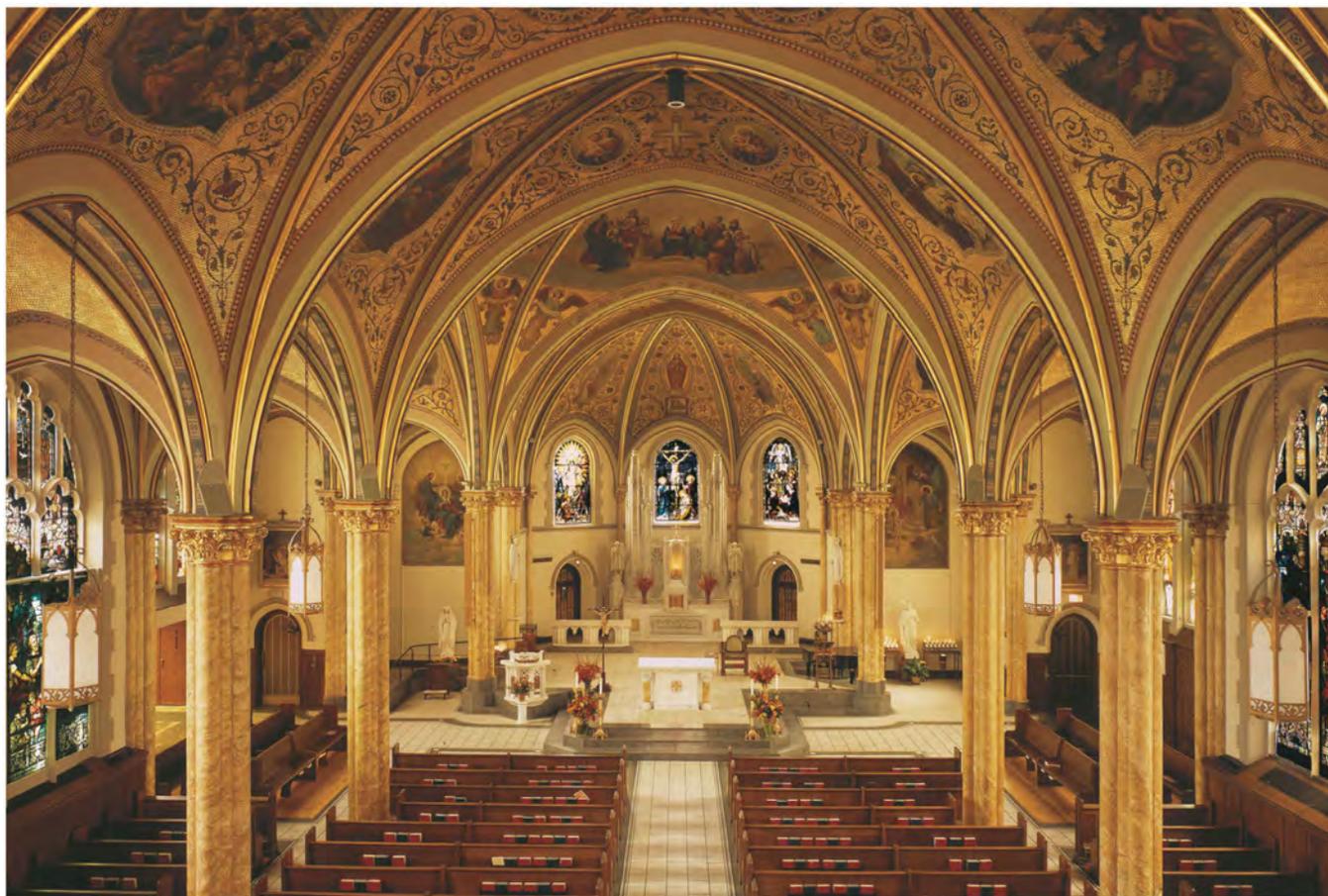


Saint Edmund Parish *Echoes*

Reaching out from the heart of Oak Park

June 19, 2022



Parish Office

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

Parish Center Office Hours 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

Happy Father's Day

Staff Notes

This weekend, as we celebrate the Feast of the Body and Blood of Christ, one of the 20th century's greatest Catholic theologians, a Belgian man named Edward Schillebeeckx, comes to mind. Among the many contributions that Schillebeeckx has made to Catholic theology is his understanding of humanity as being the greatest sacrament of God.

