

Saint Edmund Parish *Echoes*

Reaching out from the heart of Oak Park

November 26, 2017



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. 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. 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

Even though today is the feast of Christ the King, I would like to tell you about a song we sing every year in Advent, which starts next weekend. "*E'en So, Lord Jesus, Quickly Come*" is one of the choir's favorite songs because of the beauty of both the text and the music and because of the wonderful story behind it. I was told this story by a man who knew the composer personally.

Paul Manz, a famous and prolific Lutheran composer, wrote it in 1954 when his son was gravely ill in the hospital. The doctors had done everything they could for the son and the crisis point was reached. They told the parents to go home and pray because all they could do now was wait to see what would happen. Paul then went home and composed this piece as he prayed.

His prayer starts out acknowledging Christ's mercy and love: "*Peace be to you and grace from him who freed us from our sins. Who loved us all and shed his blood that we might be saved.*" The music is firm but fairly soft at this point showing Paul's steadfast faith even in a time of great stress. (At another time and under different circumstances a composer might make the music for this more bombastic.)

"*Sing holy, holy to our Lord, the Lord, Almighty God, who was and is and is to come; sing holy, holy, Lord!*" Here he "grows" into his praise of God and the music is louder as he probably is remembering all the blessings the Lord has given him in the past and affirms God's dominion over everything.

"*Rejoice in heaven, all ye that dwell therein; rejoice on earth ye saints below! For Christ is coming, is coming soon, for Christ is coming soon.*" His thoughts here are on the glory of heaven. This section is louder than before but as it comes to a close the last line is softer and more pensive, as he acknowledges his

grief. Still, by the way he wrote the music you see he found comfort.

"If it is your will let this cup pass me by," were the words of Jesus when he was suffering. "*E'en so*" - "Not my will but yours" is the meaning of this phrase. It continues, "*Lord Jesus, quickly come and night shall be no more*" - please end this suffering or cure his son. Even though he recognized that whatever happened was God's will he still was asking for a miracle cure but was coming to acceptance if he would die. The music shows his pleading at this point.

"*They need no light nor lamp nor sun, for Christ will be their all.*" Christ, the King and the Light of the World, will guide us and take us home to heaven where God is everything. The music here reflects his firm belief in God and his awe.

Now, I don't know for sure that my interpretation of each line is what he really thought, but in light of the events that went before he composed this piece I feel that this is what he believed. How wonderful to have such great faith! And how wonderful to have the gift to share it with others! Even if we can't write beautiful music and meaningful lyrics we have so many other ways to share our faith with others. By our interactions with others and our good deeds, by the way we live our daily lives, we can be God's messengers, too.

p.s. Paul's son did recover, much to his parent's joy. Do you believe the prayer helped? Do you believe God answers your prayers?

Kathy Halfpenny
Director of Music

Sacrament of Marriage

In order to schedule a wedding, you or your parents must be registered, participating parish members for at least one year prior to setting the date.

Sacrament of Baptism for Infants

Parents are asked to register at least 2 months in advance to attend the preparation class. Please note that the date of Baptism is not confirmed until parents complete the class.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)

Adults seeking to complete initiation or inquiring about becoming Catholic may call the Parish Office for information.

Mass Schedule

Monday-Friday: 8:30am;
Saturday: 5:30pm (Sunday Anticipatory)
Sunday: 9am, 11:00am, 5:30pm.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday: 4:15pm (located in west end of north transept)

Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick

Call the Parish Office. A Minister of Care is also available to bring Holy Communion to our parish sick and homebound.

William Ferris Chorale Returns! Saturday, December 9 at 8pm

St. Edmund Parish welcomes the return of the nationally acclaimed William Ferris Chorale, conducted by acclaimed musical director, Mr. Paul French on Saturday, December 9 at 8pm for an encore performance with an evening of exceptional choral music of the season. There is no cost for this event. This is a gift to the parish and we welcome you to bring all of your family and friends who are of any age to quietly enjoy this splendid chorale music.

Please join us for the concert and at the reception of holiday fare which will immediately follow in Murphy Hall.



Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

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.

Next Saturday, December 2 Festive Holiday Christmas Tea!

Join us next Saturday, December 2 from 1pm -4pm in Murphy Hall for a festive holiday Christmas Tea. All are welcome! Tickets are \$30.00 per person and are available to purchase after masses in the Murphy Hall corridor.



