficit-to-date.....– 1,268.00

### Offertory for Weekend of December 30/31

Budgeted.....\$14,350.00  
 Weekend collection..... \$13,670.93  
 Deficit-to-date.....– 679.07  
 Christmas collection to-date.....\$50,991.20

### Week at a Glance

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>January 7</b>	
10:30am	RCIA	Parish Office
10:30am	Religious Education	School
10:30am	Social Justice Day	School
<b>Monday</b>	<b>January 8</b>	
2:00pm	Eucharistic Adoration	Church
7:00pm	Finance Committee	Parish Office
7:00pm	Peace and Justice	Murphy Hall
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>January 9</b>	
7:00pm	Parish Life	Murphy Hall
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>January 10</b>	
7:00pm	Bridge Club	Murphy Hall
7:30pm	Diabetes Support Group	School
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>January 13</b>	
9:30am	Centering Prayer	N. Transept
11:00am	Knitters/Crocheters	Murphy Hall
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>January 14</b>	
9:00am	Coffee And...	Murphy Hall

## School of Religious Education



Religious Education classes will meet today, Sunday, January 7. Happy New Year!

Classes will not be in session next Sunday, January 14 due to the Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday.

Families with children in Fourth Grade Religious Education will meet on Sunday, January 21 to review the Sacrament of Reconciliation. We will begin by celebrating the 9:00am mass together and will continue to meet during the regular Religious Education session at 10:30am. Parents, mark your calendars to participate in this special day with your child!

### 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 about.

#### ◆ 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.

*If you have any suggestions as to how we can make our Sunday worship even more baby and toddler-friendly, we'd love to hear from you. Just call the parish office at 708-848-4417.*

## St. Edmund Parish Morning Bible Study Friday, February 16 at 9am

Bible study this past Fall studied St. Paul's Letters From Prison. We studied the First Letter to the Thessalonians and his letter to the Philippians, and applied them to our lives today.



Please join us on Friday, February 16 (the Friday after Ash Wednesday) to study St. Paul's Second Letter to the Thessalonians, and his letters to Colossians and Ephesians.

The group meets in Murphy Hall from 9am - 10:30am on consecutive Fridays, unless otherwise announced. All are welcome.

### 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, and 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.

### Pottery Painting Party!

#### Saturday, January 20 from 1pm - 4pm

Create your own masterpiece! Stimulate your creative juices on Saturday, January 20 from 1:00pm-4pm in Murphy Hall. This is a fun way to spend the afternoon, enjoying wine and light refreshments while you enjoy time with family and friends.



Purchase your ticket for \$40.00 after the masses this weekend and next weekend, January 13-14 in the Murphy Hall corridor. You will be able to select a pottery piece to paint. All materials are included and Picasso skills are not required! Bring your creativity and a bottle of wine to share. All painted pottery pieces will be fired upon completion and ready for pick-up one week after the event takes place.



Contact Denise Walsh for tickets or information at: 630-240-8882 or by e-mail at [drwalsh34@gmail.com](mailto:drwalsh34@gmail.com).

## Spiritual Week at St. Edmund Parish

### We Pray for our Sick

Fr. John Paul Andree	Mary Evans	Hannah Paist
Clara Ballard	James Fair	Rosemary Rice
Geraldine Bandera	David Houde	Joseph Sarpy
Susan Becker	Mark Jackson	Rachael Schopp
Dolores Benedict	Sean Johnson	Mike Scully
Susan Benedict	Linette Moore	Ethel Thomas
Barbara Boril	George Nedved	Genaro Vera
Susan Chicola	Mary Ellen Nedved	
Annyce Dunbar	Francis O'Hara	

### *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  
 Jose Ortiz US Marine Corps Lance Corporal  
 Dave Porter, US Army  
 Col. Gregory P. Puccetti, US Army  
 Gian Franco Solari, US Air Force  
 Brian Walsh, First Lieutenant US Army  
 Kimyatta Wellington, US Navy



*If your loved one has returned from their service,  
 please call the Parish office to inform us.*

### Eternal Rest Grant unto These, O Lord

*Please pray for all those whom we have in mind.*

### Special Remembrances at Daily Eucharist

<b>Monday</b> 8:30am	<b>January 8</b> † Loretta Corrado <b>(The Baptism of the Lord)</b>
<b>Tuesday</b> 8:30am	<b>January 9</b> † Donald Wilson
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>January 10</b> † Joan Hickey
<b>Thursday</b> 8:30am	<b>January 11</b> † Deceased parishioners
<b>Friday</b> 8:30am	<b>January 12</b> † Marge Serauskas
<b>Saturday</b> 5:30pm	<b>January 13 (Hilary, BVM)</b> † Trinidad Hernandez-Aguilar <i>(first anniversary)</i>
<b>Sunday</b> 9:00am 11:00am 5:30pm	<b>January 14 (Second Sunday in O.T.)</b> † Michael McGivern † Virginia Taglia People of St. Edmund

“Create in me a pure heart, O God, and  
 renew a steadfast spirit within me.”

*- Psalms 51:10*

### Readings for the Week

<b>Monday:</b>	Is 55: 1-11 Mk 1: 7-11
<b>Tuesday:</b>	1 Sm 1: 9-20, Mk 1: 21-28
<b>Wednesday:</b>	1 Sm 3: 1-10, 19-20, Mk 1: 29-39
<b>Thursday:</b>	1 Sm 4: 1-11, Mk 1: 40-45
<b>Friday:</b>	1 Sm 8: 4-7, 10-22a; Mk 2: 1-12
<b>Saturday:</b>	1 Sm 9: 1-4, 17-19; 10: 1; Mk 2: 13-17
<b>Sunday:</b>	1 Sm 3: 3b-10, 19, 1 Cor 6: 13c-15a, 17-20

### Liturgical Ministers for the Weekend of January 13/14

Mass Time	Altar Servers	Lectors	Commentator	Cantors	Extraordinary Ministers
<b>(Saturday) 5:30pm</b>	M. Gonzalez R. Porter	A. Glanton	L. Christensen	M. Foster	K. Ballard, M. Bielawa, M. Bielawa, G. Ger- vais, B. Nelson, D. Walsh
<b>9:00am</b>	N. Cosgrove J. Patston	M. Fedota M. Trifone	K. Vander Meulen	D. Gregoire	D. Foster
<b>11:00am</b>	G. Allori	M. Kane M. Stroth	D. Kane	D. Gregoire	M. Allori, R. Allori, T. Cullinane, A. Dwyer, L. Jans, A. Koors, M. Lee
<b>5:30pm</b>	D. Silva	Cr. Putz	Ch. Putz		