Let's not pass too quickly over that statement, as it is quite a profound one. For those of us old enough to remember the *Baltimore Catechism*, you may recall that question 31 asks: "What is a Sacrament?" The answer to that question, which, I am sure that many of you still remember is: "A Sacrament is an outward sign instituted by Christ to give grace."

Now, let's consider the contribution of Schillebeeckx. In the language of the *Baltimore Catechism*, we might explain, then, that we, human beings, have the most potential to become the greatest sacrament of God because we can become the most visible sign through which Christ can offer his grace.

In the language of today, we might put it this way: humanity can become the greatest sacrament of God in that we have the greatest potential to effect, experience, share and thus, become the real presence of Christ in the world. In fact, that is our Christian mission: we are to be Christ for others and to see Christ in others. We come together at the eucharistic table and worship our God, and in this important ritual, we share a meal which unites us all in the one Body (and Blood) of Christ—in the fullness of Christ truly and really present in the meal. Our communion with Christ at the altar is the

source from which we are nourished and sent forth to continue *doing and becoming* what we had just ritually done and become in communion with one another and with the Lord.

Today's Feast of the Body and Blood of Christ holds up the great significance of our Eucharist, but it can only be significant as far as you and I are committed to becoming and being that self-same presence wherever we go and with whomever we meet.

How do we become that self-same presence of Christ? Well, our weekly meal of receiving Jesus in Holy Communion is certainly a necessary nourishing component. There are as many ways to be, see, share, accept and experience the Lord's presence as there are people who attend mass. Let's not overthink it. We must be available to others. We must *share* the gifts of kindness, compassion, understanding, forgiveness, hope and love *with* others. Perhaps more of a challenge for many of us is the fact that we must be humble and open to *accepting* the gifts of kindness, compassion, understanding, forgiveness, hope and love *from* others. Of course, this list is not exhaustive. To put it really simply: we have to show up, we have to love, and we have to allow ourselves to be loved. And we have to let go of the worry that we cannot or will not do it perfectly. Perfection is God's realm. You and me? We simply need to do our best and allow the grace of God to flow through and from us into every other person we meet.

Fr. John McGivern

Special Appreciation Liturgy to honor our beloved pastor, Fr. John McGivern in-person AND live-streamed Next Sunday, June 26 at 11am

For those of you who are unable to attend Fr. John's appreciation liturgy in-person, you will still be able to worship and celebrate with all of us. **Simply visit: www.youtube.com/stedmund. You will find the link for all of those who will be joining us on-line.**

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.

Juneteenth Freedom Day *Freedom for All*

According to History.com, Juneteenth (short for "June nineteenth") marks the day when federal troops arrived in Galveston, Texas, in 1865 to take control of the state and ensure that all enslaved people were freed. The event took place a full two and a half years after the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation, on January 1, 1863, and more that two months after Robert E. Lee's surrender at Appomattox, Virginia on April 9, 1865.



On June 17, 2021, Juneteenth officially became a federal holiday. It commemorates African American freedom and emphasizes education and achievement.

- Source Costco Connection, June 2022

Join us for a special appreciation liturgy
to honor our beloved pastor

Fr. John McGivern

as we celebrate his 18 years of faithfulness,
service and unwavering commitment to St. Edmund Parish.

Sunday, June 26, 2022

11am Mass

Reception on the lawn to follow

R.S.V.P. by June 19 for the reception only.

Either log on to the parish website (stedmund.org)
& click on the SignUp Genius link,

or call the parish office at 708-848-4417, Ext. 2011.



Resources for Catholic Dads

Unsure of how to handle the challenges of being a Catholic father? Curious about the best ways to pass on the Faith to your kids? Want to connect with other Catholic dads who are living with the same joys and challenges? Here are great resources to support faithful fatherhood:

The National Center for Fathering (fathers.com). Offers tips on being a more involved, committed father.

St. Joseph's Covenant Keepers (dads.org). An international network of Christian men devoted to strengthening fatherhood and family life. Website includes helpful newsletters, audios, and books.

Fathers for Good (fathersforgood.org): An initiative of the Knights of Columbus to celebrate and strengthen the importance of being a better husband and father.

The Men of St. Joseph (menofstjoseph.com): An organization that promotes local groups of Catholic men coming together in prayers and fellowship as a way of strengthening their own faith and their role as father.

Catholic Dads Headquarters (catholicdadshq.blogspot.com): A collection of commentary videos and resources for fathers, with a specific focus on faith formation.