Fr. Tom Donaldson is our guest speaker. The theme is *Eternity Breaking Into Time*. Fr. Tom is a Redemptorist priest. The early years of his ministry were spent as a Parish Associate, followed by twelve years of giving parish missions, retreats for priests, religious and deacons.

Harpist Nancy Donegan will provide the musical entertainment.

Oak Park Catholic Parishes Advent Reconciliation Service at St. Giles Parish Monday, December 11 at 7:00pm

I invite all St. Edmund parishioners, along with parishioners of other Oak Park Catholic parishes, to a combined Reconciliation Service of the Catholic Parishes of Oak Park on Monday, December 11 at 7:00pm at St. Giles Parish, 1045 Columbian, Oak Park.

Amid the busy-ness that stakes too much claim to our lives during the season of Advent, we encourage you to reclaim this season of reflection, anticipation and hope. Yes, there is Christmas shopping to do and holiday parties to attend, but our holiday plans need also include our spiritual readiness for the Lord whom we seek.

Besides myself, several other priests will be available for the reception of individual confession and absolution. Please join us for this important opportunity of reconciliation. Hope to see you there!

Fr. John McGowan

Advent Begins Next Weekend

The Season of Advent begins next weekend. For many of us, it is a hectic time of year. Our calendars are filled with holiday events, Christmas shopping and gift-wrapping. All of these are good things, but they lose their meaning and value if they become an end unto themselves and are not understood as a joyful response to the truth and faith that the Season of Advent offers us.



Advent is a season of remembering, a season of hope and of patient expectation. We enter seamlessly into this new liturgical year, as the readings from today's liturgy and next weekend's masses too, mirror the visual experience of endings we see all around us. Yes, Advent is about endings, as it calls us to prepare for that unknowable future time when Christ our King will return in his glory.

Parish Shopping Event - Ten Thousand Villages Sunday, December 3 - Friday, December 8

Earn dollars for St. Edmund Parish! Support Fair Trade and artisans at Ten Thousand Villages, 121 N. Marion Street, Oak Park from Sunday, December 3 - Friday, December 8 from 10am - 9pm.



Please join your fellow parishioners and bring family and friends for an evening of fun and shopping. 15% of the proceeds of *anyone* shopping that day will be donated back to St. Edmund.

Important reminder: *Prior to the ringing up of your purchases, mention that you are shopping to support St. Edmund Parish*, otherwise your purchase will not count for our percentage of the sales on that day.

Week at a Glance

Sunday 9:00am	November 26 Giving Tree Tag Pick-up	N. Transept
Monday 2:00pm 7:00pm	November 27 Eucharistic Adoration Parish Council	Church Parish Office
Wednesday 1:30pm 7:00pm 7:00pm	November 29 Drury Lane Bridge Club Cantors/Choir	Off-site Murphy Hall Church
Saturday 9:30am 1:00pm 5:30pm	December 2 Centering Prayer Christmas Tea Giving Tree Tag Pick-up	Church Murphy Hall N. Transept
Sunday 9:00am 10:30am 10:30am 1:00pm	December 3 Giving Tree Tag Pick-up RCIA Religious Education First Reconciliation	N. Transept Parish Office School Church

Save the Date! December 16/17
Holiday Bake Sale - Murphy Hall



Delicious baked goods will be
available for your
enjoyment and gift-giving!



Daily Reflection Advent Books Available

Daily Reflection Advent books will be distributed after all of the masses this weekend, November 25-26.

This Advent Book is a wonderful way to aid you in prayer during the Advent and Christmas season. We kindly ask that only one book is taken per household.

Offertory for Weekend of November 18/19

Due to early publishing deadlines, monetary figures will be reported in an upcoming Echoes.

School of Religious Education News



Classes will not be in session today, Sunday, November 26. The Catechists and staff of the Religious Education department gives thanks as we have celebrated and prayed for the gifts that God has given us.

First Reconciliation will be celebrated next Sunday, December 3 at 1:00pm in the Church. Fifteen youngsters from the Religious Education program will participate and receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

A small reception for children and their families will follow in Murphy Hall. Please remember these youngsters in your prayers.

World AIDS Day Friday, December 1

December 1 is internationally recognized as World AIDS Day, a day to raise awareness, remember those who have passed on and to celebrate victories.

MANNA Gift Cards Available for Purchase

The MANNA fundraising method is very popular with many non-for-profit organizations. Our hope is that through this simple fundraising program, we will raise additional funds to support the important ministries that we administer to, not only to you our parishioners, but also to those in need outside of our faith community.



