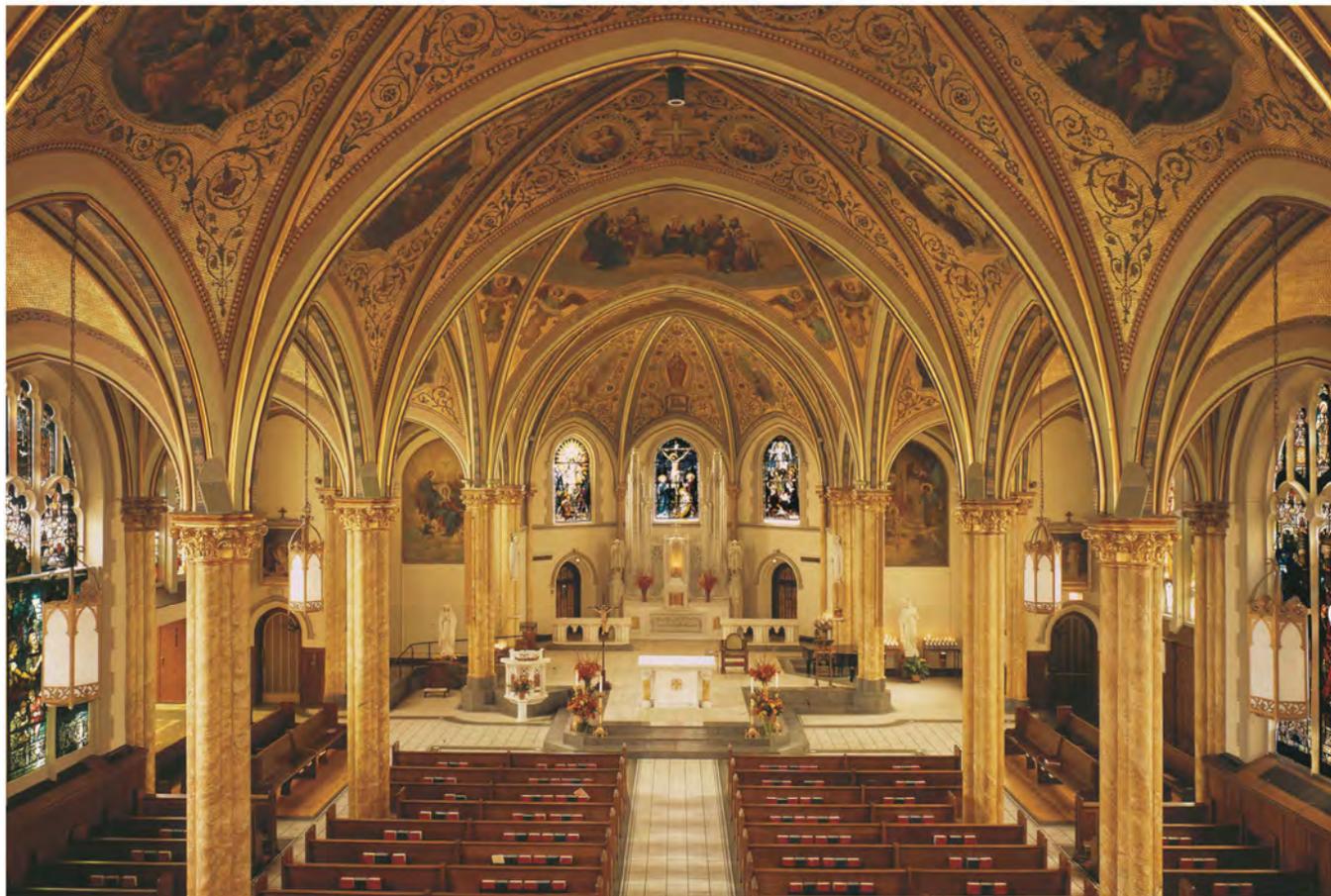


# Saint Edmund Parish *Echoes*

Reaching out from the heart of Oak Park

May 29, 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](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  
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](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

I do not know about you, but I am one who is often looking up into the sky or out into the distance. Sometimes, it may be the tweet of a bird which catches my attention and my glance, but more often, it is simply that I am drawn to the mystery that is above and beyond me. The best that I can do to describe those moments is that it is a yearning—(perhaps even an innate desire) to situate myself within the vastness of the universe and to glean something of a sense of belonging to and within it.

Sometimes those moments cause me to feel small and alone; yet other times, I can sense a connection, a unity with all that surrounds and encompasses me.

When Jesus was taken up in the midst of the apostles, they watched their Lord be taken from their sight. Their upward gaze lingered beyond the Lord's leave-taking. I imagine that they were sad in that moment. We always want the people we love to be nearby. I imagine that they were confused too. So much had happened. Jesus had shared with an abundance of life and love. Then, their hearts were broken when he died. They were fearful but overjoyed when he rose. Now, they say farewell again. If ever there was a moment to fix their gaze heavenward and attempt to find perspective in all that they had experienced and witnessed, this is it!