Catholic Dads Online (catholicdadsonline.org): An online community of Catholic fathers featuring blogs written for and by dads, offering opportunities for discussion of topics pertaining to faith and fatherhood.

Source: OUR SUNDAY VISITOR

Seeking Volunteers for Fr. John's Celebration

We are in need of volunteers to prepare for Fr. John's celebration. Volunteers are needed to help transport tables and chairs from St. Catherine-St. Lucy to St. Edmund on set-up on the parish lawn, return tables and chairs back to St. Catherine-St. Lucy and clean up. A van will be rented for transport.

Please call the Parish office at 708-848-4417, and let us know if you are able to assist. Thank you!



Suicide Prevention

If you or someone you know is considering suicide, please contact the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 1-800-273-TALK (8255), text "STRENGTH" to the Crisis Text Line at 741-741 or visit the website: suicidepreventionlifeline.org.

Peter's Pence Second Collection June 25/26

Pope Francis has spoken of our responsibility before the world and creation. "There is much that we can do to benefit the poor, the needy and those who suffer, and to favor justice, promote reconciliation and build peace," he said. The Peter's Pence Collection unites us in solidarity to the Holy See and its works of charity to those in need. Your generosity allows the Pope to respond to our suffering brothers and sisters.

The purpose of the Peter's Pence Collection is to provide the Holy Father with the financial means to respond to those who are suffering as a result of war, oppression, natural disaster, and disease. Please be generous.

The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ

Traditional Religious Education (TRE) Leader Sought for Newly Merged Parish

With the Renew My Church (RMC) joining of Ascension and St. Edmund parishes, we are currently seeking assistance with Religious Education. Mr. Tim Smyth who has served at Ascension is leaving his position. We are in need of a part-time Coordinator of Religious Education to complete our Religious Education Department. Ideally a Candidate would have served in a similar position, but qualified catechists and/or former teachers in a Catholic School might find this opportunity a worthy match for their skills. This person would be an integral part of a 4-member team providing for grammar-school aged children and their families.

For more information about the position or to apply, please contact Mary Catherine Meek at: 708-434-1537 or email her at: mc.meek@ascensionoakpark.com.

School of Religious Education



Religious Education instruction has ended for 2021-22. Stay tuned for registration and further details for 2022-2023!

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.

End Gun Violence Vigil Next Saturday, June 25



Join us on the rectory lawn for our monthly vigil after the 5:30pm mass. It is our way of standing against the culture of violence in our country.

All are welcome!

Spring being a tough act to follow,
God created June.

- Al Bernstein

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's an easy solution!



Log on to the parish website at: 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.

Spiritual Week at St. Edmund Parish

We Pray for our Sick

Susan Becker,	Frank Italiano,
Maggie Bielawa,	Elsa Leon,
Sherri Bokholdt,	Daniel Moore,
Mary Bowman,	Kelly Scott,
Sr. Mary Ruth Broz,	Suzanne Sloma,
Fr. James Creighton,	Paula Stumpe,
Fr. Jack Farley,	Allie Sutherland
Dave Gregoire,	

Eternal Rest Grant unto These, O Lord

Lynn VerVers,
long-time parishioner

PRAY for PEACE.

Readings for the Week

Monday:	2 Kgs 17: 5-8, 13-15a, 18, Mt 7: 1-5
Tuesday:	2 Kgs 19: 9b-11m 14-21m 31-35a, 36 Mt 7L 6, 12-14
Wednesday:	2 Kgs 22: 8-13, 23: 1-3, Mt 7: 15-20
Thursday:	Is 49: 1-6/Acts 13: 22-26 Lk 1: 57-66, 80
Friday:	Ez 34: 11-16, Rom 5: 5b-11, Lk 15: 3-7
Saturday:	Lam 2: 2, 10-14, 18-19, Lk 2: 41-51
Sunday:	1 Kgs, 19: 16b, 19-21, Gal 5: 1, 13-18 Lk 9: 51-62

Special Remembrances at Daily Eucharist

Monday	June 20
8:30am	† <i>Mamma</i> Giannetti, † Ossy Ginigeme
Friday	June 24
8:30am	† Deirdre K. LeFevour The Gilmore and Wiss families (<i>living intention</i>)
Saturday	June 25
5:30pm	† The Ahern Family - Elizabeth, Patrick and Liz
Sunday	June 26 (Thirteenth Sunday in O.T.)
11:00am	† Ossy Ginigeme, † Joseph Norton

Pope Francis' Secret Recipe for Happiness

In an interview published in part in the Argentine weekly "Viva" July 27, 2014, Pope Francis listed his Top 10 tips for bringing greater joy to one's life:

1. "Live and let live." Everyone should be guided by this principle, he said, which has a similar expression in Rome with the saying, "Move forward and let others do the same."