A wide-variety of vendor cards, such as Jewel, Carsons, gas, restaurant offerings, and many, many more. You will receive the full value (100 percent) of your purchase card and St. Edmund will receive a rebate back from your purchase. Each vendor card has a different rebate percent offered back to the parish. The percentages range from 1.5% - 13%. We view this fundraising tool as a win-win for everyone inside and outside of our parish!

MANNA ordering forms are available on the tables in the Murphy Hall corridor. Feel free to take one home with you to browse through for your shopping needs. Contact Deacon Tom at tdwyer@stedmund.org or Denise Walsh at drwalsh34@gmail.com for ordering and more information about the bank account option.

It's the Time of the Year for the Giving Tree!

The annual parish *Giving Tree* will be placed in the North Transept beginning this weekend. Please pick up one or more gift tag(s) this weekend November 25-26 and December 2-3. So together, we can provide Christmas gifts for members of our sharing parish St. Simeon, Casa San Jose Obrero Mission, Housing Forward (formerly known as P.A.D.S.), and St. Edmund parishioners. We have more need this year and appreciate everyone's generosity. Kindly return the unwrapped gifts, with the gift tag securely attached to the package, to the North Transept before or after the masses on December 9-10. Thanks for sharing your blessings with others!

Help St. Edmund's at the Same Time: Give twice...at the same price! Purchase MANNA (gift) cards from St. Edmund's. Give the cards as gifts or shop for your gift using the MANNA cards!

Volunteers are needed for gift collection and/or delivery to St. Simeon. For more information, please contact Mary Prudence at: mprudence@comcast.net.



Spiritual Week at St. Edmund Parish

We Pray for our Sick

Fr. John Paul Andree	Susan Chicola	Mary Ellen Nedved
Clara Ballard	Annyce Dunbar	Francis O'Hara
Geraldine Bandera	Mary Evans	Marie Schaefer
Susan Becker	Gert Johnson	Rachael Schopp
Dolores Benedict	Sean Johnson	Mike Scully
Susan Benedict	Linette Moore	Ethel Thomas
Barbara Boril	George Nedved	

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



Our Parish Remains *One in Prayer*

Do you have a loved one who is currently serving in the military? Is your relative or friend stationed in Iraq, Afghanistan or at one of our military bases in the United States? Let us know and we will add your loved one's name to our prayer list. In addition, please let us know if your loved one has returned safely.

Eternal Rest Grant unto These, O Lord

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

Special Remembrances at Daily Eucharist

Monday	November 27
8:30am	† Tom Dohoney
Tuesday	November 28
8:30am	† Deceased parishioners
Wednesday	November 29
	† Frank J. Senicka
Thursday	November 30 (Andrew)
8:30am	† Argene Giannetti
Friday	December 1
8:30am	† Ruth Bertels
Saturday	December 2 (BVM)
5:30pm	† Gino Giannetti
Sunday	December 3 (First Sunday of Advent)
9:00am	† Michael McGivern
11:00am	† Jack Freehill, † Don Patterson
5:30pm	People of St. Edmund

"Be who God meant you to be and you will set the world on fire."

- St. Catherine of Siena, OP

Readings for the Week

Monday:	Dn 1: 1-6. 8-20/ Dn 3: 52. 53. 54. 55. 56/ Lk 21: 1-4
Tuesday:	Dn 2: 31-45/ Dn 3: 57. 58. 59. 60. 61/ Lk 21: 5-11
Wednesday:	Dn 5: 1-6. 13-14. 16-17. 23-28/ Dn 3: 62. 63. 64. 65. 66. 67/ Lk 21: 12-19
Thursday:	Rom 10: 9-18/ Ps 19: 8. 9. 10. 11/ Mt 4: 18-22
Friday:	Dn 7: 2-14/ Dn 3: 75. 76. 77. 78. 79. 80. 81/ Lk 21: 29-33
Saturday:	Is 29: 17-14/ Ps 27: 1, 4, 13-14/Mt 9: 27-31
Sunday:	Is 63: 16b-17. 19b; 64: 2-7/ Ps 80: 2-3. 15-16. 18 -19 (4)/ 1 Cor 1: 3-9/ Mk 13: 33-37

Liturgical Ministers for the Weekend of December 2/3

Mass Time	Altar Servers	Lectors	Commentator	Cantors	Extraordinary Ministers
(Saturday) 5:30pm	tba	tba	tba	tba	tba
9:00am					
11:00am					
5:30pm					