And suddenly, two men dressed in white garments ask: "Why are you standing there looking at the sky?"

On the one hand, I can imagine the disciples re-

sponding: "For God's sake, can you give me a minute? Can you let me take a breath and make sense of all this? On the other hand, Jesus had explained to his disciples that it was better for them that he take his leave, so that he could send the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, to be with and among them for all time.

Perhaps the question asked by the men dressed in white was a gentle nudge to remind the disciples that now they had work to do. They were to fill the earth with the good news of Jesus Christ.

Perhaps one day we shall all be cloaked in dazzling white garments. Today, however, like the disciples whose gaze lingered after Jesus left them, we have yet to don our heavenly attire. Today, we continue to see and understand only in bits and pieces, and every now and then, we may be caught in that cosmic search for understanding and belonging.

True as that may be, the question posed by the men in white garments reminds us that at some point, we have to shift our gaze back down to that which is all around us, and like the disciples, to help others to know that in the vastness of the universe, their sense of belonging will be found in the saving story of one who loved us so much that he emptied himself of his life and so gave us his Spirit, until that day when we will gaze upon him face to face.

*M. John McGovern*

### 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](mailto: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](mailto:pleddy@stedmund.org).

### Anniversary of Dedication of Church and Rectory, May 29

On May 29, 1910, our 14th century new gothic church building and rectory designed by Henry Schlacks was dedicated!



Fast forward 112 years later, the rectory has been fully restored and remodeled and the church building is currently undergoing some changes to repair and renew. Tuckpointing and power-washing on the outside of the church and rectory buildings are underway.

Some of the expenses were budgeted and the other improvements are all at the wishes of generous donors. We are most appreciative and grateful!

When we unite with Ascension parish on July 1st, the grounds and facilities of our existing parish will continue to be a beautiful and practical worship space for all who gather here to enjoy.



*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](http://stedmund.org))  
& click on the SignUp Genius link,  
or call the parish office at 708-848-4417, Ext. 2011.

### 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.

### Visit a Catholic Cemetery on Memorial Day

Catholic cemeteries throughout the Archdiocese will celebrate mass at various cemetery locations on Memorial Day. Service times vary by cemetery location.

Contact the cemetery you are interested in visiting to learn the mass time.

[www.catholiccemeteries.org](http://www.catholiccemeteries.org)

### June Reading for St. Edmund Book Club

The St. Edmund Book Club will meet on Tuesday, June 21 at Belmont Village from 1pm—3pm. All participants must be fully vaccinated and must show proof of vaccination.

We will be discussing the book *The Midnight Library* by Matt Haig.

Read the book and join us! Contact parishioner Mari Hans at: [marithans@comcast.net](mailto:marithans@comcast.net) for more information.

### 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!

### A Blessing

#### For the Beginning of Summer

May the lake be smooth beneath your skins  
And the winds blow wide your colored sails  
May the sand be warm as you take your ease  
And God's grace bathe you that never fails.

May the sun shine bright on your joyous days  
And the rain refresh you  
through peaceful nights  
May Summer show you God's wondrous ways  
And prepare you for heaven's great delights.

Till we meet there  
May the God of summertime  
Hold you in the palm of his hand.  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

# The Ascension of the Lord

## Making A Difference In Helping People With Disabilities Feel Welcome

There are many things that we, as individuals can do to help people with disabilities feel welcome in our church, so that all persons may bring their gifts to the altar of God.

**Golden Rule:** *I will consider someone first as a person with abilities and then as a person who may need assistance to use their abilities.*

1. I will treat all people as people first - as I would like to be treated.
2. I will speak directly to the individual with a disability, not to the nearby family member, companion, interpreter, or the canine companion.
3. I will offer to shake hands when introduced to a person with a disability. (Persons with limited hand use or who wear an artificial limb may shake hands. (Shaking the left hand is O.K., too.)
4. I will place myself at eye level, in front, for easy conversation with a person in a wheelchair, with crutches or with a walking frame.
5. I will offer assistance and wait until the offer is accepted. I will then ask for instructions.
6. I will be patient and wait for the person with difficulty speaking rather than speaking for the person. I may help by asking short questions that require short answers, a nod or a shake of the head.
7. I will see the wholeness of spirit beneath the surface of someone with a disability and overcome the tendency to turn away or ignore the person.
8. I will treat adults with developmental disabilities as adults, not as children. I will use first names only when using the same familiarity for all persons.
9. I will get the attention of someone who is hearing-impaired by lightly tapping their elbow or shoulder, or by waving my hand. I will look directly at the person and speak clearly, slowly and expressively to establish if the person can read my lips.
10. I will guide a person with visual impairments by giving verbal clues to steps, curbs, escalators or doors.