Pope Francis greets the crowd as he arrives to lead a general audience in St. Peter's Square at the Vatican last month. (CNS/Paul Haring)

2. "Be giving of yourself to others." People need to be open and generous toward others, he said, because "if you withdraw into yourself, you run the risk of becoming egocentric. And stagnant water becomes putrid."

3. "Proceed calmly" in life. The pope, who used to teach high school literature, used an image from an Argentine novel by Ricardo Güiraldes, in which the protagonist -- gaucho Don Segundo Sombra -- looks back on how he lived his life.

"He says that in his youth he was a stream full of rocks that he carried with him; as an adult, a rushing river; and in old age, he was still moving, but slowly, like a pool" of water, the pope said. He said he likes this latter image of a pool of water -- to have "the ability to move with kindness and humility, a calmness in life."

4. "A healthy sense of leisure." The pleasures of art, literature and playing together with children have been lost, he said.

"Consumerism has brought us anxiety" and stress, causing people to lose a "healthy culture of leisure." Their time is "swallowed up" so people can't share it with anyone.

Even though many parents work long hours, they must set aside time to play with their children; work schedules make it "complicated, but you must do it," he said.

Families must also turn off the TV when they sit down to eat because, even though television is useful for keeping up with the news, having it on during mealtime "doesn't let you communicate" with each other, the pope said.

5. Sundays should be holidays. Workers should have Sundays off because "Sunday is for family," he said.

6. Find innovative ways to create dignified jobs for young people. "We need to be creative with young people. If they have no opportunities they will get into drugs" and be more vulnerable to suicide, he said.

"It's not enough to give them food," he said. "Dignity is given to you when you can bring food home" from one's own labor.

7. Respect and take care of nature. Environmental degradation "is one of the biggest challenges we have," he said. "I think a question that we're not asking ourselves is: 'Isn't humanity committing suicide with this indis-

criminate and tyrannical use of nature?'"

8. Stop being negative. "Needing to talk badly about others indicates low self-esteem. That means, 'I feel so low that instead of picking myself up I have to cut others down,'" the pope said. "Letting go of negative things quickly is healthy."

9. Don't proselytize; respect others' beliefs. "We can inspire others through witness so that one grows together in communicating. But the worst thing of all is religious proselytism, which paralyzes: 'I am talking with you in order to persuade you,' No. Each person dialogues, starting with his and her own identity. The church grows by attraction, not proselytizing," the pope said.

10. Work for peace. "We are living in a time of many wars," he said, and "the call for peace must be shouted. Peace sometimes gives the impression of being quiet, but it is never quiet, peace is always proactive" and dynamic.

Pope Francis also talked about the importance of helping immigrants, praising Sweden's generosity in opening its doors to so many people, while noting anti-immigration policies show the rest of Europe "is afraid."

He also fondly recalled the woman who helped his mother with the housework when he was growing up in Buenos Aires.

Concepcion Maria Minuto was a Sicilian immigrant, a widow and mother of two boys, who went three times a week to help the pope's mother do laundry, since in those days it was all done by hand.

He said this hard-working, dignified woman made a big impression on the 10-year-old future pope, as she would talk to him about World War II in Italy and how they farmed in Sicily.

"She was as clever as a fox, she had every penny accounted for, she wouldn't be cheated. She had many great qualities," he said.

Even though his family lost touch with her when they moved, the then-Jesuit Father Jorge Bergoglio later sought her out and visited her for the last 10 years of her life.

"A few days before she died, she took this small medal out of her pocket, gave it to me and said: 'I want you to have it!' So every night, when I take it off and kiss it, and every morning when I put it back on, this woman comes to my mind."

"She died happy, with a smile on her face and with the dignity of someone who worked. For that reason I am very sympathetic toward housecleaners and domestic workers, whose rights, all of them, should be recognized" and protected, he said. "They must never be exploited or mistreated."

—reprinted from the *National Catholic Reporter*
July 29, 2014