**Pathways Awareness Foundation**  
123 N. Wacker Drive, Chicago, IL 60606

## Why Memorial Day?

Celebrated in most states on the last Monday in May, Memorial Day is a time to remember the U.S. men and women who lost their lives serving their country. Originally known as Decoration Day, it was established in 1868 to commemorate the dead from the Civil War. Over the years it came to serve as a day to remember all U.S. men and women killed or missing in action in all wars.



The location of the first observance of Memorial Day is in dispute. According to one writer, the first Memorial Day service took place on May 30, 1866, on Belle Isle, a burial ground for Union soldiers in the St. James River, at Richmond, Virginia. The school superintendent and the mayor planned the program of hymns and speeches and had the burial ground decorated with flowers.

Other sources cite that Memorial Day was first observed on May 30, 1868, on the order of General John Alexander Logan for the purpose of decorating the graves of the American Civil War dead. Still others claim the custom of honoring war dead began in Boalsburg, Pennsylvania, while there are those who believe that the custom was originated by some Southern women who placed flowers on the graves of both Union and Confederate soldiers after the Civil War.

In 1966, however, the U.S. government proclaimed that Waterloo, New York, was the birthplace of Memorial Day. On May 5, 1865, the people of Waterloo had honored soldiers who had died in the Civil War.

It was General Logan's order in 1868 that placed the observance of Memorial Day on May 30. This lasted until 1971 when most states changed to a newly established federal schedule of holiday observance. (Confederate Memorial Day, formerly a legal holiday in many southern states, is still observed on the fourth Monday in April in Alabama, the last Monday in April in Mississippi, and April 26 in Florida and Georgia.)

The custom of placing flowers on graves is an old one that exists in many countries. Today, almost everywhere around the globe, people have a special day to honor not only those who gave their lives in battle, but also family members and friends whom they wish to remember.

We give thanks on Memorial Day that we live in a free nation and honor those who gave their lives for that blessing.

## Memorial Day Schedule Changes and Closings

In observance of the Memorial Day holiday, the parish office will be closed on Monday, May 30th.

Please make note of the fact that the only mass on Memorial Day, will begin at **9am** and not the usual 8:30am.

**God Bless Our Troops!**

**If you want peace, work for justice.**

- Pope Paul VI



### School of Religious Education

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

#### Offertory for Weekend of May 14/15

Budgeted.....\$10,000.00  
 Weekend collection.....\$ 5,790.56  
 Deficit.....- 4,209.44

#### 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](http://suicidepreventionlifeline.org).

#### Week at a Glance

<b>Monday</b> 9:00am	<b>May 30</b> Mass <i>Parish office closed</i>	<i>Memorial Day</i> Church
<b>Friday</b> 8:30am	<b>June 3</b> Mass	Church
<b>Saturday</b> 5:30pm	<b>June 4</b> Mass	Church
<b>Sunday</b> 11am	<b>June 5</b> Mass	Church



### Spring Bundle Weekend

June 4 - 5

### Housewares & Clothing Drive



Support the St. Vincent de Paul Society.

Donate clean, gently-used items, such as:

**Small Appliances:** Coffee makers, toasters and blenders;

**Clothing:** Skirts, shirts, shorts, shoes, sandals, purses;

**Housewares:** Dishes, glasses, utensils, pots and pans;

**Books and Decorations:** Vases and picture frames. Please pack delicate items safely and mark, FRAGILE.

Drop off items at the St. Vincent de Paul Society trailer in the parking lot before/after weekend masses.

**Thank you for your generous support!**

#### End Gun Violence Vigil Saturday, May 28

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!



## Spiritual Week at St. Edmund Parish

#### We Pray for our Sick

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

#### Eternal Rest Grant unto These, O Lord

*Victims of the shooting at  
 Robb Elementary School  
 Uvalde, Texas*

## PRAY for PEACE.

#### Special Remembrances at Daily Eucharist

<b>Monday</b> 8:30am	<b>May 30</b> † Deceased military members
<b>Friday</b> 8:30am	<b>June 3</b> † Timothy J. Rogers
<b>Saturday</b> 5:30pm	<b>June 4</b> † Orfelinda Vera
<b>Sunday</b> 11:00am	<b>June 5 (Pentecost Sunday )</b> † Ossy Ginigeme, † Orfelinda Vera

#### Readings for the Week

<b>Monday:</b>	Acts 19: 1-8, Jn 16: 29-33
<b>Tuesday:</b>	Zep 3: 14-18a, Lk 1: 39-56
<b>Wednesday:</b>	Acts 20: 28-38, Jn 17: 11b-19
<b>Thursday:</b>	Acts 22: 30; 23: 6-11, Jn 17: 20-26
<b>Friday:</b>	Acts 25: 13b-21, Jn 32: 15-19
<b>Saturday:</b>	Acts 28: 16-20, 30-31, Jn 21: 20-25
<b>Sunday:</b>	Acts 2: 1-11/1, Cor 12: 3b-7, 12-13